

Winchendon Community Park Infrastructure Committee November 23, 2020 Minutes Zoom Meeting

Committee Members Present: Dave Romanowski, Ken LaBrack, Jane LaPointe, Dylan Romanowski
Missing: Randy Tenney
Public: Aaron Gagne

Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.

Administrative

Approved Minutes: October 19, 2020

Amphitheater Project Update Winchendon Board of Selectmen approved moving ahead on the project presented at their November 9th meeting by Abacus Architects.. Current schedule includes: winter-bids, spring through fall-construction, open-spring 2022

- **Dave** will remind Keith Hickey about the commitment to abutters for a meeting on the project

Business

Updates on actions from October 19th

1. Trail Usage

a. Trail Signs:

- The first phase of signs has been installed by NQTA. This includes trailhead signs and meadows.
- Approved: \$2,220 for the installation of the remaining signs by NQTA - phase 2.

b. Park Rules Signs:

- Over the winter, the Committee will evaluate options, wording, placement.

c. Kiosk: to display trail maps, park rules, etc.

- **Dave** will follow up with Randy on status.

d. Gates to prevent or deter unauthorized vehicle access to Meadows and Elm Street Path.

- **Ken** will follow up with Dave Walsh on recommendations per Town Manager's request

e. Boardwalk/footbridges across wetland on Forest Cove Path

- **Dylan** will install this Spring; may build in the barn over the winter

f. Elm Street Bridge & Path

- This has been identified as the next priority for the Park - and the need for safety related improvements caused by water problems. It was agreed that the next step is to get the town involved and to request a meeting at the Elm Street Bridge with DPW heads (Al and Brian) and Conservation Agent to discuss the problems and how the DPW/town can help.
- Ken will contact Al and Alison to schedule this meeting once he hears from Jane about John Walker's schedule.

2. **Buildings/Built Infrastructure**

a. Observation Deck:

- **Dave** will follow up with Randy on status
- **Jane** will follow up with Bobby Curley about rescheduling Mike Mauri, the forester, to help us assess vista clearing per ConCom approval granted last year

b. Garage:

- **Dave** will follow up with Randy about status of plans and pricing - which Jane will submit to the Town Manager and Building Inspector

c. Barn: (need to follow up on this at future meeting - didn't update)

- Dylan asked about removing the porcupines from the barn as they are beginning to chew through the interior door which will give them access to the main parts of the barn. **Dylan** will send Randy the measurements on the exterior openings that they are using for access - by back door, side window, other ? **Randy** will check about sealing off these access holes.

d. Electricity - Garage & Barn:

- **Dave** will speak with the Town Manager about bringing electricity to the barn and garage.

e. House:

- Town Manager is taking care of the work to prepare the house for a controlled burn - removing oil, shutting off electricity, water, etc.

3. **Trail/Land Stewardship & Usage**

a. Newly Acquired 8.2 Acres:

- We will plan to meet with the abutters/neighbors to discuss the Park and to learn if they have survey markers that designate the boundary with the Park.

We ended the meeting viewing stunning drone footage of the Park shot by Aaron Gagne

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Approved: December 14, 2020

Next Meeting: Monday, December 21, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. (or December 14 if Mount Grace people aren't available on the 21st)

Agenda will include

- Updates on some or all of the above; approval where needed on expenditures
- Discussion with Mount Grace on CR's and shared stewardship opportunities

Longer Term

- January - documentation, policies, financials
- Consideration on how the committee will seek or respond to community supported ideas, request and recommendations for Park infrastructure
- Plan for buckthorn removal and for wetland vista maintenance (required by ConCom - a plan submitted within 3 years of the July 2019 RDA)