

Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes 7/24/17

David called the meeting to order at 7:10pm

Members present Linda Herrera, Arlene Patenaude, David Schochet, Tom Johnson, Jim Perry, Norm Beebe, Larry Flaccus, and Joel Dwight.

Minutes from the June meeting were reviewed and accepted with a small adjustment and correction.

We then discussed ongoing business starting with the tree walk. Linda suggested adding trees as well as points of interest to the FRCOG map and making it into a trifold to be put in the visitors center. David had spoken with Ryan who does the maps at FRCOG and will speak with him again and see how the mapping might go. We will have to speak with the property owners who have trees of interest in front of their houses. Larry said our map should be a paper handout that people could take with them. Norm noted that we could just make a tree walk card. Larry thought that a larger brochure would be better. David will tell Ryan at FRCOG to continue on with their map project and we will give them our information when we are ready. Linda made a point of our limited time and schedule to get the work done. David will email the results of his meeting with Ryan and we will make as much ground as we can beforehand. Larry said we could go to legal size paper to accommodate a trifold brochure. Arlene suggested we see Jim Richardson before publication to make sure none of the trees are due to be cut down. She also suggested we might want to add more trees on Bridge Street. Tom wondered if we might include a large shagbark hickory that is on High Street about three quarters of the way up to Church Street from Bridge Street. David will talk with Rita about trees. Norm will contact the selectboard by starting with Terry. Linda will speak with Jim Richardson about adding trees. Arlene will contact the historical society about combining our tree walk with their historical building information. David will make sure Voss Signs has signs available for the species of trees we select. We will speak with property owners and order signs in September. Larry proposed that he will edit the historical building material we have and see how much room it takes up and how the brochure will lend itself to the tree information. Linda will make herself available to talk with property owners.

The next topic we took up was the Riverside Trail. Jim told us about properties which will affect the ability of the trail to go through to the pot holes from the Lillian Davenport land. These include the Ambrose Mwea property and a piece owned by Chris Singley which abutts the Mayhew property. Chris Singley denied access across his property in 2008. David has spoken with Chris and he is agreeable to people crossing his property but not comfortable with a legal easement. Norm will speak with Joe Judd about the Mayhew property and any right of way owned by the town. Linda wondered if anyone had spoken with the Shelburne Falls Business Association. Norm noted that we may well be able to apply for a grant. David will speak with Chris Singley and Tom's wife Kate is going to speak with Ambrose Mwea.

Committee Reports

Tom Johnson of the Planning Board reports a good deal of discussion at their last meeting concerned upcoming marijuana legalization. They need to wait and see what the state does but they did discuss where processing or manufacturing might be allowed. They also had discussion concerning affordable housing and how each town is encourage by the state to have 5% of their housing as affordable. Right now Shelburne is less that 5% and they are thinking of ways that might be increased.

Norm Beebe reporting for the Recreation Committee said that they are in support of the Riverside Trail. They will meet again in September and work on the tennis courts might begin as early as next week.

Meeting adjourned 8:49pm

Next meeting will be August 28th.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joel Dwight
Secretary Pro Tem