

Shelburne Open Space Committee/Recreation Committee Joint Meeting Minutes 10/10/2023

(Approved 10/23/23)

Call to order: Larry called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm. as a joint meeting of the Open Space Committee and the Recreation Committee. Meeting held in person in the Memorial Hall meeting room for the purpose of reviewing the draft Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Joel appointed Secretary Pro Tem

Open Space Committee Members Present: Larry Flaccus, David Schochet, Nina Talayco, Joan LaPierre, Peggy Warwick, Norm Beebe, Jim Perry, Joel Dwight

Guests and interested Shelburne residents present: Andrea Donlan from FRCOG, Stephanie Gelfen (Cowell Gym renter), Sue Reed, Tamara Sloan, Cynthia Boettner, Barbara Watts, Susan Flaccus, Chris Skelly, Amy Snow, and Tom Miner

Larry recognized the important work Andrea has done and the financial support of FRCOG 2022 and 2023 DLTA funds and a grant from The Woodland Partnership.

The public comment period will be open until November 10, 2023.

Norm reviewed what an Open Space and Recreation plan entails. Larry and Norm presented information following along with a slide presentation covering the process and draft plan elements.

The top 3 open space concerns reflected by the public survey for Shelburne are

- access to the river and trails,
- preserving farm land, and
- increasing the amount of public space and parks.

Larry and Norm then reviewed the four main goals of the OSRP and the objectives for each goal. Draft action items were presented. Also presented was a list of the 9 maps to be found within the ORSP.

Public Comments –

- **Tamara Sloan, 51 Water St,** asked for clarification as to the geographic scope of the plan. Larry shared it was totally the town of Shelburne. Tamara asked if Buckland and Shelburne were working together. Norm answered no, there hasn't been any cooperative effort between the towns. Jim pointed out there was pre-Covid Buckland trails activity but that seems to have run out. Andrea noted there is some interest in the Planning Boards of both towns getting together for ridge line development talks. But interest hasn't been strong on the Buckland side. There has been one person appointed to a Buckland OSC (Skelly) but no committee currently exists and no meetings have been planned. Jim told the group the power company is trying to down grade the recreational plan they had agreed to previously.
- **Cynthia Boettner, 132 Bridge St,** said there was a joint master plan done by Buckland and Shelburne years ago. Larry said there has been talk in the Planning Board about doing that again. Cynthia wondered if invasive species that aren't here yet but we should be on the watch for are on the plan. Andrea thought that was a good idea and should be included. Larry noted invasive insects travel faster than plants and both should be on the list.
- **Cindy Snow, 15 Masonic Ave,** wanted to say thank you for the volunteer work and that she was impressed by the detail in the draft OSRP. Larry noted the representation of other boards on the committee along with 11 at large seats, two of which are open.
- **Chris Skelly, 22 Williams St, Buckland,** asked if a Shelburne CPA Committee had been formed yet. Larry said that is in process right now. (Joan LaPierre represents the OSC on the CPA Committee) They also discussed the zoning involvement in trail development and the Planning Board will be addressing that in the next year.
- **Tamara Sloan, 51 Water St,** asked if the CPA worked with various funding groups. Joan Lapierre answered they are just in the initial stages. Andrea said the CPA Committee reviews suggestions for use of CPA monies and makes recommendations to the Selectboard and each use of CPA money has to be voted on at Town Meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Jim Perry at 7:15 pm, seconded by Joel Dwight., approved unanimously.

Map Review: The group then broke up to review draft maps that will be included in the ORSP. Andrea encouraged participants to write on the maps.

Next OSC Meeting: Monday, October 23 via zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Joel Dwight