

Open Space Committee

Thursday, September 18, 2025

MINUTES

- I. **Attendance and Approval of August 28, 2025 minutes:** Meeting called to order at 5:00pm. Present were members Lucy Abisalih, Mary Ann Glennon, Dawn Ackerman, Sandy Venner, and Sue Simmons. Lucy and Sue made and seconded the motion to approve August 28, 2025 minutes and all approved.
- II. **Trail Activities**
 - **Organize October 25th Trail Work Day:** Volunteers will meet at Battis Road at 9 am. Groups will clear the field entrance to the Marshview Trail and the upper part of the Innis Trail. Removal of the bench that is now overgrown in the Cobbler's Brook Greenway was discussed. Possible relocation would be where the Marshview Trail overlooks the hills near the old stone foundations.
 - **Discussion with NE Trailworks:** Mary and Lucy reported that Dave St Pierre suggested the Town seek grants to make the McLaren Trail fully accessible. The Town could apply to NE Trailworks for a design grant with estimates of the cost for phases of the work.
- III. **Collaboration with Other Entities:**
 - **Activities for 150th celebrations:** Dawn will attend Neighbors for Nature meeting to check if there is an opportunity for collaboration. Dawn reported the library has formed a nature club for grades 1-4 with which she will share the Junior Ecologist information previously created.
- IV. **Open Space and Recreation Plan Update:** Tighe and Bond have been selected to be the consultants for updating the OSRP and will be asked to provide draft contract language. Lucy reported that the application form for the EEA grant is now posted and she is ready to submit. Lucy and Sean will represent OSC on the Advisory Committee along with Nancy Knettel and representative from Disabilities Commission. Planning Board, Con Com and Select Board have also been asked to name representatives.
- V. **FY'26 budget and Trail Improvement Article:** No new expenditures.
- VI. **Announcements:** Mary shared info about Moors Grant for up to \$10,000 for unserved youth ages 10-15 years to engage in outdoor activity.
- VII. With the trail workday in October, the next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 18th at 5pm. Adjourned at 6:10 pm.