

OSIC Meeting Notes – February 21, 2024 7:00 PM

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

Future Member: Christine Nelson

Meeting called to order: 7:05pm.

1. C. Plaisted asked if the meeting was being recorded by anyone. All replied in the negative.
2. J. Wilkinson moved to accept the agenda for February 21, 2024. Motion 2nd by P. Lekberg and carried unanimously.
3. Note taker: J. Keay volunteered.
4. J. Wilkinson moved to accept the minutes of the January 17, 2024 meeting as written. Motion 2nd by P. Pedersen and carried unanimously.
5. Overlay Map of Sterling describing Open Space concerns
 - C. Plaisted reported that Sterling Town Planner Steve Wallace is looking into funding for a base map of Sterling that is overlayed with the 61A properties in town.
6. Clinton DPW work update on the Lynde Basin Trail
 - P. Pedersen contacted Michael Ward, Clinton Town Administrator, concerning repairing trails in the Lynde Basin Area that were damaged during lumbering operations. He will walk the trails with P. Pedersen after the snow has melted. P. Pedersen also noted that there is a new DPW head in Clinton, Kevin Bartlett.
 - Discussed the effects of lumbering on and near the Lynde Basin, and the effects of the beaver dam. Proposed some ideas for repairing the landscape.
7. Discussion of the analysis of the Open Space value of Chapter 61 parcels
 - J. Wilkinson, P. Pedersen, and J. Keay reported on the 61A parcels that they investigated, noting any valuable features of each, such as: critical natural landscape, core animal habitat, prime agricultural land, water resource or scenic vista. J. Keay will work on consolidating the reports.
 - C. Plaisted noted that the North County Land Trust will hold a meeting with Sterling Chapter 61A land owners on March 30th at the Old Town Hall. We have been invited to attend.

8. New Business

- P. Pedersen reported that there are major and minor washouts on the Peg's Pond Trail. C. Plaisted noted that DPW Superintendent Ryan Mouradian will be working to make repairs.
- Discussed alternatives to stone dust for the surface of the Peg's Pond Trail.
- C. Plaisted reported that he hasn't received any response from the Finance Committee regarding our budget request.
- Discussed the need of a weedwhacker to use for trail maintenance. P. Pedersen will research the options and then purchase a weedwhacker for OSIC use.

9. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 7:00pm.

10. Adjournment: J. Wilkinson moved to adjourn. Motion 2nd by P. Lekberg and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully Submitted: Jeff Keay