

Mt. Agamenticus Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: March 10, 2026

Location: : Grant House, York, ME

Time: 09:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Members Present:

Great Works Regional Land Trust, Jill Crosbie
Kittery Water District, Bob Gray
ME Dept. of Inland Fish & Wildlife, Josh Matijas
Town of South Berwick, Jane Brecky
Town of York, Peter Murray
York Land Trust, Liz Walworth
York Water District, Zach Mein

Other Attendees:

York Police Department Resource Officer, Gary Stevens
Natural Resource Manager, Robin Kerr
Stewardship and Conservation Coordinator, Ben

Chair: Jill Crosbie

Minutes: taken by Zachariah Mein, transcribed by Robin Kerr

Review and Approve Minutes- Previous meeting 12/09/25 minutes approved as is. Pete Murray 1st ; 2nd Bob Gray

Public forum:

- N/A

Correspondence/ presentations/ requests:

- N/A

Reports:

Conservation Program Update
(Robin)

- Successful MOU signed after SB Town Council review and approval,
- Process of hiring, interviewing for seasonal rangers with 1 accepting so far, plan on 6 seasonals this year,
- Reached out to some Steering Committee and other regional partners about hosting Central Michigan University students once again for their alternative break the week of May 11th. Mount A, CFW, GWRLT, YLT will host them for a volunteer project,
- Working with SMIPC to draft a memo and request to the Board of Pesticides Control for clarification on 7-day closure rule on public land when working with volunteers

and seeking policy change to allow volunteers to apply herbicide under supervision of master applicator,

- Getting ready for fee season and BigA50k early spring

(Ben)

- Fee season starts April 15,
- Looking to apply for culvert replacement on Cedar trail thru Maine Trails Program,
- Working with Town GIS consultant to straighten out any issues to work on maps,
- Friends of Mount A are planning a dedication of Marion's Brook honoring the late Marion Fuller Brown- tentative date is May 14 (Marion's birthday),
- Tomorrow is Careers in Water Day at YHS; will be presenting and tabling,
- No changes on Danny Perkins

(Naomi)

- On vacation, shared fliers announcing events and volunteer days,
- Spring equinox walk and other various activities coming up for the lodge

Regional Patrol Report (Gary)

- Been a good winter for patrolling,
- Many vehicles stuck on closed dirt section of Mountain Rd, 2 cars still back there,
- Applied for ATV LE grant and equipment grant to replace 2014 Honda. Both grants were approved. Only one LE grant period now instead of 2 each year,
- Patrol Summary from last meeting- 22 patrols, 2 lost people on same night as injury at Mt A (called back out after earlier patrol), ATV with tracks skews miles by 2x and uses a lot of gas, pulled out side by side on trail,
- Lost dog Athea came out after 13 days

Partner Updates

YWD (Zach)

- Safety Program updates- Zach is now safety coordinator,
- Career day and Waterpalooza event planning,
- Coordinating scholarships

KWD (Bob)

- Discussing rate increase with consultant,
- P1080 project with Navy, had to redo decades old and lengthy contract,
- Presented history of KWD to York River Stewardship Committee, pitched idea of full-time conservation officer for KWD,
- Working on road work/cutting west side of Folly Pond for fire protection, did sanitary cut in the area for Hemlock and noticed limited access

MDIFW (Josh)

- Working with University of Maine trapping and banding turkey through winter for population numbers,

- Canada lynx surveys farther north,
- Requirement from USFWS to have any State land purchased through federal money to be surveyed for proper use, secured, and boundaries maintained. Collecting and Digitizing pins and borders. Been in Mount A area and no issues down here yet; 65% has been acquired with federal funding

TOY (Pete)

- Budget season, everything for Mount A was supported- roof and windows for lodge and Dodge truck replacement approved to move forward to ballot. Parks budget was supported.

SB (Jane)

- Trying to get meeting with South Berwick Town Manager to go over Mount A representation and set up Mount A annual report presentation with SB Council

GWRLT (Jill)

- Looking forward to boundary line updates from MDIFW to settle ongoing ownership questions for certain parcels in Mount A region

YLT (Liz)

- Working on Grant to acquire an additional 40 acres to McIntire Highlands,
- Noticed uptick in dog waste left at preserves,
- Goodwin property review of pass thru grant (federally funded) administered by the State to verify use (similar to work being done by MDIFW)

Discussion:

Conservation Officer

- GWRLT and YLT waiting on invoice from YPD started back in Nov. YPD working on how to invoice land trusts as well as update water district amounts,
- It has been difficult for officers this winter to get out and patrol, one officer just had a new baby and has been off for a while.
- Officers will need to learn the area on own and combined through the grant period.
- Gary plans on another year and half of patrolling at least.
- New ATV split between grant, 2 water districts and YPD

Strategic Plan-

- Questions: Is it helpful and needed? Or will it just be filed away?
 - Agreed would be beneficial for longer term planning for Mount A staff and Steering Committee,
 - Will cost money and may need to figure out funding to update,
 - Noted that usually the discussions during the development of a strategic plan are just as beneficial as the plan itself,

- Also, it will be beneficial for the partners to bring information back to respective boards, etc.
- No one opposed moving forward with strategic planning
- Where to get funds, how was it paid for last time?
 - Small grant, assistance from Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission,
 - Facilitator was also beneficial the first time around, who was it and can we get the same person?
- What do we want facilitator to do?
- Initial longer meeting separate from standard meeting and follow up during regularly scheduled meetings.
- Jill will make some calls to facilitators
 - Dolores Leonard from South Berwick may help find and/or facilitate
- How do we make strategic planning flexible enough for individual partners and existing goals for property?
 - Partners will gather any management plans, goals, etc. for parcels within the Mount A management area

Possible YWD Trail Connection/Partnership w/CFW-

- Reviewed maps and updates on progress of YWD cleanup of old Mark Richard house
 - YWD will just be clearing trees and removing the structure
- An alternate connection to Porcupine trail on YWD property via the old CFW property will require further review
 - Hold off on reaching out to CFW until we are further along

Action items: Robin to reach out to previous facilitator for availability and costs; Jill to contact additional facilitators; bring information to next meeting

Next meeting – Tuesday April 14th, 9:30 a.m.; location at Mount Agamenticus Lodge or TBD