

Sterling Open Space Implementation Committee Meeting Minutes
January 3, 2008
Butterick Building, Sterling

Present: Brian Cline, Marion Larson, Sue Valentine, Bob Protano, Peder Petersen, Maryanne MacLeod

Meeting Began 7:29 PM

November 2007 Meeting Minutes Approval –Motion made by B Protano to accept minutes seconded by P Pedersen. **Minutes approved unanimously.** There were no minutes for the 12/06/07 meeting as there was not a quorum.

Open Space Plan

B Cline provided an overall picture of the Open Space Plan. He pulled together a task sheet that breaks the Plan down in sections and went over who would be responsible for what sections of the plan. Decisions were made regarding which parts of the plan did not need changes, needed minor changes, or would include substantial additions or changes.

Regional Context—Minor changes needed. Maryanne MacLeod will make them

Population Characteristics/Growth and Development Patters—Joyce Hinckley and Bob Protano

Geology, Soils Topography—No changes needed or required.

Landscape Character—Some changes may be needed—P. Pedersen

Water Resources—Additions—Brian Cline will deal with water as it relates to quality, quantity etc
Marion Larson will gather additional aquatic habitat related information

Vegetation—Needs to be assessed. J. Hinckley to look at this. M. Larson suggests that DCR Foresters at Wachusett Watershed Supply be contacted as well, since about 1/3 of Sterling land base is owned by DCR

Fisheries and Wildlife—Some additions. M Larson to do this.

Environmental Challenges—Major Changes/additions. B. Cline. Sue Valentine to get some feedback from Earth Removal Board. Suggestion that all Town Boards and Committees be sent a letter (if we haven't met with them) asking their opinion of their top 3 environmental challenges. **ACTION STEP**—M. Larson to draft a letter for review by Committee before sending it out.

Private, Public, Non-profit Land Parcels—Some Changes –Bill Ayadi

There was lengthy conversation about getting other Boards and Committees involved beyond the letter M. Larson proposed. Need to get on agenda for different boards—so far Conservation Committee and Recreation Committee have been approached.

Other Business

Kristoff Property—It appears that The Trust for Public Land will be purchasing the Kristoff property. Though people are not familiar with the ongoing negotiations with the airport property, it's felt that this is a positive step in the right direction.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM