

OSIC Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2022 7:00 PM

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

Meeting called to order: 7:03pm.

1. C. Plaisted started the meeting by asking if anyone was recording the meeting. All members replied in the negative.
2. R. Protano moved to accept the agenda for February 16, 2022. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously.
3. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
4. R. Protano moved to accept the minutes of the January 19, 2022 meeting as written. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously.
5. Trail Maintenance Update
 - P. Pedersen reported that no trail maintenance has been done this winter.
 - Will check for any hiker reports on trail issues on our Facebook page.
 - Members will walk the Sterling Trails and email P. Pedersen of any needed maintenance. The needed maintenance will be prioritized and work details organized.
6. Peg's Pond Trail Progress
 - C. Plaisted noted that Peg's Pond has massively overflowed its banks after the recent rains and melting. Discussed need for better drainage.
 - Also reported that he has completed and sent in an application for a Mass Trails Grant. We will know if it has been accepted on July 22. We are asking for \$56,000, with the probability that 29% of that cost (\$10,000-\$11,000) will be covered in memorial donations and gifts in kind.
 - Further reported that he has made a capital request for town funding to the Capital Planning Committee. The request was made on the basis that trail and park improvements are the "renewal of a town asset", and allow for universal access as the trail will be ADA compliant. He has not yet heard back from the Capital Planning Committee.
 - J. Keay reported that he will be working on the AARP Community Challenge Grant for 2022. Also, that he received an email from M. Cryan from the Division of Conservation Services noting that the PARC Grant application period for 2023 should be opening up in mid-March.
7. Preparation for a warrant item at town meeting
 - Agreed we will look into preparing a warrant for town meeting if our request for a capital expenditure for the Peg's Pond Trail is not approved.
8. Allenwood Trail re-route
 - P. Pedersen reported that he has not heard back from the landowner since sending a description of the proposed trail re-route.

9. Sterling Trails Facebook page update

- Discussion tabled until next meeting.

10. New Business

- Discussed gravel removal issues, and the possible role of our committee.
- Noted the comprehensive OSIC 2021 Annual Report written and submitted by C. Plaisted.

11. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7:00pm via Zoom.

12. Adjournment: J. Wilkinson moved to adjourn. Motion 2nd by P. Lekberg and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay