

## **WILBRAHAM OPEN SPACE & RECREATION PLAN COMMITTEE**

### **Mission Statement:**

**Preserve significant open space by investigating, educating, planning and cooperating.**

### ***Minutes for June 28, 2016***

**Attending:** Jay Taylor, Edna Colcord, Brian Fitzgerald, Ed Mc Corkindale , Tracey Plantier, Judi Theocles, Margie Connell

**Meeting Began:** 7:00 PM

**Minutes May 31, 2016:** accepted: (motion: Tracey. Judi) Vote: 6:0.

**Correspondence:** none

#### **Visitor: Greg Chaconas**

- Greg represented the owner, Gleason of 9V Red Bridge Road who has a 15 acre parcel that connects to Red Bridge State Park. He's asking \$250k "but willing to negotiate." The parcel is assessed for \$153k, taxes are about \$7300/yr. He apparently isn't interested in donating and taking tax breaks available.
- Jay snowshoed the parcel years ago, and found it to be a nice wooded area, but bound by wetlands on one side, and private properties on the other three.
- There is no public access from Chilson St where Greg lives. Per Greg the abutting owners would permit access. Parking is at Red Bridge parking area by the pond/lake public access area.
- The OSRPC voted to table the issue until September since the committee doesn't meet in the summer.

#### **Visitors: Laura Shea and Jesse Kellner**

- Representing local Boy Scouts, Jesse Kellner was seeking ways to help troop members meet service hours in becoming Eagle scouts. Trail was clearing discussed.
- Saturday, October 22 was scheduled for a work party at 12 Mile Brook and Thayer Brook. The group will meet at the Crane Hill Disk Golf parking lot and work from 9-1.
- Saturday, November 19 was scheduled for a work party at MacDonald's Farm. The group will meet at the barn at the end of Washington Street and work from 9-1.
- Refreshments will be arranged by Laura, Jesse, and Open Space members

#### **Trail Report:**

- The Summit Trail at Crane Hill as completed by Jay, Joe and Tracey. Twenty -seven students from Duggan unknowingly were the first to use it and a photo will be submitted to the Times. Unfortunately shortly thereafter, while carrying equipment, Joe took a spill which resulted in his tearing his quad tendon in his leg. This has left him immobilized. EMTs came to the rescue. All express concerns for a speedy recovery.

- *Ed has waited to get more details from Melissa from Conservation on new signs for the Thayer and 12 Mile trails. A grant to create them came as a result of recent logging projects. Mr. Buckley of Fish and Wildlife (involved in the grant for signs) received some suggestions from Ed but there was no feedback as yet. It appears the signage will be put up without much input from Open Space.*

**Mount Marcy:**

- *Nothing to report except that the grant is being processed*

**Open Space Survey/Facebook**

- *Joe has created an OSRPC Facebook page. He reports a low response to date, however.*
- *Suggestions were made to increase Public Relations. Joe is doing an article for the Times? Ed said he would put a reminder on the Public Channel.*
- *In terms of the new Open Space digital survey which Joe put up on our OSRPC website and on our new Facebook page, Jay commented that he initially had some issues submitting the new form on line and on Facebook but he eventually figured out what he was doing wrong.*
- *The IT department worked to simplify the procedure.*
- *All Wilbraham residents are encouraged to take the quick, easy survey to help the OSRPC plan for the future.*

**Back Burner:** *With the ADA trail nixed by conservation issues and no new news on the hunting on Sundays bill, there was nothing to report on this item in the agenda*

**Next meeting:** *September 27, 2016 in the Selectmen's Room at Town Hall.*

**Audience of Citizens:** *none*

**Adjourn:** *8:38 PM (motion: Judi, Margie ) Vote: 6:0*