

Open Space Committee

Tuesday, July 29, 2025

MINUTES

- I. **Attendance and Approval of June 24, 2025 minutes:** Meeting called to order at 5:00pm. Present were members Lucy Abisalih, Mary Ann Glennon, Dawn Ackerman, Sandy Venner, and Sean Wright. Guest Nancy Knettel, 54 Hadley Rd. There was no quorum of those present to approve June 24, 2025 minutes.
- II. **Trail Activities**
 - **Coordinating new Marshview Trail with Greenbelt:** No update.
 - **Tree removal:** Sandy arranged for Mayer Tree to remove tree hanging above McLaren Trail.
- III. **Trail maintenance and improvement opportunities:** Lucy will arrange for Mary and her to talk with David from NE Trailworks to discuss outlining the trail work to be done and assisting with the application for the Mass Trails grant. Sean said he can access Merrimack College AI for background data research. Nancy suggested that Geotech material possibly could be used in the trail bed to manage moisture. All present agreed that the actual grant application and work should be delayed until the OSRP is further along.
- IV. **Collaboration with Other Entities: Old Home Days** is August 9th. Lucy will draft flyer about OSRP to be used for OHDs. Booth set up and coverage was arranged.
- V. **Next Steps for Open Space and Recreation Plan:** Lucy sent the RFP to several firms/parties that expressed an interest. Proposals are due August 15th. Potential applicants said \$20,000 should be sufficient with the updated maps available from MVPC. Representatives for groups previously discussed will be asked to sit on the Advisory Board. Lucy will talk to Select Board about sending a rep and will issue an invitation to the public. Nancy Knettel expressed an interest in being on the Advisory Board.
- VI. **FY'26 budget and Trail Improvement Article:** Motion made and seconded by Dawn and Mary to pay Mayer Tree Service \$650 out of the Tree Removal and Trail Maintenance fund when the work is done and invoice received. All supported.
- VII. **Correspondence:** Lucy met with abutters to Carey Park who wish to erect and maintain a mini-library by the park sign. She will assist the Zappallos in getting the necessary signatures for the approved use of public land.
- VIII. The next meeting will be August 28th at 5pm. Adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Sandra Venner
August 25, 2025