

# Shelburne Open Space Surveying Subcommittee Minutes

## Monday January 4, 2021

Attending: Garth Lapointe, Jim Perry, Norman Beebe, and Tom Johnson

1---- Come up with a plan for how to approach surveying issues for the potential River Trail in the village (aka the Mahican-Mohawk Trail extension)

- We agree we should survey the private properties impacted by the trail route from Deerfield Avenue to past Stefan Topolski's property.
- Garth will speak to Roberge Associates in Greenfield to gather information.
- Norman will speak Terry (our town administrator) about whether the town has a relationship with a surveyor, standards for easements, and an RFP for surveying work. We'd also like a copy of the Deerfield Avenue Parking Lot survey.

2--- Next meeting Monday, January 11, 2021 at 2 pm.

## Monday January 11, 2021

Attending: Garth Lapointe, Jim Perry, and Norman Beebe

1---- Come up with a plan for how to approach surveying issues for the potential River Trail in the village (aka the Mahican-Mohawk Trail extension)

- Norman reports back on his conversation with Terry. The town does not have a relationship with a surveyor (town work requiring surveying is done through engineering firms), nor RFP language for surveying work. Terry was not aware of any standards for easements as the town has not done an easement since the 80s or 90s. We get a hard copy of the Deerfield Parking Lot survey. Norman will follow up with Terry about asking the town attorney to give us guidance on the standards for the survey of affected properties, and for a format for acquiring easements.
- Garth spoke to the head of Roberge Associates in Greenfield who said they do not do any actual surveying in the field (they set boundaries from deeds, tax maps, etc.), and suggested Dale Merritt of Vernon, VT.
- The Northfield Open Space Committee has actively been putting in trails. Garth will reach out to them to see if they can give us some guidance.

2--- Next meeting Monday, January 18, 2021 at 2 pm.

## Monday January 18, 2021

Attending: Garth Lapointe, Jim Perry, Norman Beebe, and Tom Johnson

1---- Come up with a plan for how to approach surveying issues for the potential River Trail in the village (aka the Mahican-Mohawk Trail extension)

- Norman reports back on his follow up conversation with Terry. Basically we'd have to get permission from the Selectboard to contact the town attorney with our questions. The Selectboard next meets in early February. We will recommend that we ask for this permission at our Open Space Committee meeting next Monday.
- Garth was given an example of an easement from PA by the Northfield Open Space Committee.
- Norman learned from Melissa Patterson of the Franklin Land Trust (FLT) that the fund to acquire Voluntary Public Access easements for trails has been funded. Norman will ask Melissa if the FLT would be willing to acquire easements for the in village portion of the trail.
- Larry sent us a list of recommended land surveyors from the FLT. Dale Merritt is on the list.
- We discussed how best to seek permission for a trail to be constructed across Jane Hanford's property. Norman will consult with Art Schwenger.

2--- We do not schedule another meeting.