

Butterick Municipal Building -- Room 201

In attendance: Peder Pedersen, Jim Wilkinson, Jeff Keay, Chuck Plaisted, Marion Larson, and Deidre Shapiro (Recreation Department Liaison)

Meeting called to order: 7:00pm.

1. J. Wilkinson moved to accept the agenda for June 19, 2019. Motion 2nd by M. Larson and carried unanimously.
2. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
3. M.Larson moved to accept the minutes of the May 22, 2019 meeting with amendment. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously.
4. Finalizing text and maps for the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) update
 - P. Pedersen presented the updated Action Plan Map prepared by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission (MRPC).
 - Noted that it was very detailed and included both “action items” and developed “recreational facilities”.
 - Comments and Suggestions
 - Suggested the most important parts of map (what we’d like viewers to take away) should be highlighted.
 - Proposed that two maps be prepared: one that would include the “action items” and one that would include “developed and undeveloped recreational facilities”.
 - The proposal was approved by unanimous consent.
 - M. Larson reported that the only text section that needs to be completed for the OSRP is that on ADA compliance. She will also add the Executive Summary prepared by J. Wilkinson.
5. Approval of Invoices from MRPC – Maps and Formatting for the OSRP update
 - Noted that the invoice for maps was \$1,576.45, and the invoice for formatting was \$1,948.88.
 - C. Plaisted moved to accept the two invoices from MRPC. Motion 2nd by M. Larson and carried unanimously.
6. Use of remaining OSIC budget for 2018-2019
 - J. Wilkinson noted that \$1,388.00 remains in the OSIC budget.
 - P. Pedersen has been in contact with M. Marro concerning use of the funds for poison ivy spraying on the Waushacum Trail that is on Conservation Commission land.
 - Suggested that any additional monies could be used to mow at Mudgett Orchard.
 - D. Shapiro suggested possible contractors for the work. She will look into it.

P. Pedersen made a motion to use the remaining balance (\$1,388.00) of the 2019 budget for trail maintenance for Waushacum Trail and funds not expended for trail maintenance be made available to Sterling Recreation Department for acquisitions and activities that are relevant to OSIC's and the Sterling Recreation Department's missions. Motion 2nd by C. Plaisted and carried unanimously.

Eight Point Sportsmen Club Parking for the Pine Hill Esker Trail.

M. Larson spoke with the president of the Eight Point Sportsmen Club about using their parking lot. He has no problems with our using the section of the lot nearest Beaman Road.

Summer 2019 Hiking Program

P. Pedersen, J. Keay, and C. Plaisted have put together a list of OSIC hikes for this summer.

P. Pedersen will send write-ups of the public hikes to the Sterling Meeting House News, The Landmark, and the Sterling Recreation Committee for displaying on their calendar.

Posting hike changes on Facebook

C. Plaisted will check with E. Rehrig about getting administrator privileges for the OSIC Facebook page. This will allow us to note any last minute changes in our public hike schedule.

Trail Cleanups and trail blazing

P. Pedersen checked with J. French concerning DCR grass mowing on the Hog Hill Trail. Was given a contact at DCR.

Discussed the idea of combining hikes and cleanups.

Will arrange for blazing on the Stillwater Basin, Heywood Reservoir, and Hog Hill trails.

P. Pedersen will work to map some short and easy trails.

Peder Pedersen announced his retirement as OSIC chairman, after 7 years in the position. The OSIC committee noted their great appreciation of Peder's tireless efforts on behalf of OSIC and Sterling, and his many accomplishments during his time as our chairman. We are very grateful for all he has done. Peder will remain a member of the OSIC committee. C. Plaisted and J. Keay will be the co-chairs of the committee.

New Business

J. Keay will follow up with V. Buckley concerning a trail from the Senior Center to Peg's Pond.

C. Plaisted noted that tennis court reconstruction will begin June 20th. The expected length of construction is 50 – 60 days. Also noted that state funding of between \$25,000 and \$70,000 will become available.

C. Plaisted will distribute copies of the OSRP Executive Summary to the Master Planning Committee.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay