

Town of Rowe Park Commission

Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2025

5:00 PM

Location: Town Hall Meeting Room #1

In Attendance:

- Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner)
- Hannah Poplawski (Park Commissioner)
- Walter Quist (Park Commissioner)
- Briel Gibson (Park Manager)

Audience of Citizens:

- Justine Krumm

Called to Order:

- 5:01 PM
 - Request that anyone recording the meeting inform the rest of the attendees.
-

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- Approval of **December 10th, 2024** and **January 6th, 2025** meeting minutes by roll call vote:
 - Laurie Pike - Yes
 - Hannah Poplawski - Yes
 - Walter Quist – Yes

2. Motion to Designate Chairperson:

- **Hannah Poplawski** made a motion to designate **Laurie Pike** as Chairperson of the Park Commission.
- **Walter Quist** seconded.
- Approved by roll call vote:
 - Hannah Poplawski - Yes
 - Walter Quist - Yes

3. Budget Presentation with the Finance Committee:

- Budget presentation scheduled for **Thursday, February 6th, 2025**.
- Special projects discussed—none for this year.

- Laurie suggested sharing the Park Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) timeline with the Budget Committee.

4. Woodlands Partnership Grant – Spring Projects:

- Discussed scope of work for tree planting projects across the park.
- **OKH Trail Booklet:** Well underway.
- **Interpretive Signs:**
 - Four interpretive signs to be developed. Laurie will reach out to **Massachusetts Audubon** representative **Andrew** for text on signage.
 - Briel will reach out to **Pannier** for pricing on signposts and signage costs.
- **Forestry Project Goals:** Justine was filled in on the forestry project goals.
- **Signage Design:**
 - **Hannah** will reach out to **Andrea** on designing signage for the project.

5. Purchase of Signs:

- **Park Signage:**
 - Discussed the need for signage throughout the park.
 - Briel will add another sign along the road into the park stating “**Residents and Their Guests Only.**”
 - Briel will create a new lifeguard sign to add “**Swim at Your Own Risk**” and “**No Children Under 12 Unsupervised.**”

6. Rules and Regulations Review:

- Discussed changing rules on the number of park passes for residents and non-resident landowners.

7. Recruitment of Summer Staff:

- Park to host a job fair on **April 5th, 2025** for potential new hires and returning employees to hear about summer projects at the park.
- **Lifeguard Recruitment:**
 - Max wants to return as a lifeguard.
 - Nicky may return but is not yet 18.
 - Briel will post on Facebook about lifeguard training.
 - A suggestion was made to collaborate with surrounding towns to share lifeguards.
- **Rec Program Director:**
 - Briel will reach out to **Hannah French** to inquire whether she will be returning to run the recreation program this summer.

8. Two Bridge Replacements and Trail Work Priorities:

- Discussed the need for two bridges this summer: one on **Old Kings Highway** and one on the **Davis Mine Trail Loop**.
 - Briel suggested installing a box culvert on OKH.
- Walt has equipment available for moving logs, which he will offer for use when the bridge replacement comes.
- The **Snowmobile Club** is willing to assist with bridge replacement or trail reroute on Old Kings Highway.

9. Unforeseen Business (within the last 48 hours):

- **Purchases:**
 - Briel brought a quote for an ADA-compliant picnic table and lifeguard chair.
 - The lifeguard chair was approved.
 - Further discussion needed for the picnic table.
 - Commission discussed purchasing more Adirondack-style chairs.
- **Security Camera Suggestion:**
 - **Justine** suggested the **Real Link PV67 motion camera** for increased security.
 - The camera could be installed on the boathouse and headquarters buildings.
- **Rowe Camp:**
 - Briel will email Rowe Camp Director regarding the summer centennial celebration.
 - Laurie will send Briel the summer use agreement with Rowe Camp.

Adjournment:

- Meeting adjourned at **6:48 PM**.