

TOWN OF SHELBURNE
Open Space Committee
Meeting Minutes 6/28/21 Approved 7/26/21

Larry called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm on Zoom

Joel appointed Secretary Pro Tem

Members present - Larry Flaccus, David Schochet, Joanie Greenfield, Norm Beebe, Jim Perry, Thor Holbek, Garth LaPointe, Joel Dwight
Guests - Lara Radysh and Bob Higgins from South Maple St.

Reviewed Minutes of 5/24/21 Meeting. Motion made by Joel to accept Minutes as presented, Seconded by Larry. Passed unanimously.

Reviewed Minutes of 6/10/21 Special Meeting. Motion made by Jim Perry to accept Minutes with one correction - insert \$121.80 into the second paragraph. Seconded by David Schochet. Passed unanimously.

--Ongoing Business

Shelburne Falls Riverside Trail was adopted as the official name of the walking path from Deerfield Ave. Motion by David Schochet, seconded by Norm Beebe. Passed unanimously.

Guntlow Assoc sent Conservation Commission forms to Larry concerning the Riverside Trail project. One was Notice of Intent and one was for Wetlands Permitting. Larry sent them on to Andrew Baker and he signed them as 'owner' for the Town.

Larry questioned if we **should file with the Conservation Comm.** before we finalized land owner easement agreements. Jim suggested going ahead with Conservation Comm permitting before we renew land owner agreements. Larry will seek advice from Charlie LaBatt, from Guntlow and Assoc., as to going ahead with paperwork to Conservation Comm or waiting for the property survey to be complete.

Wooded Loop Trail Logging Update

--Thor told us they are graveling the logging road. He had spoken with Jim and had taken down the signs rerouting hikers away from the log job. Thor also reported the formally plugged drainage going under the logging road seems to be working now.

Educational Signs on the Wooded Loop Trail Jim said the panel sign and brochure are installed at the entrance to the trail. Garth mowed the trails a month ago. Jim has six more panels to install and will get together with Garth to put them up. Once they are installed Larry suggested we should work up an article for the paper about the installation of the signs on the trail.

Joanie is in contact with the Elementary School about invasive species education. She said this year has been quite difficult for the schools. She gave them an invasive species brochure and will contact them again in October to see if they might work something into their curriculum for the spring of 2022.

Joanie is interested in making sure the residents of Shelburne and surrounding towns are aware of the trails in Shelburne. Norm said the Recreation Committee has an email list and a Facebook page that can be used to promote the trails. Norm invited Joanie to the next Rec Comm. meeting. Garth expressed interest in attending the meeting as well.

Community Preservation Act Update (CPA)

David and Larry are going to attend a Zoom meeting to be held 6/29/21 at 5:30 pm concerning the CPA.

Pollinator Project

Helena Farrell with FRCOG sent out material she would like us to look at. David, Joanie, and Joel will review the plan and get back to Helena.

Status of Grants

Larry informed the meeting we have completed the work on our **2020 Grant** having used \$19,994.67 of the \$20,000 Grant.

2021 Grant - of the available \$20,000 we have used \$5,502.35. Larry has asked for an extension which might take us to next June 30, 2022. Bob O'Connor is working on the extension.

We have received the \$300 from the Cultural Council Grant.

Jim wondered that if the 2021 grant timeline is extended could we apply some of that money for Tower and Ridge Trails brochures. Larry responded that it probably could, depending on the cost of Guntlow's survey and removal of invasive species at the Riverside Trail project.

David said he had spoken in the past with Mark Shippee of the Highway Dept. about any information he may have about **Mill Rd.** Unfortunately, he had none. Norm will speak with Joe Judd again about the research he has been doing on Mill Rd.

New Map of the Tower Trail

Jim has taken GPS coordinates on a new trail going up toward the Fire Tower which is less steep than the present trail and is adjacent to more large trees. Jim contacted the fellow that helps us with maps and he will have time later this summer to work on it.

OSC Membership

David said **Tom Johnson has completed his time on the Planning Board** and so is no longer our Liaison. Larry suggested we approach John Wheeler to find out who will be the liaison to Open Space now.

David said he had encouraged Tom to consider remaining on the Committee as an At-Large member, but Tom declined, saying, that while he very much enjoyed being part of the OSC, he needed to cut back his involvement in Town activities.

Joel said if he is elected as an Assessor he plans on staying with the OSC as well. Everyone was glad to hear that news.

Committee Reports

--Norm said the next Rec Comm meeting will be in August.

--David will check with Carolyn Wheeler about a liaison from the Ag Comm.

Larry called for guest comments. There were none.

The next OSC meeting will be July 26, 2021 at 7 pm

Norm Beebe made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Joanie Greenfield.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.