

Shelburne Open Space Committee
June 26, 2017
Shelburne Town Hall

Present: David Schochet (chair), Larry Flaccus, Linda Herrera, John Wheeler, Jim Perry, Norm Beebee

Regrets: none

Guests: Abutters to Masonic Ave area access to Riverfront Trail(See sign-in attached)

1. **Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by David Schochet.

2. **Minutes:** Minutes of the 5/22/17 meeting were reviewed.

Action: moved by Flaccus, seconded by Herrera to accept the minutes as presented.

Approved unanimously.

3. **Riverfront Trail Proposal:** Approximately 16 abutters to the proposed Riverfront Trail, with potential access from Masonic Ave or through Topalski property outlined their concerns and presented a petition (see attached) outlining their objections to access other than from along the river. Topalski's are no longer willing to provide public access.

Access along the river was discussed. It was believed that Ambrose Mweh (not present) had previously objected to access across his property (adjacent to Topalski) A member of the abutter group will discuss this with him. Chris Singly also had expressed concerns about access over his property. David will talk with him to better understand his position.

There was unanimous support by the abutters for a trail along the riverfront if access were developed from below through the Mahew Steel property.

Action: The committee thanked the abutters for their interest and their support of a riverfront trail with appropriate access.

- Abutters will contact Ambrose Mweh.
- Schochet will discuss proposal with Chris Singly.
- Project discussions will continue with FLT to also explore funding for ramps/walkway along the river from Mahew Steel property

4. **Section 9 Open Space Action Items:**

The committee discussed the Section 9 action items in the Open Space plan to establish priorities for the coming year.

Action: It was agreed that key areas for focus would be:

- Meet with other boards and committees to review their progress and priorities, and offer help to advance goals
- Support the Master Plan revision/update effort of the Planning Board
- Continue work with the Recreation Committee on the Riverfront Trail
- Continue work on the village walk/tree walk

Other projects on the radar screen include the culvert study.

5. **Tree Trail:**

Discussion continued on the Village Tree Walk/Trail with the possibility to expand it to include historical features, and to coordinate with FRCOG on their walking map. Funding options for trails were discussed. Perry and Wheeler attended a meeting on a proposed "Slum/Blight" block grant with the potential of \$800k for projects related to the downtown area. The Cultural-Historical partnership is another funding potential.

Action: Schochet will discuss coordinating the map with Ryan at FRCOG

6. **Reports of Committees:**

- **Planning Board:** will be working on zoning related to Marijuana cultivation and sale. Coming priorities include revising the Master Plan.
- **Recreation Commission:** is continuing to explore playground locations and is looking as a spot adjacent to Cowell Gym. Expressed extreme interest in riverfront trail proposal.

- **Conservation Commission:** no report.
- **Agriculture Commission:** no report

9. Next Regular Meeting: Next meeting will be 7/24/17.

10. Adjournment:

Action: The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 on motion by Herrera, second by Flaccus.

Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Flaccus, Secretary pro-tem