

OSC Meeting Minutes 11/28/16

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm

Members present: Larry Flaccus, Norm Davenport, John Wheeler, Jim Perry, Norm Beebe, David Schochet, and Arlene Patenaude

John told us about a meeting Wednesday night at 7pm in Memorial Hall. The Zoning Board has questions about permitting. Parking issues have arisen with the Molly Cantor and Singley building proposals. The Planning Board has been looking into what other communities have done with parking so as not to restrict village revitalization.

David told us about the upcoming 2nd Regional Legislative Summit being held by the Hampshire Regional Council of Governments on Saturday from 8:30am to 1:30pm at the JFK Middle School in Florence. The summit is an opportunity to introduce topics for consideration into the state legislature. David also mentioned there is an upcoming Western Mass all Ag Commission meeting scheduled for the beginning of January being held in Deerfield.

Larry spoke with Joan Greenfield and she is interested in consulting for the village tree project.

David then told us about the village tree inventory which is a series of maps centered on the Maple St. area and side to streets to identify tree management in that area of the village that had been done in October 2001. David suggested we get a map of the village and plot in the 15 trees on our list and seek Jim Richardson's guidance to include them in a brochure or map with information that ties it into the village history along with the tags at the trees themselves. Larry suggested we turn into a project with a budget so we could seek funding. David thought this was a good idea and that we could do the map portion of the project anytime. The brochure/map could be a single sheet with the map on one side and descriptions on the back. David wondered who might like to head the project. Larry said he would speak to Joan Greenfield about joining the OSC and working on the tree project. Norm Beebe and David will speak to Jim Richardson about the project. Larry and Sue are hosting a Business Association social and he will speak with them then about a map. The group thought Rita might be interested in helping with some of this project.

The wooded loop trail project is pretty well set into spring when it will be ready for another clean up and coat of paint on the blazings. Larry had sent info to Ginny Ray of the SFI and Diane Broncoccio of the Recorder with David as the contact person but he hadn't heard from anyone. Larry suggested we send John Payne a thank you note for his help and allowing people access to the trail. Larry will send a card. David said John had told them that more of the trails could be included into the trail system.

Recreation Committee basketball starts tonight with 4 levels which will go through mid March. They will have skating if the weather cooperates and are still waiting for approval of the playground project grant.

Ag Commission may have met last week and it's heard that money from the dinner is being sent to Mohawk for their upcoming program involving local agriculture.

Arlene wondered if there was any land available for community gardening.

Norm Davenport reported going to Amherst to see the film Forgotten Farms and a 20 minute question and answer panel discussion that followed. The film itself was a little over an hour. The producer and director gave an introduction and Norm wondered if it might be shown at Pothole Pictures. Norm said the viewing was full and included many farmers. Norm suggested CISA would be a good contact to find out more information. Norm will call Beth about perhaps sponsoring a viewing up this way.

John said to let him know if we had any comments for the parking meeting and couldn't make it.

There will be no meeting in December with our next meeting being held on the 4th Monday in January.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Joel Dwight
Secretary Pro Tem