

Town of Rowe
Park Commission Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2020
On-line Zoom Meeting

Old Business:

1. Yoga will be at the beach Tuesdays from 9-10 AM for the months of July through September or until the weather no longer permits. In case of rain classes will be on Zoom. It is free to Rowe residents but they must preregister at kate@highlandyoga.studio due to the limited class size of 10 maximum.
2. The Summer Family Recreation Program for children 4-12 years old and their families begins July 20th. Preregistration is required. This four-week program is designed for participants to do at home or the park at their leisure. Participants will receive their own Nature Kits with materials and instructions for activities to encourage the exploration of the wonders of nature. Themes for the four weeks include Powerful Patterns, Inspiring Insects, Vile Venom and Terrific Toxins, and Wonderful Water. The program is being directed by Hannah French, a teacher at Rowe Elementary School.
3. A request by a resident was made to fix the broken fence at the riding ring so that it can be completely closed when in use. The Park Manager will contact Fitzgerald Fencing in Vermont to get a price quote. It was noted that it may need to be replaced as it appears to not be fixable. It was again noted that there needs to be signs on various trails stating that no horses are allowed on park bridges for safety reasons. The park's bridges were not designed for horses and are extremely slippery when wet. There was discussion as to whether only certain trails should be designated as horse riding trails and will be continued at the next meeting in August.
4. The need for a guest pass to enter the beach area is being strictly enforced and only one guest at a time per family.

New Business:

1. A sign will be placed at the gate reminding townspeople that the gate is open from 8 AM to 8 PM. There are two rangers for each shift to check stickers and passes, clean equipment and facilities throughout the day, and enforce social distancing and other Covid-19 guideline protocols. Bathrooms will be cleaned three times a day and picnic tables will be cleaned after each use, etc.
2. The Park Manager has discovered a new environmentally sensitive product called Deck Bright that prevents mildew build-up which causes foot bridges to become dangerously slippery. It is to be applied once a year and he will be trying it out on some of the park's bridges to test its effectiveness.
3. There was discussion about the first-aid equipment for lifesaving and being sure that it is up-to date and functional. Specifically, whether we have sufficient numbers of bag-valve masks with HEPA filters (designed for one-time use). Park Commissioner, Chris Hyttinen, will check on the situation and report back.

4. RDAs for trail work and bridges near wetlands have been approved by the Conservation Commission. Much trail and bridge work has already been accomplished with the summer crew and some trails have been rerouted to better handle the effects of erosion. New temporary signs have been placed at trail heads. New permanent signs will be consigned to be in place for the next summer season.
5. RDAs have been approved for a new lean-to to be built next summer with some site prep done this summer. Also approval was given to remove some unhealthy trees at the Percy Point Picnic Area. It was noted that we would need to hire a consultant to ensure that the trees taken out are replaced with the right species of new trees and in the optimal location.
6. Five senior families signed up for and received a home delivered picnic. The next home delivered senior picnic will be Thursday, August 20th. A town-wide call reminding seniors to sign-up should go out the week before.
7. Next monthly meeting will be Monday, August 10, 2020.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM:

Respectfully submitted by,

Laurie Pike

Park Commissioner

Approved by:

Name:

Date:

Laurie Pike

Park Commissioner

Sue Williams

Park Commissioner

Chris Hyytinen

Park Commissioner