

Via Zoom

In attendance: Peder Pedersen, Jeff Keay, Chuck Plaisted, Rob Protano, Jim Wilkinson

Meeting called to order: 7:06pm.

1. C. Plaisted started the meeting by asking if anyone was recording the meeting. All members replied in the negative.
2. J. Wilkinson moved to accept the agenda for September 16, 2020. Motion 2nd by R. Protano and carried unanimously.
3. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
4. P. Pedersen moved to accept the minutes of the August 19, 2020 meeting with amendments. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously.
5. Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Update Progress

P. Pedersen and C. Plaisted are working to address missing items in the plan as detailed by M. Cryan of The Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services, and are close to finishing. C. Plaisted will finish addressing the remaining items. He expects to finish by next week. He asked that an acknowledgement of all the work that M. Larson has contributed to the OSRP be stated at the beginning of the document. All members agreed that this should be done.
6. Trail Maintenance

R. Protano reported that he will be installing new plexiglass for the Heywood Trail kiosk.

P. Pedersen reported that there is still a need for mowing a path around the perimeter of Mudgett Orchard on the Wauschacum Trail. C. Plaisted noted an earlier discussion with P. Lyons about mowing a path. C. Plaisted will indicate where the grass should be cut by using spray paint. He would also like to see the reinstallation of the interpretive signs in the orchard.

P. Pedersen said he has been in contact with S. Valentine of the Conservation Committee concerning signage on the Wauschacum Trail including at the Tara Lane Trail Head, and the beginning of the Swett Hill portion of the trail.
7. Peg's Pond Trail Grants and Construction Progress

C. Plaisted reported that he was contacted by the town treasurer who informed him that we have a dedicated account for the trail that we can draw our grant money from. Also reported that the DPW has completed laying the sub-base for the trail from the Senior Center parking lot to the pavers near the waterfall. He noted that P. Lyons and the DPW are enthusiastic about helping with the project. Further reported that Joe Curtain of Pandolf-Perkins has donated 100 tons of stone dust to the Peg's Pond Trail project.

J. Keay reported that he is currently working on applying for a grant of \$12,500 from the Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program. He is also looking into applying for grants from the Municipal Americans

with Disabilities Act, and the Fields Pond Foundation.

8. Appropriate Trail Etiquette Signs

J. Wilkinson will send out a revised edition of text we could use on our kiosk, explaining proper trail etiquette. He will be looking for feedback from OSIC members.

R. Protano noted that there is room for a sign on the Heywood Trail kiosk.

9. Wauschacum Trails Progress

See agenda item 6.

10. Sterling Master Plan Survey

C. Plaisted emphasized the importance of responding to the survey. The results will be taken very seriously by the Master Plan Committee and the consulting firm they are working with.

11. New Business

There was no new business.

12. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 21 at 7:00pm via Zoom.

13. R. Protano moved to adjourn. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay