

## **Shelburne Open Space Committee Meeting 10/23/2023    MINUTES APPROVED 11/27/23**

Larry called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. The meeting was held on Zoom and recorded.  
Joel appointed secretary pro tem

**Members Present:** Larry Flaccus, David Shochet, Jim Perry, Norm Beebe, Nina Talayco, Joan LaPierre, Laurie Wheeler, and Joel Dwight

**Guests:** Andrea Donlon, FRCOG

Larry asked for new agenda items. Joel wants to talk about Kay Kafasso of the permaculture place sowing solutions.

### **OSC minutes**

- Minutes from 9/25/23 reviewed. Motion to accept by Jim Perry, seconded by Norm Beebe. Approved unanimously as presented.
- 10/10/23 Joint meeting minutes motion to accept by Norm Beebe, seconded by Nina Talayco.. Approved unanimously as presented.

### **Bridge Street overlook clearing**

Jim reported that he has contacted Canaperi Landscaping, Jim's Tree Service, and Richard Pantermehl for site review, proposals and bids. He received no word back from Lanoue Tree Service. Larry said funds from the 2021 Woodland Partnership grant for invasive weed control could be used to help pay for the work.

### **OSRP Update Draft Section 9 -**

Open Space and Recreation Plan revisions edits are open until November 10th. Andrea presented an update on the OSRP to the group. All of the draft sections are on the town website. She also let Franklin Land Trust know the sections are ready to review. She tried unsuccessfully to get in contact with DCR, Nolumbecca, the Okotea Center in Ashfield, and an indigenous group in Vermont.

Larry sent e-mails about section 9 to the Ag Committee, the Conservation Commission, and the Planning Board asking for them to include their action items in the plan. He still needs to contact the select board. He has not heard back from the others.

Joan Greenfield sent some suggestions that Larry had forwarded to the group on 10/15 and Larry went over her suggestions with the group. Andrea was sent a copy of Joan's suggestions as well. It was noted that Joan is a former member of the OSC and has special interest in education and community involvement.

Jim suggested collecting all comments coming in from the public into a single document for our review to see what might be included in the action plan. Larry mentioned Buckland is in the process of forming an OSC and Chris Skelley has been appointed as its first member. Andrea said the scenic views map hasn't been updated since 2014 so that will need updating. She also said the action plan map might be done on a different format. She can make the paper maps available if someone wants to see more of them and Larry said they are also on the town website. Laurie wondered if copies of the maps could be made available at the Arms Library and Andria said she will make that happen.

Larry said we will approve a final draft plan for the 2024 OSRP so it can be sent to the state for review. Andrea said we need to review the public comments to see what should be included in the draft plan which could be done at the November meeting. She will draft something ahead of the meeting for section 9.

### **Trail Updates**

Jim reported a fallen tree was removed from the Big Trees trail and he was able to use some road grindings from the town to fix some muddy spots. He also said Eversource did some repair work on the Wilcox Hollow access road but it was very poorly done. He said part of the FERC Recreation Plan agreement would be related to keeping the road maintained and he will be sending a letter to FERC with concerns.

Jim suggested we could start a red trail as part of the wooded loop trail system if we can secure funding. Larry thought some money might be left from the Woodlands Partnership grant.

No guided walks are planned until next spring.

### **Pollinator issues**

Joel wondered if the Lillian Davenport property might lend itself to a pollinator garden but Jim thought it was too wooded. Nina suggested we might encourage residents to make private pollinator gardens and then form a tour group to see them. Laurie said there is a pollinator garden on High Street and that the owner was already thinking about a tour. Laurie will check with the Women's Club to see if they have considered a pollinator garden tour as an option when the Bridge of Flowers is closed next year.

**Town Newsletter** Larry asked Laurie if she could be our contact to Shelburne Falls Two-Town Newsletter. Laurie said the input deadline is October 27th for the next edition. Laurie will include in the newsletter that the draft plan is available for review on the town website and the paper maps can be reviewed at the Arms Library.

**Announcements and Reminders-** A riparian tree planting is scheduled for Sunday, October 29th from 10am to 2pm along the brook at the Buckland Shelburne Elementary school. It's a project of the Woodlands Partnership and they are looking for volunteers to bring shovels, etc.

#### **Liaison Reports**

- **Ag Commission**
- **Planning Board**
- **Conservation Commission**
- **Recreation Commission.**

No liaisons present. Norm from the Recreation Commission had to leave the meeting early.

#### **Correspondence**

None.

#### **Guest or visitor comments.**

None

**Next meeting** November 27th at 7pm by Zoom.

**Motion to adjourn** by Jim Perry. Seconded by Nina Talayco. Meeting adjourned 8:06pm.

#### **Respectfully submitted**

Joel Dwight. Secretary pro tem