

OSIC Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2021 7:00 PM

Via Zoom

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

Guest: Paul Lekberg

Meeting called to order: 7:08pm.

1. C. Plaisted started the meeting by asking if anyone was recording the meeting. All members replied in the negative.
2. P. Pedersen moved to accept the agenda for February 17, 2021. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously.
3. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
4. J. Wilkinson moved to accept the minutes of the January 28, 2021 meeting as written. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously.
5. Trail Sign Post Progress
 - C. Plaisted emailed photos of a trail post he had made for the Heywood Trail. Committee agreed that it was well made, and thanked him for his efforts. Members suggested that the carved letters be highlighted, which he will do. He will be working on a total of 13 signs and estimates it will take a week to complete the task.
 - C. Plaisted also reported that he will be following up on recruiting volunteers to help with installing the sign posts and helping with general trail maintenance.
6. Open Space and Recreation Chapter of the Master Plan: Progress
 - C. Plaisted reported that he and P. Pedersen are working to include more concrete “action items” in the Open Space and Recreation chapter. They noted that there is limited time to get these items into this chapter of the Master Plan. They will send out the text of the chapter to OSIC members to solicit ideas and comments.
 - C. Plaisted noted that several action items in the Transportation and Circulation Chapter include action items where OSIC is considered one of the “responsible entities”.
7. FY22 Budget Report
 - J. Wilkinson reported that the FY22 budget is done online using a spreadsheet provided by the town. A budget of \$1500 was predetermined for OSIC, \$500 less than the budget approved by the committee. He reported that he sent in a reduced budget to stay within the \$1500, but is working to contact the town accountant to ask for the additional funds.
 - C. Plaisted noted that OSIC has been given responsibilities in the Master Plan that would require the additional funding.

8. New Business

- J. Keay reported that submissions for the AARP Community Challenge Grant are now being accepted. He will apply for the grant, which will be used for work on the Peg's Pond Trail.
- C. Plaisted will contact P. Lyons to see when the DPW can resume work on the trail.
- P. Lekburg noted that certain trailheads were plowed, but others were not. Discussed trailheads that need to be plowed and who would be responsible. Concluded that the DPW and DCR would be the primary sources for plowing. C. Plaisted will check with P. Lyons to arrange for the plowing of trailheads on town property.
- P. Lekburg asked about efforts to connect trails between towns. C. Plaisted explained that efforts to do this are ongoing, led by the Montachusett Regional Planning Commission. He suggested checking their GIS mapping system to get an overview of trails within the region.

9. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 7:00pm via Zoom.

10. Adjournment: J. Wilkinson moved to adjourn. Motion 2nd by R. Protano and carried unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay