

OSIC Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2023 7:00 PM

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

Meeting called to order: 7:02pm.

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 June 14, 2023. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously.
3. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
4. J. Wilkinson moved to accept the minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting as written. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously.
5. Notes from April and May Meeting
 - There were no official meetings in April or May.
6. Trail Maintenance
 - P. Lekberg reported a downed tree blocking the Heywood Reservoir Trail. C. Plaisted, P. Lekberg, and J. Keay will meet at the Heywood Reservoir trailhead at 9:00am on Friday, June 16 to do necessary trail work.
7. Peg's Pond Trail Progress
 - C. Plaisted reported that the trail has been completed. Further improvements will be the addition of shade trees, benches, and picnic tables. C. Plaisted will speak with B. Caldwell about monies needed for these improvements, as well as inquire with senior center staff about setting up a memorial fund to provide additional funding.
 - Noted that the trail is fully handicapped accessible, ADA compliant.
 - Discussed locating the trailhead kiosk, and arranging for an opening ceremony.
 - C. Plaisted will work on a map for the kiosk.
8. Sterling Rail Trail Extension
 - C. Plaisted reported that the expected cost of a feasibility study to extend the Sterling section of the Mass Central Rail Trail (MCRT) to the Clinton border will be between \$50,00 - \$70,000. Noted that it looks like there are monies available from the state, as the state is looking to complete building the MCRT across Massachusetts.
9. Channel 25 TV Interview
 - C. Plaisted reported that he was interviewed by a reporter from Channel 25 for about 20 minutes. During the interview he emphasized the hiking trails maintained throughout Sterling.
 - He noted that members of several other organizations in Sterling were also interviewed.

10. New Business

- Discussed participation in this year's Sterling Fair. Agreed to share a booth with the Sterling Land Trust.
- Discussed possibilities for using the \$6,000 we were granted in capital funds. Ideas included constructing a boardwalk over the flooded area caused by a beaver dam on the Lynde Basin Trail. Noted that measurements will be needed for this project. C. Plaisted and P. Pedersen will assess the situation.
- Discussed the deterioration of maps on the trailhead kiosks. C. Plaisted will work on creating new maps.

11. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, August 9, 2023 at 7:00pm.

12. Adjournment: C. Plaisted moved to adjourn. Motion 2nd by J. Wilkinson and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay