

# **Mt. Agamenticus Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

**April 23, 2024**

**Location: Mount Agamenticus Lodge, York, ME**

**Time: 9:30 AM**

## **Members Present:**

**Great Works Regional Land Trust, Jill Crosbie**

**Kittery Water District, Bob Gray**

**ME Dept. of Inland Fish & Wildlife, -----**

**Town of South Berwick, John Branagan**

**Town of York, Pete Murray**

**York Land Trust, Liz Walworth**

**York Water District, Zach Mein**

## **Other Attendees:**

**Natural Resource Manager, Robin Kerr**

**Stewardship and Conservation Coordinator, Ben Jankowski**

**Outreach & Education Coordinator, Naomi Densmore**

**YWD/YPD Resource Officer, Gary Stevens**

**Chair: Jill Crosbie**

**Minutes: taken by Peter Murray, transcribed by Peter Murray/Robin Kerr**

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## **Review and Approve Minutes- Previous meeting:**

- Approved and accepted

## **Public forum: (10 min max per speaker)**

- N/A

## **Correspondence/ presentations/ requests:**

- Maine Trails Bond was signed by Governor Mills. – It is \$30 million in trails related grants and will move forward for voter approval. There will be a 20% match required to receive a grant.
- Robin gave an update on the Mount A RTP grant application. The quote for repairing the Big A Trail came back at \$150,000 and York does not currently have a match for the grant and is postponing application until the next round of grants are available in June.

## **Discussion items: (up to 45 min)**

- The Mount Agamenticus Management Area Guidelines for use were presented by Robin and reviewed.
  - There was discussion about section D on Hunting and Trapping. Robin is following up with Josh from MDIFW for clarification.
  - There was discussion about drones and commercial use on water district land.
  - Updated guidelines will be circulated and voted on by email.

- The Great Marsh Trail is currently gated at the Beal Property to control ATV use on their property. This will impact search and rescue efforts.
  - The state has a conservation easement. Robin will reach out to the Beals as well as Josh from MDIFW to discuss.
- Eastern Trail Discussion
  - The York Water District is opposed to a formalized bicycle trail crossing through water district land.
  - JB and Pete plan to attend the Eastern Trail Connectivity Study meeting in Elliot on April 30, 2024.

**Reports:** (15 min max per speaker)

Kittery Water District – New Superintendent Carl Palm is interested in improving search and rescue roads.

York Water District – Working on clean up from recent storms. The summer plans include trail work, timber harvesting, and tree planting.

Gary Stevens Mount A Region Patrols Update – There have been many incidents since December. There was an officer involved shooting, a car stuck on the Big A Trail, recovery of a stolen ATV, and an ATV accidental death on Kittery Water District land.

York Land Trust – McIntyre Highlands are closed due to storm damage.

South Berwick – Robin & Ben recently presented to town representatives and their information was well received. It is a new group of elected officials and town management. They seemed appreciative of the update and being able to ask questions about how the region is managed.

Great Works Regional Land Trust – Annual Meeting is coming up on Saturday, April 27, 2024, 5:00 pm at the Wells Senior Center.

Mount A Staff discussed various programmatic and stewardship efforts. It was decided that the Trail Access Signs would be voted on by email. The group from Central Michigan volunteers were discussed and committee members agreed to follow up on coordination of this group.

**New Business/Future Meeting:**

Future business will include a strategic plan workshop.

Next meeting will be June 11, 2024 @ 9:00 am and will be scheduled on the second Tuesday of the month moving forward.

11:00 AM – Meeting Adjourned.