

OSIC Meeting Minutes – June 16, 2021 7:00 PM

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

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. R. Protano moved to accept the agenda for June 16, 2021. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously.
3. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
4. P. Pedersen moved to accept the minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting as written. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously.
5. Peg's Pond Trail Progress and vote to pay Stillman Landscape
 - C. Plaisted reported that Stillman Landscaping finished applying stone dust to the first 100 feet of the trail for just under \$10,000. Two thirds of the trail now need to be finished.
 - J. Keay reported that we will be notified of the status of our AARP Community Challenge grant by the end of June.
 - P. Pedersen moved that we approve payment to Stillman Landscaping for their work on the trail. Motion 2nd by P. Lekberg and carried unanimously.
 - C. Plaisted reported that a senior had tripped on loose bricks on the current walkway by Peg's Pond. Discussed who should do the repairs.
 - P. Pedersen reported that S. Valentine had asked if the stream and fountain were operating at Peg's Pond. J. Keay reported that the stream was operating but not the fountain. P. Pedersen will let her know.
 - Discussed possibility of help from the Conservation Commission in funding the trail.
6. Resumption of Public Hiking program
 - P. Pedersen noted that the first two hikes were thinly attended.
 - P. Lekberg said he will be available to lead Sunday hikes starting in October.
7. Trail Maintenance Progress
 - P. Pedersen reported that the Heywood Trail has been cleared.
 - P. Pedersen noted a reported large deadfall across the Pine Hill Esker Trail. P. Pedersen, P. Lekberg, and J. Keay will meet at the trailhead at 9:00am on June 29th to clear the trail. P. Lekberg will scout the trail before that to see if the trail has already been cleared.
8. Trail Sign Posts project completed
 - C. Plaisted reported that all the trail sign posts have been installed. Agreement that the posts and installation look great, and are much needed guideposts for our trails.

9. Miller Family's concerns regarding trails crossing their property

- Studied maps of the trails affected: Lynde Basin Trail and the Allenwood Trail.
- Pointed out that a good deal of both trails pass through the Miller property.
- Noted that lumbering would probably cause the parking area at Lynde Basin to be closed.
- Discussed possible actions to be taken:
 - take down existing trail blazes and posts that direct hikers to trails that go through the property.
 - map a separate and shorter dog walking trail that would avoid the property.
 - C. Plaisted will contact Hannah Miller to let her know of our actions.
 - P. Pedersen will arrange a meeting to go over different proposals for a reroute.

10. New Business

- J. Keay noted that because the planned reroute of the Stillwater Basin trail is on the Muddy Pond Road side of the ridge, the kiosk will need to be moved from the Griffin Road location. Discussed possible ways of accomplishing that move.
- J. Wilkinson reported on observing poor logging practices taking place near Fitch Hill.
- Noted that the town meeting approved an annual town budget that includes \$1500 for OSIC.

11. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 7:00pm.

12. Adjournment: J. Wilkinson moved to adjourn. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay