

OSIC MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, July 19, 2017, 7:00 PM

Butterick Municipal Building -- Room 201

Present: Peder Pedersen, Jeff Keay, Marion Larson, Erin Rehrig

Not present: Jim Wilkinson, Rob Protano

Guest: Amanda Amory

Meeting called to order at 7:30PM.

1. Acceptance of agenda with amendments as posted for July 19, 2017.
2. Approval of June 21, 2017 minutes with amendments.
3. Note taker for the evening – J. Keay volunteered.
4. Discussion of Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) update with Amanda Amory.
 - Discussed steps for updating the current Action Plan including:
 - reviewing the 2010 plan and determining what has been accomplished, what needs to be accomplished in the next 5 years, and what can wait for a future time.
 - considering and noting those tasks that are doable within the next 5 years.
 - A. Amory felt that phase 1 of the OSRP update should include updates of Section 3 (Community Setting), Section 4 (Environmental Inventory and Analysis), Section 5 (Inventory of Lands of Conservation and Recreation Interest), and Section 6 (Public Participation Process).
 - In relation to Section 6, the committee discussed the need for a paper survey in addition to on-line, for those citizens who don't have access to, or feel comfortable using, a computer.
 - A. Amory presented the committee with a contract for her work on the OSRP update, including a signatory page.
 - Amendments were asked for by the committee that A. Amory will add to the contract.
 - The contract with amendments was accepted unanimously and signed by the committee.
 - A. Amory will send the committee a list of information she will need for the report within the next month. She will also look into sending us the raw data from the last report that would help in producing the updated OSRP.
 - This provides OSIC with the chance to research the information needed.
 - A. Amory will be present at our next monthly meeting.
5. OSIC website revisions
 - P. Pedersen checked into integrating the revisions within the Sterling town website and reported the following:
 - Sterling's use of Virtual Town Hall software will give us complete control of our website.
 - Revisions to the OSIC website can be done within the context of the Sterling Town Website.

6. Sterling Trails brochures and community poster

- P. Pedersen passed out two poster designs.
 - Discussed importance of emphasizing that the trails offer “something for everyone”.
 - Agreement on an 8 1/2” by 14” format to be displayed at the library, town hall, recreation department, and senior center.
- Figured on leaving 10 copies of each trail brochure at the above locations as well.
- The committee authorized P. Pedersen to spend up to \$500 for printing the posters and brochures.

7. New Business

- The Board of Selectmen has asked for a report of activities by OSIC.
 - P. Pedersen and M. Larson will prepare a list of our activities and will present it to the board at their July 26 meeting.
- E. Rehrig noted that the Conant Library is not interested and doing a story walk on our trails, due to repeated vandalism of the story walk on the Sterling Rail Trail.
 - May be willing to do a story telling followed by a walk on a trail either next spring or the following autumn.
 - The book “Henry Hikes to Fitchburg” was suggested.

8. Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeff Keay