

Mount Agamenticus Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

Day: Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Location: Mount Agamenticus Summit Lodge, York ME

Time: 9:30am – 11:00am

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, *Doreen MacGillis*
York Water District, *Gary Stevens*

Public/others present: *Ben Jankowski*, Mt. A Trails, Grounds & Facilities Supervisor; *David Tibbetts*, Mt. A Crew Member

Chair: *Doreen MacGillis*

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

Approve minutes from previous meeting: Minutes from 09/08/2021 meeting reviewed and approved as presented.

Public forum: n/a

Correspondence/ presentations/ requests:

David Tibbetts presented Marion's Brook naming proposal. Marion Fuller Brown spearheaded Mount A region protection. David has looked into naming a brook that runs thru the Mount A area to recognize and honor her legacy. Martha Fuller Clark contact information and sister Emily.

Discussion items:

- *Parking/Restroom Project Update*; Getting Josh up to speed. Planning board in December. Looking into solar.
- *Guideline for Drone Use*; Some conflicts. Committee hadn't/doesn't create policy. Mixed feelings by visitors. Federal guidelines exist. Increased use since pandemic and some disregard of visitors and migrating birds. Check with Robin C b/c most use at summit. Official Park will adopt official guidelines; drones not currently addressed; review of State policy good template. YWD not having much of an issue. Special use permit in place already. GWRLT suggests policy in place to be proactive. MDIFW not have specific policy but aircraft policy in place for hunting but not non-hunting policy. Depends on wildlife whether would affect species. Draft guidelines recommended by Committee. Parks and Rec Board to review.
- *MOU draft*; line about Committee agrees to attend a Select Board meeting annually. YWD Don had questions but ok with it. Gary- par. 2 non-regulatory? Committee doesn't make policies or regulations for the region. Each entity does not give up rights to land. Attend Select Board meeting or workshop; opportunity for us to update new boards; York and So. Berwick. Annual or as needed? Amend to say Committee Rep on annual or as needed.

Reports

Coordinator's report:

- *Volunteers/Trail & Invasive Work/Unauthorized Trails*; Ben Jankowski
Shrubland management finished thanks to help from Rich Collins, Tom's of Maine, York Rotary and other volunteers. Lost two trail adopters and would like to replace them. Has seen

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an uptick in unauthorized trail use. Most closure signs up; Norman Mill to Kenyan Hill again a problem area; backside of 3rd hill looks good; Gary identified new trail; Ben GPS; less unauthorized use than 2020 but should address these this winter, take gps data and analyze and work with subcommittee to inform updated trail plan. MDIFW pesticide license? Assist in Cedar swamp- phrag population.

- Outreach/Lodge/Programs; Naomi Densmore not able to present today but sent in report.
- Event recap: 5th Annual Trail Challenge and Plein Air Paint Out;
Trail Challenge in person and virtual; less numbers but successful. Plein Air Paint Out with Friends of Mount A enjoyed great weather capped at 20 and almost filled, Rotary supplied lunches and held reception at York Art Association.
- Invoices resent
- Traffic Counts/Signs- will seek funding; meeting coming up for grants; SMPDC helped us get snap shots during Oct. holiday season; trail counters would help get count for more extended time frame from more access locations.
- Maine Trails advisory committee- RTP;
- York comp plan revision and edits

Gary/Watershed

Parking on weekends down from 2020; YPD gave equipment and can write tickets, haven't had to. KWD trustee tour; 3 new trustees (5 total). Two teacher tours- York Schools creating clean water cycle curriculum. Rebuild mile of road N Chase Road; 1.5 of 2.5 completed; next year hope to finish, some washout from 5" of rain. Survey work off County Road in order to upgrade. Main way to access for patrolling; involves a ROW crossing and landowner negotiations. Patrolling partially taken over by two others.

Doreen/Land Conservation

MNRCP- partial approval for a grant for Norton land; 46 acres. need to discuss ATV use over streams. Old County Road access- put in culverts or mitigate somehow. MNPCP Cox Pond project approval; GWRLT focus area.

Meeting Adjournment

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