

Swanzey Open Space Meeting

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

Present: Bob McKelvey, Judy Hildebrandt, Karen Sielke, Theresa DiLuzio, Jeanne Thieme, Sharon Greatbatch, Mary Farnsworth
Meeting started at 5:05PM.

Absent: Beverly Bernard, Ken Colby - SB rep

Minutes from February meeting were accepted by Karen Sielke, seconded by Jeanne Thieme.

The OSC appointments were announced: Karen Sielke-full time member, Judith M. Hildebrandt and Victoria Reck Ames-alternates.
Jeanne M. Thieme OSC rep to Planning board

Dickenson Forest Hike with naturalist Wendy Ward – Bob McKelvey reported that 14 people attended the hike and that it was very well received by all who attended. The group saw many animal tracks. Jeanne Thieme brought up how the group needs to think about a better way of distributing posters so we don't have so many left over. There were several posters left at the town hall that did not get used. Bob McKelvey will get Wendy's address so we can send her a thank you from the group.

Trail Postcard Update – Mary reported on the progress of the postcard project. Jeanne mentioned the need to somehow recognize the landowners on this project. The group discussed how we should have one impact picture on the front, introductory verbiage on the back. Mary Farnsworth will implement the changes the committee offered to the group and then hopefully have a proof to present to all by the next meeting.

Indoor Talk update – Theresa DiLuzio reported that the indoor talk is scheduled for October 22nd at the Swansey Town Hall. The subject will be the History of Old Cellarholes. There is a good chance we can hold the talk at the renovated Whitcomb Hall.

Northfield Mt. Hermon Farmer's Market Teach in Day, May 9th- Jeanne Thieme discussed the invite with the group. The event is to help educate the students about food sustainability and local food systems using various speakers, activities. We discussed what the OSC's role would be. Concerns were raised by the group about the potential of "stepping on the toes" of groups in their area. Jeanne will get more info on event before we commit and report back to the committee.

C&S Event- May 18th, 8-noon, Saturday, Blackbrook Road. It's an Employee appreciation picnic. They have invited the OSC and oxen to attend. The group agreed that it will be a good way to get the word out about the work we are doing. We will determine volunteers at April meeting.

Facebook – Sharon Greatbatch asked who can post pictures on our OSC Facebook Page. Beverly Bernard is the only one who can post to the site.

Walk for Animals June 21st Saturday - There will be more details to follow.

Rail Trail Event- August 2nd or August 9th. Sharon to confirm her schedule and will get back to the group.

Old Home Day, July 19, Saturday - There is a new parade route. The parade will start at cemetery on Route 32 to the town hall.

Discussion ensued as to how we can get more children involved. Last year the bookmarks did not get out to enough families. Theresa DiLuzio suggested going to Swansey Lake day care, getting word out at Stonewall Farm in Keene. Personal phone calls could be made as well to families with children.

Jean Blood's donation – Sharon Greatbatch presented information on granite benches. Other possible locations for the bench, new West Swansey Park, Swansey Rail Trail. Creations in Stone can do a ceramic etching of the Blood Farm and put it on the bench. We liked the idea of a back on the bench, but it will be too expensive. Jeanne to find out how much money is in the Blood donation account. Another suggestion was made by Theresa DiLuzio to use the money to clean up the Muster Field and restore the tower.

West Swansey Park – Ken not at meeting, so nothing to report.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30PM. Voted by Theresa DiLuzio, seconded by Sharon Greatbatch.

Respectfully submitted by: Mary Farnsworth