

**Town of Shelburne
Open Space Committee
Meeting Minutes September 26, 2022 (Approved 10/24/22)**

Larry called the meeting to order at 7pm. Meeting recorded on Zoom.

Members Present: Norm Beebe, Joel Dwight, Larry Flaccus, Jim Perry, David Schochet

No guests

Minutes from 8/22/22 reviewed. Wording changed to clarify the prospect of the Deerfield River being designated a Wild and Scenic River. Motion to approve minutes as amended made by Jim Perry, seconded by David Schochet. **Minutes approved unanimously.**

Committee membership: Laurie Wheeler and Peggy Warwick were approved by the Selectboard to become members of the Open Space Committee and need to be sworn in.

Trail Updates:

Jim reported **five people attended the September hike** out to the Audubon High Ledges and they all enjoyed the experience. Garth has recovered from his injury and has resumed mowing the trails. Jim reports our trails are now officially connected to Audubon High Ledges. There are now signs on the Audubon property clarifying directions to High Ledges and to the Fire Tower, and they are mowing the connecting path to our Ridge Trail. Jim explained **Audubon color coding on trail blazing** is yellow toward the main service toad, blue away from the main service road. Unfortunately, unless one has a map with named trails, it's not difficult to get mixed up at trail intersections. **Jim will be hiking this Fall with Melissa and the fellow in charge of the refuge and will try to bring this to their attention.**

Open Space and Recreation Plan: Andrea Donlon emailed Open Space members a draft survey and action plan for the OSRP renewal.

Jim reviewed these and thinks our problems with the survey have all been dealt with. Norm had a few questions and he will get back to Andrea. Norm has concerns people taking the survey may be confused as to how to respond to a few of the questions including reference to ranking systems. Jim said he had taken it on Survey Monkey and everything seemed to work well online. **Larry would like to have the survey finalized by our next meeting so it could be ready for November elections. Jim and Larry agreed that the survey should be mailed to every Shelburne household. Larry has questions about budgeting and how exactly the survey and plan will be funded.** We may leave a flyer with a link to the survey at the transfer station and perhaps the Senior Center. **We will try to get returns of the survey by the end of December unless poor returns warrant further promotion.** Jim noted nothing on the survey requires a name and shared a concern for multiple survey returns from the same individual. We also need to clarify what FRCOG is supplying for a budget. Larry thinks we can cover the mailing separately. Larry said we also need to ask Kimberley about who is going to host the survey; FRCOG or OSC. **Larry will follow up with Kimberley on financing the OSC and Recreation Plan renewal. Norm and Jim will speak to Andrea concerning this survey.**

October Hike:

The October hike will be on the Wooded Loop Trail and will cover topics including forest management and wildlife management. Larry sent information about the hike to Margaret and Helen. They responded in a very positive way and Margaret may join the hike.

Recreation Committee Report:

Norm reported the Rec committee is looking into how they will spend their available funds. **Norm asked who might be approached for landscaping. Joel suggested Kyle Canepari. Joel will also get the name of the surveyor he met and send it to Larry.** Norm also said the Rec Committee is working on pickle ball and a demonstration of the sport. **Jim suggested an article in the town newsletter.**

Other committees and boards had no representatives at this meeting .

No correspondence.

No guests for comments.

Next meeting 10/24/22.

Motion to adjourn by Norm Beebe seconded by Jim Perry. Meeting adjourned at 8pm

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Dwight Secretary Pro Tem