

Shelburne OSC Meeting Minutes 3/27/17

Meeting called to order 7:12 pm

Members present Linda Herrera, Arlene Patenaude, David Schochet, Larry Flaccus, Jim Perry, John Wheeler, and Joel Dwight

Guest Mary Chicoine from FRCOG

David started with a review of what has led to a tree focused walking map in the village. Larry mentioned there is also interest in a walk along the town owned land donated by Lillian Davenport by the river. Our guest Mary told us she has been involved in tree inventories in Deerfield, Greenfield, and Turners Falls. She brought samples of some of that work and told us that we are on a waitlist for similar work to be done. Linda asked how did Deerfield come to want to inventory trees and what did they do to get it done. Mary said the Deerfield DPW wanted to determine how their trees were doing and how they might plant in the future. She also said that there could be DLTA funding and that DCR might also be a source of funding but their application wouldn't be put in until November. DCR needs some sort of match to their funding but that can be in form of work on the trees and purchasing trees for planting. Suggestions for tree planting could also be part of it. We are now on a FRCOG grant waiting list. There might also be funding from other sources like community foundations which wouldn't be ready to apply for until November or December. Linda wondered what would be our next step. Mary suggested we wait until we have funds available which would then point us to how much of a project we could take on. Mary said Greenfield is also thinking about a tree based walking tour and their tree committee is working on getting more variety of tree species which could get planted. She suggested sending an email to Peggy Sloan to emphasize our interest. There are also a couple of arts grants that might help us toward our goal but they are long shots and we have already been submitted with Greenfield and Montague. Mary will be in touch with us.

February 27 minutes were reviewed and unanimously accepted. David told us there will be a Mass Trails conference in November that is currently in the process of being organized. The contact is Amanda Lewis from DCR. David also spoke about Joe Judd's retirement party and let them know by April 28. The party is May 1 at the Senior Center.

Jim asked if we had heard about The Champagne Hikers. They are having a hike at Davenports and lunch at Goulds Sugar House meeting at Davenports Sugar House at 9:45am.

Jim Richardson said he thought the tree inventory was a good idea and that he has perhaps \$700 as a budget for tree replacement.

At our next meeting we will look over our action plan and consider priorities which have been highlighted by Larry for the annual report. Larry will update Section 9 and send it out for the next meeting.

David read a letter of support to DCR for a grant for the Mohican Mohawk Trail.

Jim then told us about his research on the Lillian Davenport property. He found that deed and also one from New England Telephone/Verizon which is probably just an easement. Tom Miner will help us navigate the sensitive species/natural heritage aspect of using the property. Joel pointed out that if species down there were able to survive the test given them by hurricane Irene they have shown themselves to not be all that fragile. Wendy Ferris and Franklin Land Trust will help us with the sensitive species. Wendy thinks we should go on a hike in a couple of weeks.

Jim also said he would look at the Wooded Loop Trail and David will go with him to repaint blazes and check for blow downs. Jim thought we might want to get more Shelburne Trails signs.

Larry spoke with John Payne and he might be logging between Old Greenfield Road and Route 2 which might lend itself to extending a trail off the Wooded Loop Trail which could go out to Route 2 and cross it at Larrys property and then extend down the Allen Brook towards Greenfield.

We then spoke about garlic mustard season approaching and that the Boy Scouts didn't show much interest last year.

Larry reported the Japanese stilt grass is really getting out of control in Conway and headed our way.

Linda suggested we might want to pull garlic mustard from Old Greenfield Road down Zerah Fiske Road on Connie Clarks property. David will talk to Cynthia about garlic mustard control.

David read us the five points Norm had emailed all of us concerning the Lillian Davenport property. Linda will walk around town and look at trees and we should all try to do that. Start at the Visitors Center and we will all do it by the next meeting. David will have a map that came from Ryan Cleary emailed out to all of us.

John reported on the Planning Board public hearing from the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Everyone thought the new proposed parking bylaw was quite acceptable. John also spoke with Stan Goddard who thought that the village parking was much worse 30 years ago than it is now.

Meeting adjourned 9:08pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Dwight

Secretary Pro Tem