

BILLINGS PARK COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
29 June 2020
4 pm

Attendance

Billings Park Commissioners: Sam Seagal, Randy Richardson, Alison Clarkson (Chair), Julian Underwood, Rebecca Williams, Don Wheeler

National Park Service Trails Coordinator: Jennifer Waite

Guests: Wendy Marrinan, Linda Smiddy, Bill Corson

2. Welcome to Rebecca Williams our new BPC appointee.

Rebecca introduced herself. The Billings Park

3. Approval of Minutes from June 1st. Approved Unanimously.

4. Alison asked Jennifer to provide a brief explanation of the history and structure of the Billings Park Commission.

Randy discussed how impressed he has been with the historical work of the BPC and opened the discussion about our constraints and opportunities moving forward.

Alison wondered how we balance and manage our roles as stewards of the Parks with the potential to expand the role of the BPC.

Randy provided an overview of the Woodstock River Walk Park. He presented the possibility of the Billings Park Commission assuming oversight of the park upon its completion.

Randy formally communicated the Woodstock River Walk committee requested that the BPC, in the long-term, take over the care and oversight of the Woodstock River Walk.

Alison asked that Randy provide an estimate of expenses and maintenance needs.

5. Discussion of the latest Draft from Maja Smith for the Mt Peg Summit Kiosk

All comments should be communicated to Jennifer by July 1st.

6. Update on Park Management Plan

Alison stated that Redstart was hired to provide a park management plan but what they provided was more of a forestry management plan.

Jennifer discussed the categories of natural communities and ecology, forest resources, recreation.

Billings Park Commissioners should review the current plan and make recommendations that ensure that the plan matches the priorities for the parks.

7. Update on trail maintenance, Mt Peg Mowing Schedule & Invasives

Nick mowed the week of June 1st. It seems to be growing back. Do we need a more formal mowing schedule.

Don will reach out to Nick to about this.

8. Trail Maintenance – Peter Jensen submitted a request to the Faulkner Trust to finish the Faulkner trail to the South Peak.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of created a formal overlook at the top of the North Peak.

Alison requested that Randy create a list of trail maintenance projects.

9. Developing a Budget for BPC

Alison and Sam will begin work on the Budget.

a. Discussion of the bill for the trees on Highland Ave Extension

The BPC has agreed to cost share the removal of the Harris's hazard trees with the Village. The town's portion comes from the Village Tree Care budget.

Sam: Move to spend \$1000 to mitigate the hazard trees on the Harris property.

Unanimously approved.

Don will create a policy regarding hazard trees.

10. Next meeting: July 20th 4:00