

TOWN OF SHELBURNE, MASSACHUSETTS

Open Space Committee Minutes 11/25/24 *Draft Minutes*

Meeting called to order by Larry Flaccus at 7:04pm.

Members Present: Larry Flaccus, Norm Beebe, Joan LaPierre, Jim Perry, Joel Dwight, Peggy Warwick, A. Paul Hollings

Guests and visitors: Lara Radysh

Administrative Notes:

- Meeting Recorded on Zoom..
- Joel Dwight appointed Secretary Pro Tem
- Larry called for additional agenda items not included on posting: *none*
- **Minutes from the 10/28/24 Open Space Committee.** Jim proposed one minor correction to change “wild life trail” to “nature trail.”
 - ***Motion to accept minutes as amended made by Peggy Warwick, seconded by Joan LaPierre and accepted unanimously.***
- Common acronyms used in these minutes:
 - OSRP (Open Space and Recreation Plan),
 - CPA/C (Community Preservation Act/Committee)
 - MVP (Municipal Vulnerability Committee)
 - FRCOG (Franklin Regional Council of Governments)
 - OSC (Open Space Committee)
 - DRWA (Deerfield River Watershed Association)

Ongoing business

- **Woodland Partnership Grant 2025**
 - Norm reports he has no word from the surveyor – he will follow up for next month.
 - Jim reports on the tree planting at Buckland Shelburne Elementary School. He inspected the trees closely and only one is dead and all the other survived. The Forest Service will be looking at them in December.
- **Trail Status Updates**
 - Jim said he needs to get out with Garth and check the trails for downed limbs and other problems. He also said he repaired a slat on a bench in front of the Baked restaurant and Larry wondered if we could use grant money for bench repair. Norm said the Woodland Partnership Grant money could only be used for trail related expenses. Jim welcomes any donations of hardwood lumber, 70 inches long, 1.5 inches wide, 1.25 inches thick.
- **CPA Committee**
 - Joan reports she sent information on the 11-19-24 CPA meeting to all OSC members. 100% match plus more funds from two previous quarters will bring available funds to a little over \$200,000. The Committee is on schedule and currently scoring proposals.
 - There will be a public meeting on Feb 11, 2025 for people to express their opinions.
 - Joan wondered if sending out the meeting information to OSC members was helpful and the consensus was it was helpful and appreciated.
- **MVP Committee – No OSC volunteer to represent OSC on this committee.**

- **Deerfield River Wild and Scenic Study Committee**
 - This Committee is working on getting Federal Wild and Scenic designation for the Deerfield River. Joan is representing Shelburne on the committee and reports their most recent meeting had 12 members from 12 different towns as well as people on Zoom.
 - The parts of the river with the hydro dams will not be part of the designation. It will also include the portion of the Deerfield River in Vermont. The Study Committee will see which portions will be included in the Wild and Scenic designation. This meeting had a larger attendance than expected.
 - The next meeting will 12-18-2024.
- **Town Newsletter**
 - Joan drafted an article about the Deerfield River W & S Committee, which Jim helped to edit, and it has been submitted.
 - Peggy is considering writing an article on woodpeckers.
- **OSC Membership**
 - Larry spoke with a former OSC member who declined, and one potential new member who might be interested in joining the OSC and he has two more people he is planning on approaching.

New Business - None

Committee Liaison Reports

- **Agricultural Commission:** no one present
- **Conservation Committee:** no one present
- **Planning Board:** Paul reports they are working on large scale battery storage and mobile food truck regulations. They are also working on accessory dwelling units and short-term rentals.
- **Recreation Committee:** Norm reports the Cowell Youth Winter Programs are about to start. Youth Programs are prioritized before 7 pm and adults after 7 pm. The Arms Playing Field crabgrass control: Snow's Landscaping suggests waiting to treat that in the spring. A group of people worked on crack filling and painting of the outdoor courts and are looking for one more good weather day to complete their project. The Rec Committee is looking at the fee structure. Currently it is \$5 for Nonresidents, \$2 for residents, and under 16 free. Stefan Topolski is working on starting Volleyball and is open for people to help him. They are working on access to the Food Pantry and the Clothes Closet. The fencing has been put up around the compressors to limit their noise and seems to be working very well. The Seniors Walking Club has begun and they are going to discuss fees for nonresidents. They are looking for new members to join the Rec Committee.

Correspondence - None

Visitor and Guest Comments - None

Next Meeting - Dec 23, 2024 by Zoom

Motion to adjourn made by Norm Beebe, seconded by Jim Perry,

- **Voted unanimously to adjourn; meeting adjourned 7:38 pm**

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Dwight, Secretary ProTem