

Via Zoom

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

Meeting called to order: 7:15pm.

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 August 19, 2020. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously.
3. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
4. P. Pedersen moved to accept the minutes of the July 15, 2020 meeting with amendments. Motion 2nd by R. Protano 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.
They will send out the results of their work to the OSIC committee.
6. Trail Maintenance
P. Person informed the committee that the Heywood Reservoir Trail is in good shape. R. Protano and J. Keay will make arrangements to replace the broken plexiglass on the trailhead kiosk.
P. Pedersen reported that a path around the Mudgett Orchard portion of the Wauschacum Trail still needs to be mowed. He will contact the DPW about mowing the path. He also reported that the trail leading up to the orchard looks good, with less of a problem with poison ivy than first thought.
Discussed possibility of blazing the Wauschacum Trail from the Tara Lane trailhead.
Plan on doing maintenance work on the Stillwater Basin trail in the fall, after lumbering operations on the trail have been completed.
7. Peg's Pond Trail Grants and RFQ Progress
C. Plaisted reported that only one bid has come in as a result of the RFQs sent regarding construction of the Peg's Pond Trail. It was for \$51,000, which is far above our cost estimate. It was agreed not to accept or pursue the bid.
C. Plaisted discussed with P. Lyons the possibility of the DPW putting down and compacting the geotextile and stone dust instead of hiring a contractor. OSIC would use the \$10,000 grant to purchase the necessary materials. This possibility will be considered.
Discussed the possibility of applying for another grant through Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program offered by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.
Agreed we should wait to see how much additional funding, if any, is necessary.

8. Appropriate Trail Etiquette Signs

Discussion tabled until the next meeting.

9. Restarting the hiking program

P. Pedersen reported that the hikes so far have been organized informally.

P. Pedersen, C. Plaisted and J. Keay will meet to discuss strategies for a formal hiking program.

10. New Business

C. Plaisted noted that discussion of issues with a property owner abutting a Sterling Trail cannot not take place because of pending litigation.

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

12. R. Protano moved to adjourn. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay