

Town of Rowe

Park Commission Meeting

Monday, October 6, 2025

6:00 PM

Attendance

Laurie Pike, Park Commission Chair

Erik Olsen, Park Commissioner

Hannah Poplawski, Park Commissioner

Briel Gibson, Park Manager

Mira Silver, Conservationist

Agenda:

Call to Order:

1. Approve meeting minutes from September 8, 2025.
  1. Approved unanimously.
2. MVP kick-off meeting results.
  1. Account number has been established.
  2. Greenfield Recorder published article on area towns, Rowe included, receiving MVP grant funding. Commission suggests we include something in next month's goalpost.
  3. Selectboard will review and sign contract with FRCOG this Thursday.
3. Special Town Meeting and request for funds for the Powder Post Beetle infestation at Browning Bench.
  1. Briel reached out to several companies, only 1 came out to assess the building, declined to give a quote. Original quote from Orkin submitted for Special Town Meeting.
4. Review and renew agreement with the Historical Society for use of the Browning Bench building.

1. Written in 2016, expired in 2019. Commission will review contract and prepare updated draft for signing in November meeting.
5. Discussion of a possible alternative nesting site for Rowe's Cliff Swallows and what the probability would be of success.
  1. Mara gave a history of her work in Rowe and with swallows on the town hall, including her initial invitation to install nests and drawbacks of hosting them on the building.
  2. In 2017 there were 6 to 8 pairs nesting on town hall, 2018 nests began being installed to assist in brooding success and had been expanded through the years. This year saw less success due to a cold snap in May that caused a decline in insect activity and lack of food.
  3. The group took a walk to the Soule barn to talk about potential locations, temporary mud sources, and vegetation control.
  4. Laurie will approach selectboard on proper next steps.
6. Cultural Council grants due October 16, 2025.
  1. Hannah will reach out to Melissa on scheduling another mushroom ID walk. Laurie reached out to Southern Vermont Natural History Museum, discussed possible dates for scheduling. Arik suggested event around history of Browning Bench history. Briel will reach out to John Rhemus to confirm next years dates.
7. Dimensions for the beach kiosk.
  1. Signs are 3ft tall by 4<sup>ft</sup> wide, backboard for kiosk should be roughly 4ft by 5ft wide. Briel will trim back rhododendron by old kiosk.
8. Revisited need for beach sand. Suggestions were made to hire a local company to haul and spread sand sourced from Delta Sand and Gravel.
9. Next meeting is scheduled for November 3 at 6 pm.

Adjourned 7:45