

Town of Rowe Park Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 5th, 2022
6:30 PM
Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner), Hannah Poplawski (Park Commissioner), and Sean Loomis (Park Manager)
Audience of Citizens: None

Called to Order: 6:34 PM

Request that anyone who is recording the meeting inform the rest of the attendees.

Approval of April 4th Park Meeting Minutes by roll-call vote: Laurie Pike-yes and Hannah Poplawski-yes.

Update on Current MTWP Grant Projects

1. Long View Forests began the 2022 MTWP Grant projects. Two sections of the Davenport Trail have been planted with a mix of red and white oak seedlings. There are 100 seedlings in each section.
2. On May 13th there will be a Hemlock Woolly Adelgid training for the Rowe Elementary School teachers, 3rd-6th grade, and Park Commissioners. During this Alex Barrett will help the teachers decide what is manageable for their students. His ideas for monitoring include collecting data on tree circumference, measuring tree height, canopy density, and being able to identify a healthy tree vs a damaged tree. Alex will also show the teachers where each monitoring plot is located in the park.
3. There is no date yet for the inoculating white ash trees but it will be soon. Once the trees flower and the foresters know which are females they can begin treatment.

Community Updates

1. On May 7th there will be a woods walk with forester Alex Barrett of Long View Forest. He will be discussing forest resiliency in the face of climate change and ways that Pelham Lake Park can take action. This will be a one hour event and coffee and donuts will be offered beforehand.
2. For the Movie Nights that are coming up we want to make sure the volunteers know there is no swimming allowed. Kids can play on the playground but it may be a good idea to suggest that someone monitors the beach area.
3. The 3rd and 4th grade class plan on putting up storyboards on the Babbling Brook Trail. There will be 18 pictures, a title page and a how to page (20 total boards). Claudine Poplawski and Hannah French have the plywood and stakes that will be used to display

the artwork. The storyboards will be up by the end of the school year, early June, and can be removed in July.

4. The Library Book Lending Box will be installed in the next couple of weeks. Hannah will reach out to Molly to discuss next steps and advertising to the rest of the community.

Park Managers Report

1. Sean received 11 applications for the assistant ranger positions. There are 5 returning applicants and 6 new applicants. If there were no applications for the grasshopper crew at the highway department Sean will discuss getting the funding from them as we have in the past so all the kids who applied can work at the Park. If not, he will suggest that some of them work for the highway department.
2. Summer Projects:
 - a. Install the Kiosks. This will be an extensive project, lots of digging and there will be signs to put on them. For now it may be a good idea to purchase posters of local flora and fauna.
 - b. Sean has started leaf blowing the trails. This will continue for the next few weeks.
 - c. The Cliff Side trail and the new Adams Mountain trail need to be completed. The new Adams Mountain Trail will be rerouted so it goes straight past the old trail to the Davenport Junction.
 - d. For now purchase 50-60 boards for the decking and after July 1st purchase more. This will be used for the wet areas on trails and managing areas designated in the trail assessment.
 - e. Complete rerouting project on the Beach Trail.
 - f. There is regular trail maintenance to be done including drainage ditches, erosion control, removing invasive species, etc.
 - g. Sean will order the beach sand soon and can spread it with the tractor.
 - h. We can not remove the stumps at Percy's Point so our only option is to grind them. Sean will determine the cost for that and also call Bill Latrell to discuss which trees should be planted this year.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted by,

Hannah Poplawski

Park Commissioner