

Meeting Minutes – March 8, 2022

Open Space and Recreation Committee

In attendance: Laurie Pike, Dana Williams, Alex Reisman

Audience of citizens: none

7:05p Meeting is called to order

7:06p Reviewing meeting minutes from last meeting.

7:11p Meeting minutes from February 14, 2022 are approved by roll call vote. Laurie Pike – yes, Dana Williams – yes, Alex Reisman - yes

7:10p Discussion of how the information for the OSRP can be assembled, if non-committee members with expertise can contribute (yes).

7:13p Laurie reads email about new funding information from Kimberly at FRCOG. \$7,000 available through the end of the year (2022). Scheduling a virtual meeting with Kimberly for March 23 at 1pm pending Dana checking her schedule.

Laurie (also park commissioner) has been approached by various conservation groups to support an MVP grant – under which there would be money for the OSRP. Applications due in May, we find out if we got it in September. The Conservation for Small Communities Grant would force Laurie to apply for the Park grant, it goes hand in hand.

\$20,000 is the expected cost of the OSRP. What would the \$7,000 grant buy us, in terms of time? Remaining \$13K could come from the MVP grant or conservation for small communities grant. MVP has a lot of grant money available. We can ask the town for money as a last resort.

7:25p Discussion of strategy about working on the plan and outreach. Different stakeholders in town: Loggers, farmers, BnB, spiritual needs (retreats), sugaring, ice fishing, hunting, power company (Bear Swamp). Identify and reach out directly to stakeholders as a way to improve on survey response rate compared with surveys in the past. After sending out the survey, contact individuals. Ahmmad (Alex's husband) uses qualitative research methods in his work and can weigh in on survey design.

We can also use the goals from Forest Stewardship Plan and MVP – use input from community outlined in those plans.

Cultural council doing two concerts, maybe we can do a picnic as part of outreach.

7:49p Any things to ask Kimberly from FRCOG? Administrative questions.

- What part of the work do we need someone for, and what part can we do ourselves?
- Do we need surveys?
- What's the process of finding a grant writer? Or would someone from FRCOG do it?
- If we get additional money, will you continue to help us after the \$7K (through Dec 2022)
- How original does the writing need to be? Can we copy/paste from other resources

- Timeline for completing our sections
- What's the DCR review process for the plan?

8:08p Reviewing sections we are each working on

8:23p Let's each make a list of questions for Kimberly. Agenda for next time will occur after we talk to Kimberly, check if we need to post the meeting with Kimberly.

8:27p Motion to adjourn by all