Town of Rowe Park Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 3, 2025, 5:00 PM

Location: Town Hall Meeting Room #1

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 PM by Laurie Pike.

Attendance:

- Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner)
- Walter Quist (Park Commissioner)
- Justine Krumm (Acting Park Commissioner)
- Briel Gibson (Park Manager)

Audience of Citizens:

• Clay Connor, Executive Director of Rowe Camp and Conference Center (RCC)

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made by Laurie Pike to approve the minutes from the February Park Commission meeting.

- Motion seconded by Walter Quist.
- Roll Call Vote:

Laurie: Yes

o Walt: Yes

Justine: Yes

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Items:

- 1. Status of Operation Plan Project
 - o No update was provided on the current status of the operation plan.
 - Next steps discussed regarding the Forest Management Plan, including girdling trees.
- 2. Meeting with Rowe Camp and Conference Center Director
 - o Clay Connor gave an overview of RCC camp attendance.
 - Laurie Pike discussed expectations for park use by RCC, both during and outside the camp season.

- RCC will provide a lifeguard and a second staff member with CPR/First Aid certification.
- Clay Connor will send a Request Form before making payments through the online portal.
- Clay brought attention to a missing map and offered assistance in reinstalling it during the summer.

3. Spring Woodlands Partnership Projects (Due June 30, 2025)

- Laurie Pike will assume responsibility for the Old Growth Habitat booklet (design, printing, and materials).
- Discussion about operations plan signage, including content, design, printing, and mounting. The Commission will clarify who will handle each part of these projects to ensure they are completed on time.

4. Woodland Grants and Kiosk Design

- The Commission discussed the next round of Woodland grants, due in the spring.
- The Commission reviewed the original plan to install a two-panel kiosk, but after receiving a quote, it was decided to scale down to a single-panel kiosk. This design will accommodate a 3x4 foot sign and a corkboard or similar structure for postings.
- o Briel Gibson will follow up on the new kiosk design.

5. Trail and Bridge Projects for the Summer

- The Commission discussed two bridges and two reroutes, noting that they may require RDAs or NOIs. The Commission agreed to begin planning and apply for either or both as needed.
- Discussion revisited creating a NOI that includes all standard trail maintenance activities.

6. Discussion of Snow Machine and Groomer

- o A cost vs. use analysis for a snow machine and groomer was discussed.
- The Commission agreed to investigate pricing for a new groomer.

7. Review of Park Rules and Regulations

- The Commission confirmed the following:
 - No drug use throughout the park.
 - No cigarettes on the beach.
 - No alcohol or glass on the beach.

- 8. Unforeseen Business (Post-Meeting Posting)
 - Lights and Cameras: Justine Krumm will create a list of recommended products for park lighting and surveillance cameras.
 - Workshop Alternatives for Invasive Species Education: Justine Krumm has a contact from UMass who may be interested in conducting an educational event for residents.
 - Cultural Counsel Grants: Timelines and funding opportunities were briefly discussed.
 - Summer Rec Program and Swim Lessons: Plans for the summer program were reviewed.
 - Meet the New Manager / Hiring Fair (April Event): Briel Gibson will request a townwide announcement for this event.
 - Seasonal Trainings:
 - First Aid
 - Equipment Training
 - Trail Work Best Practices
 - Pontoon Boat Cost Analysis: Justine Krumm will put together a cost analysis.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Laurie Pike at 7:15 PM.

- Motion seconded by Justine Krumm.
- All members were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned.