

Town of Rowe Park Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
September 12,2022  
6:30 PM  
Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Laurie Pike (Park Commissioner), Hannah Poplawski (Park Commissioner) and Sean Loomis (Park Manager)  
Audience of Citizens: Walter Quist

Called to Order: 6:35 PM

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

Approval of July 25th Park Meeting Minutes by roll-call vote: Laurie Pike-yes and Hannah Poplawski-yes.

Welcome to Walter Quist who will be joining the Park Commission after approval from the Select Board.

### **Tennis Courts Update**

1. Laurie contacted Andrea Wood to help with the bidding process for the new tennis courts. Andrea recommended Sarah Campbell, who helped design the Cowell Gym tennis courts, to assist us with our own project.
2. Sarah agreed to work with us and sent Laurie her cost of \$1,200. She will help get the bid out for this fall so we can pick a company to redo the courts early spring 2023.
3. We all agreed Laurie should reach back out to Sarah and get the ball rolling on this.

### **Ideas for Cultural Council Grants**

1. The Cultural Council Grants are due October 17th.
2. Laurie is going to contact Michael Clough at the Southern Vermont Natural History museum to schedule another program with them.
3. Hannah will reach out to David Ellis, the wildlife tracker, and see if he would like to lead another program for earlier in the year.
4. Sean is going to reach out to his contacts for a fitness and nutritional program/presenter.
5. Walter suggested cooking classes at the school or other programs that community members could help put on. Walt also suggested Bill Danielson who writes for the Recorder in his column "Speaking of Nature". Bill writes short articles on local flora and fauna which are informative and fun to read.
6. Last year we really enjoyed John Green who came for the birding event in the spring so it would be fun to have him back or another expert to lead a birding group.

## **Park Managers Updates**

1. Michael Harrison is going to come back one more time this year to help Sean clean up. He mentioned that he would like to come back next year to lifeguard.
2. Kiosks are all in with their cedar roofs (one extra in the barn that did not get put on Old Kings Highway). Sean will go back out to drill in dowels to support them a little more.
  - a. We will find out soon if we received the MTWP Grant which included signage for the kiosks. In the meantime, Laurie has some posters of flora and fauna that can be laminated and installed on them.
3. The summer employees completed the two reroutes on the Beech Trail so that should be complete now.
  - a. Redid the Cliffside Trail.
  - b. Relocated the Robs View Trail. Now it starts at the stone pit along with the other two trails, the Davis Mine Loop Trail and Dead Moose Trail. There are some tweaks to be made here but nothing urgent.
4. This was a tough year considering the amount of summer youth employees and the minimal experience they had. In the future, we may not want to take on as many and open it up to other Towns in the area with teens who may have more experience.
5. It is difficult to find lifeguards. Other towns and the DCR are paying their lifeguards a few dollars more per hour than we are. If we want to be competitive and have a better chance of finding a full time lifeguard for next year we should consider raising the hourly rate for them.
6. We should come prepared to the next meeting to begin discussing the FY2024 budget. A couple things to consider will be that the parking lots at the Davenport Trail and the riding ring will need to be redone. Beach sand will need to be ordered. It is also difficult to find someone to run the Rec Program, maybe we should raise the hourly rate for this too.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 3rd.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:46 PM

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Hannah Poplawski  
Park Commissioner