

Town of Rowe Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2021
6:30 PM
Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner), Chris "Selmi" Hyytinen (Park Commissioner), Hannah Poplawski (Park Commissioner), Sean Loomis (Park Manager)
Audience of Citizens: None

Called to Order: 6:47 PM

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

Wildlife Tracking Program for February of 2022

1. Hannah updated everyone on her communications with David Ellis, a wildlife tracker from Berkshire County, who will lead a Tracking Program. The Program will be offered on February 19th, 2022 from 9-11 and is available for all residents and school of choice families 8 years old and older.
2. We discussed meeting with David prior to the program to show him a couple areas at the park that we think might be best to observe signs of wildlife.
3. We will send Sue Williams a brief description of the Program for the January and February Goal Post.

Continuation of Budget Planning

1. During the last meeting we had completed the wages for summer park employees and began discussing the Park Managers salary. We have decided that we will use the Wage and Salary Schedule that the BOS presented and each member of the Park Commission will complete it. We will follow up with a discussion on our results and decide on the salary for the Park Manager. This will be finalized during our January 2022 meeting.
2. Going line by line, we adjusted the operations and maintenance budget accordingly. A few things to highlight;
 - a. The Trail Assessment will suggest improvements to the trails, with this comes the need for more signage, improvements of bridges/boardwalks, and equipment needed to improve the trail conditions. For the Fiscal 23' budget we increased the price of lumber that will be needed, trail blazes, and equipment supplies.

- b. We would like to repaint the Browning Bench soon. For now, we did not increase the budget for paint and stain as we would like to use Programs through the Town to complete this.
 - c. The cost of firewood has increased.
 - d. The Park Manager is going to need a new computer. The current one has some technical issues, is slow and inefficient.
 - e. The dead trees at Percy Point were removed in November so we will consult with Bill Latrell on how many and what kinds of trees are best suited for survival in this environment. The replacement of trees at Percy Point will take place over several years. The Operations Budget for fiscal '23 will include the cost to replace approximately five trees.
3. With suggestions from the Park Manager, we were able to decide on a couple of projects for the fiscal 2023 year.
- a. We have not decided on what we should do about the Tennis Courts and are still discussing our options for them. In the meantime, the current courts need to be seriously cleaned. The cleaning of the courts will be included in Special Projects for the fiscal '23 year. The entrance to the courts will be replaced with gravel. Weeds will be removed in the spring.
 - b. The siding on the bathroom needs to be done.
 - c. To keep up and work efficiently with the suggestions from the Trail Assessment, a new UTV and accessories are needed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05 PM
Respectfully Submitted by,
Hannah Poplawski
Park Commissioner