

Meeting Minutes

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Thursday November 19, 2009. Time: 7:00 PM

Butterick Municipal Building -- Room 201

In attendance: Marion Larson (chair), Peder C. Pedersen (co-chair, secretary); Maryanne MacLeod, Bill Ayadi. Guest: Amanda Amory.

Meeting called to order at 7:25 PM. (NEXT MEETING IS DECEMBER 17, 7:00 PM.)

- I. Approval of minutes of the November 5, 2009 was postponed until next meeting.
- II. Comments were distributed, which were received in response to the submitted draft of the Open Space Plan. Specifically, there were comments from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, from Montachusets Regional Planning Commission, and from Terri Ackerman, Sterling Town Administrator. In addition, Marion Larson has received input from the Recreation Committee by e-mail. She also noted that Ms. Joanne Cummings from the Recreation Committee is interested in being RecCom's representative to OSIC.

In addition, Marion reported that Dick Maki from Sterling-Lancaster Community TV is interested in working with OSIC on the portion of the Action plan pertaining to the education goals, once it has been finally approved, and provide a venue for the education programs each year. It was noted that presentation on community TV may be a vehicle to attract additional members to OSIC.

Of the comments from the Commonwealth, of particular note is an option to have a 7 year implementation period, rather than a 5 year implementation period. OSIC will consider this. If chosen, we will need to modify Section 8, Goals and Objectives, in the sense that Objectives and Actions must be now spread out over 7 years. The Plan must be submitted to the state by February in order to be eligible for the 7 year period.

- III. Before we can write the final version of Section 9, *Action Plan*, we will need letters of support from Town Committees, where they will indicate which actions they will be in favor of undertaking. The expectation is that such letters must be received before the end of November, 2009.
- IV. On Veterans Day, Marion Larson visited Sterling's recreation and some conservation properties determine the level of ADA compliance. This information is required as part of the Open Space Plan.
- V. *Phase 3 Proposal for Technical Assistance to OSIC for its Open Space and Recreation Plan* was presented by Amanda Amory. The proposal had previously been distributed to OSIC members via e-mail. The plan was reviewed in details. Modifications were made to reflect the additional work in connection with the anticipated adoption of a 7 year implantation period. It was decided to postpone general printing of the final plan until state approval has been received.

The OSIC also requested that Amanda be present at the Board of Selectmen meeting on November 24, to answer more detailed and technical questions pertaining to developing the Master Plan. Changes were made to the proposal cost to reflect that additional meeting.

Maryanne MacLeod made a motion to accept the modified proposal for a total cost of \$1790; the motion was seconded by Peder. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peder C. Pedersen (secretary)