

## Shelburne Open Space Committee

November 26, 2018

Shelburne Town Hall

**Present:** David Schochet (chair), Larry Flaccus, Jim Perry, Tom Johnson, Norm Beebe

Guests: Melissa Patterson (FLT)

Art Schwenger

1. **Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by David Schochet.
2. **Minutes:** Minutes of the 10/22/18 meeting were mailed to members 10/23, but copies were not available for review.

**Action:** Approval of minutes deferred to next meeting.

### 3. **Grant for Mahican-Mohawk Trail Extension**

Patterson updated members on the status of the M-M Trail extension grant. Contract between FRCOG and DCR has not been finalized, holding up the Trail Assessment grant of \$4000. It should be finalized by December. No reimbursable work can begin until the contract is signed.

Easements were discussed, and 10 year easements will be acceptable to DCR. FLT also has Voluntary Public Access funds available at \$10/foot temporary or \$10/foot permanent easements.

Group discussed preparing a paper answering potential landowner questions such as liability, confirmation that the Rec Committee will patrol for trash, etc.

Boundaries of the properties are not exact, and the trail location will determine the final properties impacted. Map still has incorrect owners listed.

Schwenger distributed a draft Trail Management Strategies document developed for a prior Mahican-Mohawk Trail extension discussion.

**Action:** Report of the trail assessment by Timber and Stone will determine the next steps and timetable. Prior to assessment, committee will discuss options with contractor, so final proposal will have options with a range of costs.

Patterson will correct the map and parcel ownership.

No grant request will be filed for the 2019 DCR grant round due February 2, 2019.

### 4. **OSC Membership**

The Committee still needs several members. There are 1, 2 and 3 year vacancies to fill.

- Flaccus sent out 130 emails to friends of the OSC, and posted the opening on the news section of the town Website. He also spoke to Joan Greenfield who had expressed an interest in supporting the OSC, however she will be away for the winter. Cynthia Boettner declined an invitation to serve.

**Action:**

- Beebe will talk with Faith and Peter Williams.
- Schochet will speak with a resident of the Patten who expressed interest.
- Johnson will speak with Nicole Topolski.

5. **Town Website**

Flaccus has accessed the new Town website which has an OSC section and updated it with all minutes from 2012 on that we could locate, the complete OSC Plan with maps, the open space definition, the hiking brochures, etc.

The site also tracks membership and conflict of Interest Training status. Several members are due for retraining. Go to the Town Clerk page on the Town Website for a link to the automated training program, and report completion to the Town Clerk.

**Action:** Members will review the Website and suggest any additions or corrections.

6. Schochet will send a condolence card to the Payne family and will defer discussions of the Wooded Loop Trail cleanup and extension until spring.

7. **Reports of Committees:**

- **Planning Board:** Upcoming meeting on Affordable Housing and proposed bylaw change to cut lot size in town. Flag lot and shared driveway bylaws under review.
- **Recreation Commission:** very interested in the river trail project.
- **Conservation Commission:** no member present.
- **Agriculture Commission:** no member present.

8. **Next Regular Meeting:** *The December meeting is cancelled.* Next meeting will be 1/28/19.

9. **Adjournment:**

**Action:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 on motion by Flaccus, second by Perry.

Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Flaccus, Secretary pro-tem