

Mount Agamenticus Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

Day: Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Location: Mount Agamenticus Lodge, York, ME

Time: 9:30am – 11:11am

Members Present:

Conservation Coordinator, *Robin Kerr*

Great Works Regional Land Trust, *Jill Crosbie*

Maine Dept. Inland Fisheries & Wildlife, *Josh Matijas*

Town of South Berwick, *John Branagan*

Town of York, -----

York Land Trust, *Liz Walworth*

York Water District, *Gary Stevens*

Public/others present: *Naomi Densmore*, Mt. A Outreach and Education Coordinator, and *Bob Gray*, Kittery Water District

Chair: ----- (*Doreen and Robin C both out*)

Minutes: taken by *Jill Crosbie* and transcribed by *Robin Kerr*

Public forum: n/a

Correspondence/ presentations/ requests: n/a

Approve minutes from previous meeting:

Approval of minutes from 06/08/2022 meeting postponed until next meeting.

Discussion items:

- **Parking/Restroom Update**
 - *Voters had approved \$1.2M in the original budget that included engineering and going out to bid. 4 bids received, lowest was \$1.45M and the contract was awarded to them: William P Davis Excavation out of Hampton, NH.*
 - *To address \$286K shortfall (with construction engineering fees) York Selectboard approved allocation of ARPA funds (Covid relief funds)*
 - *Public education of project start and impacts to visitation will start asap*
- **Boundary Survey**
 - David Titcomb of Titcomb Associates is working to complete a survey of Town of York owned lands in the Mount A area.
 - Currently working in the vicinity of Old Mountain Road near the Porcupine Trail.
 - There are still questions about a protected stream, culverts, if the section of old road is officially abandoned, and there is a need for abutter agreements in two cases.
 - One case so far is going well; another not as well and may need litigation.

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- Ultimately, we are looking to keep good neighbor relations, maintain public trail access if possible, and keep the public safe.
- Other interests in this area concern historic/cultural and natural resources.
- Beech Leaf Disease
 - State had approved a USFS study plot permit for Beech leaf disease in the Mount A Wildlife Management Area.
 - When scouting out sites, Cameron McIntire, with USFS, choose a suitable site off of Ring Trail, on Town of York property. (Found the disease that day along with a resistant beech tree in the same plot).
 - Robin will work with him to get permit approval.

Reports

- Outreach/Education- Naomi Densmore
 - Wrapping up annual visitor use survey; utilized QR codes/MailChimp link for more surveys
 - 2nd annual Plein Air July 30th with 16 artists
 - Programs review
 - Trail Challenge
 - 14 School groups to date
- YWD- Gary Stevens
 - Kittery and York Water Districts are jointly conducting a timber harvest; Welch's pond
- MDIFW- Josh Matijas
 - Land acquisition in Hollis; New England Cottontail habitat
 - Spring release in Scarborough

New Business n/a

Meeting Adjournment

Next meeting date/time: Wednesday, October 12th, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Location: TBD