

Northfield Open Space Committee

Minutes

October 20, 2020
Meeting by Zoom

Items in italics require action prior to next meeting.

Present: Julia Blyth, Joanne McGee, Jenny Tufts, Jerry Wagener

Absent: Robin Conley, Sue Space

Guest: Helena Farrell, FRCOG

Julia opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes of September 29, 2020, were approved. Jerry/Joanne 4 – 0. Approving the minutes of Sept. 15, 2020, was postponed.

Comments: Mount Grace is offering a forestry walk at Song Memorial Forest, Flower Hill Rd, Warwick, at 3:30 p.m. on Wed., Oct. 28. Forester Mike Mauri will lead walkers through areas that had been cut after a destructive storm. Call Joanne for more info or mountgrace.org.

Jerry expressed concern about printing more trail maps for Brush Mt. kiosk. Heavy usage on those trails means more people taking maps. Jerry will spend up to? For additional printing.

Millbrook project: Julia and Joanne described the start of the Millbrook bridge and trail project. The boardwalk over the marsh will be uncovered and raised in place by another layer of boards. Steps will be built at each end of the marsh bridge. Joanne and Julia are exploring the possibility of CPA or grant funding for snowmobile bridge which is in total disrepair. Joanne, Julia and Jerry walked with Mike Barry from the Conservation Commission around these sites. Since we are exploring bridge designs, the next step is a site visit by Conservation Works, Inc. Then we hope to have a meeting of all parties who use the wetlands Nov. 5, 6, or 7, with snowmobilers, birders, walkers, cross country skiers, etc.

Helena arrived via Zoom. The committee reviewed Sections 6, 7, and 8. It is still uncertain about how or when we will be able to have our public forum. Members contributed several ideas. Helena will be meeting with her planning partners at FRCOG this week to discuss possibilities.

Our homework is to prioritize the action steps in each objective in Section 9. Helena is recommending a rather interesting Action Step map that Ryan will create at FRCOG. She needs our priorities as best we can do it. Look at each objective and try to prioritize some or many of them. Warwick created this Action Map for its OSRP – very impressive.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:55. Next meeting is Nov. 17, 2020 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McGee, Secretary