

BILLINGS PARK COMMISSION
Minutes - DRAFT
21 March 2022
4:30 pm

In Attendance:

Billings Park Commission Members: Don Wheeler, Rebecca Williams,
Michael Green, Phil Robertson, Julian Underwood

Marsh/Billings/Rockefeller National Park Liaison

Woodstock Town Manager: Bill Kerbin

Woodstock Select Board Member:

Visitors: Bill Corson, Wendy Jackson, Wendy Merriman, Tess Hunter

1. Sam called the meeting to order at 4:32.
2. Julian moved to amend the agenda to move the bench/fire pit to the beginning of the agenda to allow Hudson to present.
 - a. Sam seconded. Approved. Don Seconded.
3. Hudson Maxham expressed an interest in rebuilding the firepit and potentially the benches as part of his Eagle Scout project.
 - a. Sam moved to give Hudson Maxham conceptual approval to design and present at the next meeting.
4. Minutes from 20 December 2021
 - a. Provisionally moved to approve the December 20, 2021 minutes with a edit to the 2.
 - b. Don seconded.
 - c. Approved unanimously.
5. BPC Board Members
 - a. Don Wheeler to step down March 2022
 - Sam expressed his appreciation for getting to know Don through the BPC.
 - Becky asked how many years Don has been on the BPC. Don responded that he thinks he has been on the BPC for 15. Sam asked

- Becky stated that the Select Board will interview candidates who apply.
- Phil stated that Wendy Jackson has expressed an interest.

2. Update on Parks Manager (Bill Corson)

- a. Bill reported that there isn't much to update. It is an initiative to be reconsidered in the coming year. A quiet task force has been working on this. Bill and the task force is looking at alternative, perhaps grant, funding for this position.
- b. Sam thanks Bill for this work.

3. Ongoing business updates

- a. Preschool Classroom – Randy will report at next meeting.
- b. Girl Scout Cabin – Phil and Randy met with Eric Tobiason. They assessed the state of the cabin.
 - i. Suggested Renovation Items include:
 - ii. - outhouse vs. bathroom.
 - iii. - There is water at the cabin. Need to understand how gray water would be managed.
 - iv. - New windows are estimated at \$10k.
 - v. - Perhaps tear out the ceiling.
 - vi. - Woodstove is important. Two chimneys seem operational.
 - vii. - Cooking might occur on the back porch.
- c. Benches/ Picnic tables – Discussed with Hudson.
- d. Faulkner Trust work on Faulkner Trail
 - i. - Wendy Marrinan discussed a meeting that Friends of Faulkner Park had with Bill Kerbin and Elijah to discuss drainage.
 - ii. Friends of Faulkner Park have proposed hiring a survey (Ethan Gilmore of Holt) to mark the right of way around Faulkner Park. This will inform how to move forward with drainage. The Town of Woodstock allocated 2 days of highway department work on remediating the wet areas on Mountain Ave but it did not help. Wendy said that she has reached out to the Faulkner Trust representatives but had not heard back. Sam said that it might be confusing for the Trust representative to have multiple points of contact.
 - iii. - Another issue are the Norway maples which Don reported are evasive.
 - iv. – Randy is best informed to discuss Faulkner Trail summer work.

- v. - Becky asked about priorities for trail work in the Billings Park/Faulkner Trail. Cabling of Faulkner Trail and Precipice Trail seemed important.
 - e. Kent McFarland's work on Parks Management Plan
 - i. Becky reported it is close to being presented.
- 4. Planning for Spring –
 - a. Phil worried about trail maintenance competition with volunteers who might be working on the Ottauquechee River trail. They are planning Saturday mornings beginning on April 16th.
 - b. Perhaps Earth Day.
 - c. Becky asked Don about mowing schedule. Julian will coordinate with Nick.
- 5. New Business - Nope
- 6. Next meeting – Monday, April 18th at 4:30 pm.
- 7. Becky adjourned the meeting at 5:34 pm

The link to join us on Zoom is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83292302498?pwd=QzU1NEs2TkVSc2k2WG5Cc0ZINGNUQT09>

or from zoom.us you can enter these details:

Meeting ID: 832-9230-2498

Password: 512577

You can also download the Zoom app on your smartphone.