

Town of Rowe Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2021
6:30 PM
In Person Meeting

In attendance: Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner), Chris “Selmi” Hyytinen (Park Commissioner), Hannah Poplawski (Park Commissioner), Sean Loomis (Park Manager) and Hale Morrel (Long View Forests-Participated on Zoom)

Audience of Citizens: None

Called to Order: 6:34 PM

Approval of October Park Meeting Minutes by roll-call vote: Laurie Pike-yes, Chris “Selmi” Hyytinen-yes, and Hannah Poplawski-yes.

Overview of Trail Assessment, Map, and the App:

1. Hale Morrel is one of the foresters from Long View Forests. She gave a brief overview of why the trail assessment was done, how it can be helpful for the Park Commissioners and the Park Manager, and what the results of the assessment will look like.
 - a. This project was a follow up to the Forest Stewardship plan completed in 2020.
 - b. Hale and another forester hiked on the trails, mapped and photographed them, and took notes on where maintenance is required (trail erosion, repairs to bridges, new trail signs, updated trail markers, waterbars, ect.).
 - c. Create a database for a maintenance schedule. The database will show the location for trail maintenance, pictures of what those sections/issues look like now, and what should be done to correct them.
 - d. A new trail map that can be saved as a pdf, printed for handheld maps, uploaded to the website, or whatever else we wanted to do with it. With this comes the ability to upload the trails at the Park to an OSM program and use an app on a phone.
 - e. After this meeting, there will be another later in November to discuss what the Park Commissioners and Park Manager decided they wanted on the map and how Hale can do that for us. This will be wrapped up in January.

2. Some suggestions for what to include on an updated trail map:
 - a. Waterproof vs. regular paper
 - b. Contour lines
 - c. Shading/color differences

- d. Shape and size of the map
- e. Legends and symbols for multi use trails
- f. Trail distances
- g. Viewpoints

Park Commissioners and Park Managers Suggestions for Updated Maps (Written up by Laurie Pike):

1. A table on the back of the map that lists the name of each trail, symbols for types of uses allowed (hiking, biking, x-country skiing, horseback riding, and snowmobiling), length of trail or mileage, and designation of easy, moderate, or hilly. A key for the symbols for types of uses.
2. Features to be placed on the map with symbols or wording: view spots using a binocular symbol (to include NW view, SE view, and Rob's Trail view), lean-tos, picnic table symbols at beach, dam, Percy Brown picnic area, and the meadow by riding ring, a symbol for wetlands, meadows, major bridges, riding ring etc. There will need to be a key explaining the various symbols.
3. Good color contrast between the private property and public lands of the Pelham Lake Park. Suggestions would include light gray for private property, green for no hunting (wildlife sanctuary) Pelham Lake Park, and brown for hunting areas within Pelham Lake Park.
4. Solid red line for trails with the trail name, overall distance and distances between trail junctions.
5. Peaks and elevations of significance (Mt. Adams and Mt. Todd) with perhaps a darker shading to indicate ridge tops and steeper terrain where contour lines are closer together.
6. Maybe 25 foot contour lines if the lines become quite far apart upon enlarging the map.
7. Paper map that would fold to pocket size, like 3 by 5 or 4 by 6 inches.
8. For the app: Is there a feature that would allow people to take pictures of interesting flora and fauna they find in the park and share with others for identification purposes (similar to iNaturalists)?

Forest Resiliency Program

1. Laurie Pike introduced an opportunity to update our Forest Stewardship Plan to a Forest Resiliency Plan which includes more suggestions and action plans to mitigate climate change in the Park. The assessment can be done by the same foresters, Long View Forests, who completed our Forest Stewardship Plan.
2. Park Commissioners voted by roll-call vote (Laurie Pike-yes, Chris "Selmi" Hyytinen-yes, and Hannah Poplawski-yes) to present this to the Select Board after discussing a few more questions with Sam Smith.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 PM

Respectfully Submitted by,
Hannah Poplawski
Park Commissioner