

Town of Rowe Park Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
December 10, 2024  
6:30 PM  
In-person: Accessors Meeting Room

In attendance: Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner), Hannah Poplawski (Park Commissioner), Walter Quist (Park Commissioner), and Briel Gibson (Park Manager).

Audience of Citizens: None

Called to Order: 5:00 PM

Request that anyone who is recording the meeting inform the rest of the attendees.

Approval of November 12th, 2024 meeting minutes by roll call vote; Laurie Pike -yes, Hannah Poplawski-yes, Walter Quist-yes.

### **Finalize Budget for Fiscal '26**

1. Budget is due Thursday, December 19th, 2024.
2. Reviewed line items and made edits based on quotes Briel received from vendors.

Discussion topics included;

- a. The need for new waterfront equipment or equipment that needs to be replaced. Max, the lifeguard, made a list of waterfront equipment the park should consider purchasing. Briel will research the products and prices and see if we can purchase some of this equipment with fiscal '25 funds.
- b. Briel had a quote of \$450.00 for 25 t-shirts for the summer crew. This could be taken out of this year's operation budget so they are ready at the beginning of the summer season.
- c. If there is a need for an ice rescue board- no decision was made regarding this item.
- d. Possibly using the remaining colorcore material to create a new resident and guest sign for the Park entrance. We will reach out to the vendor in North Adams who created our trail signs with the same material.
- e. Deciding what material would be best for a ramp at the Park bathrooms, either crush stone or lumber.
- f. Purchasing park passes every other year. New passes will be good for two years (ie. 2025-2026).
- g. Repainting all picnic tables next spring and ordering a wheelchair accessible table.
- h. Purchasing two electric weed wackers for use around the park headquarters.

### **Discuss Special Projects Present (truck and sand) and Future**

1. Laurie will ask Brooke to add to the Special Town Meeting Warrant the transfer of the Park's funds for a new park truck to the Highway Department so they can purchase a new Town truck and we can use their existing one.
  - a. Briel had reported to us during a recent oil change she was told by the mechanic that the truck would need a new transmission line and steering could

malfunction at any time. We advised her that the truck should not be used outside of town.

2. Briel will look through records to determine when projects included in the Capital Improvement Plan were completed in the past and what items may be due for replacement or purchasing. She will update a spreadsheet that can be submitted to the Town so we get back on a schedule for these projects.

#### **Progress of the Operation Plan Project this Winter and Steps Moving Forward**

1. Andrew Randazzo will attend our meeting on January 6th, 2025 to provide a project update.

#### **Davis Mine Bridge Replacement and Mass Trails Grant Application Update**

1. Laurie reached out to the trails team at Long View Forest inquiring if they could construct a new bridge on the Davis Mine Loop. Their response was positive, and through the Mass Trails Grant we could fund much of this project.
2. Mass Trails Grant is due February 3, 2025.

#### **Forest Stewardship Goals and Actions to Address in the Next Round of Woodlands Partnership Grants**

1. Will discuss this item at the next meeting.

#### **How to Gauge the Fitness Needs of the Community**

1. We would like to send out a survey to the residents to determine if/how they use the fitness center, if there are things they wished we had or programs they would like to see offered, and ask for any other ideas or comments they have.

#### **Unforeseen Business:**

1. Walt asked if we should move the canoes from the canoe rack, Briel said she will remove them in the Spring and place them in the Soule Barn until they are claimed by their owners.

Minutes for this meeting were approved by roll-call vote on February 3, 2025.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted by,

Hannah Poplawski  
Park Commissioner