

**Town of Rowe Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2025, 5:00 PM
Location: Town Hall Meeting Room #1 / Zoom**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM.

Attendance:

Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner)

Walter Quist (Park Commissioner)

Justine Krumm (Acting Park Commissioner)

Briel Gibson (Park Manager)

Alex Barrett (via Zoom)

Audience of Citizens:

Cathy Atwood

Laurie Ledger

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:

The Commission did not vote on the meeting minutes at this meeting.

Agenda Items:

1. Presentation from Alex Barrett – Longview Forest: Invasive Species Management

Alex Barrett joined via Zoom and gave an overview of Longview Forest's past work in invasive species management.

Highlights from Longview Forest's Experience:

Worked in partnership with Grafton Nature Center

Conducted landowner workshops focused on forest ecology and invasive species control

Led a "hands-on" workshop demonstrating the use of hand tools and herbicides

Emphasized the strategy of "managing" invasive species rather than aiming for full eradication

Commission Member Discussion and Feedback:

Walt asked about DPW support and coordination in previous projects.

Justine requested informational handouts for invasive species identification.

Laurie suggested a project centered on an invasive species survey, followed by targeted workshops in hotspot areas with a focus on public education.

Alex recommended including aquatic invasive species in the overall management strategy.

Alex will return with cost estimates for conducting the survey and holding events.

Additional Proposals for WP Grant:

Laurie proposed including a new snowmobile drag.

Walt suggested purchasing a small chipper for use on park trails.

Identified a need for lumber to construct bog bridges.

2. Park Truck Repairs

Highway Dept. are expecting the new truck in August or September.

Discussed the need for the park truck through the summer months.

Voted to approve spending on repairs and new tires, approved unanimously.

3. Summer Recreation Program Staffing

Laurie informed the Commission that two people are interested in the Rec Director position.

The Commission discussed hiring both as Co-Directors. All were in favor.

Proposed pay rate: \$20.50/hr if both are amenable.

Also discussed summer programming costs for school choice students.

4. Approval of Rules and Regulations Updates

Updated fitness center rules were reviewed.

The commission voted to approve unanimously.

Briel will post the updated rules.

5. Unforeseen Business Within 48 Hours of Posting

1. Discussion of lake vegetation management strategies. Justine will contact the Conservation Commission for input on winter draw down.
 2. Justine raised the issue of bylaws regarding feeding wildlife. Suggested proposal be directed to the Planning Board.
 3. Discussed this season's RDA. Briel will make copies for conservation commission and confirm with Ramon that the park is responsible for posting notice in the Greenfield Recorder.
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4. Andrea's old growth booklets have been printed and are ready to be dropped off.
 - Laurie will follow up on the invoices.
 - Briel will order display boxes for the booklets.
5. A resident asked the Commission when the locks were changed to the ranger station, Briel answered that they were changed in early November.
6. A resident also asked on the status of security cameras at the park, answer was given that cameras had been delivered but not yet installed.

Next Meeting:

Scheduled for May 5, 2025.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:30 PM.

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