

Meeting Minutes

Open Space Implementation Committee
Butterick Municipal Building, Room 201, Town of Sterling, Massachusetts

Wednesday, 13 June 2018 - 7:07 PM - 8:52 PM

Those Present: Peder Pedersen(PP), Jim Wilkinson(JW), Marion Lawson(ML), Erin Rehrig(ER), Chuck Plaisted(CP)

1. JW moved to accept meeting agenda seconded by ML and the motion passes.
2. CP will be the note-taker for the evening.
3. May 9th meeting minutes were discussed: Draft budget detail for FY 18-19 will be appended to the minutes. ML moved that the minutes be accepted as amended seconded by ER and the motion passes.
4. Open Space Plan maps to be updated
 1. The Open Space Maps for the updated Open Space Plan were discussed. Environmental Justice info will be added to the Regional Context Map and since Sterling has no Environmental Justice areas, the Environmental Justice areas in the surrounding towns will be shown.
 2. DCR land acquisitions and Sterling Land Trust acquisitions since the last Plan update will be added to the Open Space Plan maps.
 3. The Action Plan Map will be updated once OSIC has determined the new Action Plan.
5. Setting OSIC goals and tasks for the next seven years:
 1. OSIC has to reach out to different demographic groups to collect their info.
 2. ER has started an OSIC Facebook Page (Sterling Trails & Open Space) which has between 30-40 views so far. OSIC will make more of an effort to keep the page current with what is being done.
 3. Over the next four weeks, we will review the previous OSIC goals to determine what is still relevant.
 4. We will review the 7 Year Action Plan which ER has sent to everyone.

Wednesday, 13 June 2018

5. We will review the distilled comments from the focus group discussion on April 28 which will be sent out by PP. PP has put stars next to the items that he believes are the most important.
6. ML will talk to Judy Barrett to determine how much time OSIC has to prepare the updated Action Plan.
7. All members shall be prepared to offer their thoughts on the Updated Action Plan at the next meeting in July. The Updated Action Plan will be the sole topic of discussion on the agenda for that meeting.
6. Purchase of chain saw for trail maintenance:
 1. A chainsaw to be used for trail maintenance has been purchased for \$653.48. The purchase includes a battery with charger, an extra chain and chainsaw oil.
 2. There is \$220.43 left in the budget.
7. Printing additional trail brochures.
 1. ML moved, seconded by ER, to print \$250.00 worth of trail brochures. Motion passed, PP will have them printed.
8. Publicity for the *Sterling Hikes* for summer, 2018, and scheduling of additional hikes.
 1. ER will link the piece in *The Landmark* about Sterling Hikes to OSIC's FaceBook page.
 2. Additional Hikes
 1. Stillwater Basin Hike —Jeff Keay, Saturday August 11th
 2. Heywood Reservoir — CP, Saturday August 18th
 3. Pine Hill Esker Trail —PP, Saturday August 25th
9. Update on trail-clearing with the Boy Scouts
 1. Three groups of scouts and their parents and leaders cleared trails on the 19th of May with PP directing everyone.
 2. They worked on the Stillwater basin trail and the Buttrick Trail
10. Communication from Matt Marro re Waushacum Trail
 1. PP & CP began work on blazing this new trail.

Wednesday, 13 June 2018

2. Mr. Pendleton, a neighbor, contacted the police regarding OSIC presence in the area across the street from his home. He was concerned about the use of a chainsaw to cut trees. He also used a video camera to record OSIC members as they walked along the right-of-way towards the Mudgett Orchard.
3. PP & CP will do more trail-clearing on Friday from 1PM-3PM.
4. PP suggests that we finish the trail and then invite the neighbors to hike the new trail.

11. New Business

1. ER suggests that we develop an "OSIC Nook" in the library. It would be a temporary "summer" thing. Trail brochures and photos would be posted there, along with relevant books, etc. The idea was positively received.
2. ML received a list of native plants from Diane Pedersen that could be planted around the hiking kiosks.
3. Town of Sterling Master Plan process has been started. It will take approximately 12-18 months. PP & ML went to the first meeting. The next meeting will be on the 21st of June. There is an article in the Meeting House News on the Master Plan. PP will send out a Meeting Agenda for the Master Plan process.

12. Next OSIC Meeting Date: Monday, 23 July 2018 at 7PM.

13. Adjourn: ML moves to adjourn, seconded by ER, at 8:52 PM. Motion passes.