

Mt. Agamenticus Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 12, 2025  
Location: Mt A Lodge, York, ME  
Time: 09:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Members Present:

Great Works Regional Land Trust, Jill Crosbie  
Kittery Water District, -----  
ME Dept. of Inland Fish & Wildlife, Josh Matijas  
Town of South Berwick, JB  
Town of York, Pete Murray  
York Land Trust, Liz Walworth  
York Water District, Don Neumann and Zach Mein

Other Attendees:

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

Chair: Jill Crosbie

Minutes: taken by Zachariah Mein, transcribed by Robin Kerr

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Review and Approve Minutes- Previous meeting 6/10/25 approved as is. Pete 1<sup>st</sup> ZM 2nd

Liz- Trying out Vomo- AI note transcription- records as Speakers and needs to be reviewed afterwards to put in any details or who the speakers were.

ZM notes as back up

Public forum:

- N/A

Correspondence/ presentations/ requests:

- N/A

Reports:

Conservation Program-Robin

- Visitors use surveys, various projects like painting kiosk holes dug, base is installed.
- Progress with invasive work at summit and cedar swamp, prep work for fall shrubland.
- One of the old tanks 700-gal fuel in Cedar removed yesterday, pumped out with mostly water. Documented swamp darters and spotted wintergreen in Cedar swamp. Looked at the engine but appeared abandoned correctly.
- Some crews are wrapping up, looking to hire part-time to get through Nov.
- Planning on moving forward with Miane Trails Program and replacing culvert on Cedar.
- Looking at getting a new chipper.

- Naomi- Had first nature art program. Wild wonders for little next week. Full moon hike in September, trail challenge. No school group registrations yet but expecting them all at once later in the month.

#### GWRLT(Jill)

- Meeting with YLT may transfer land around 3<sup>rd</sup> hill to YLT now that Zetterberg is done. Will make it simpler for boundaries and management.
- Jill is looking to talk with IFW to absorb part of Hooper swamp for same reasons as above

#### YLT(liz)

- Built ATV bridges and ramps on the wheel trail.
- Accessibility experts came out for trail, NPS will support for a year.
- Applying for RTP

#### YPD(Gary)

- A lot of good contacts over the past few months, talking with people. Had an ebike crash on Mt Summit Rd, 69 yr old F, coming down road, went off into gravel.
- 5 camp fires at Middle Pond, KWD got cameras working and added cameras, new camera caught the youth coming in. Called dispatch for a cruiser, GS and PD met them at their vehicles, gave them warning on fire and swimming.
- ATVs picked up a little and dirt bikes on back side of Mt. Dirt bikers have been respectable and know the rules.
- JB asked about ATV use picking up, mentioned in last patrol report, referenced to increase in the fall and hunters.

#### YWD(Zach)

- Updates on the CRA Gate-Pats month and a half the crew has been installing new gate at the new Access Trail bored into ledge and ATV bypass has been built.
- Trail Progress- contractor was out for a few weeks but back working on the reroute. Trail will be enough for district equipment but not as robust as the Maint. Rds.
- Timber Harvest- making good progress, was moved up this year with foresters' openings, moved in late Sept and should be finished end of August

#### KWD

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#### TOY(Peter)

- Nothing to report

#### SB(JB)

- Jan Brecky going to be a co rep for SB when JB cant make it.

#### IFW(Josh)

- Coming down to spray buck thorn on state land but can spray on others land nearby.
- 650-acre parcel trying to acquire in Alfred
- Banding waterfowl
- Putting study together on fawn rehab, putting collars on to gps track, study shows 80% die after release so trying to confirm
- Doing mowing and bear bait permits
- A lot of bat nuisance calls with young bats and house exposures.

- No update on the Nowell piece, hard getting a hold of them.
- JB asked on deer population- pop, is very high.

Discussion:

Draft Charter:

- Robin-wants to get language the same across docs and how it labels the management area. Use this as a standard on what the wording is. Second sentence of the Management Boundaries needs to be re worked, robin will work on this. Listing the larger management area and then listing the smaller boundary of Mt A. Don asked if rules of the different lands make it more difficult, the rules of the land owner supersede the greater Mt A conservation area.
- No mention of Mt A Protection
- Don- what is the next step after we agree on these docs, does it just get accepted by us or does it go to town selectmen for approval. Liz said their docs or more internal and for new hires. Robin- would probably be good to have boards approve Jill- Shouldn't be on the members of the committee to take everything to the boards. The MOU that is signed on too should be the doc to agree for the reps to take info to their boards and bring any concerns back.
- Don is on board with Charter as is and how it is written. Peter- on objectives, should there be something written on enforcement. Facilitating enforcement and management through education and collaboration.
- Peter Section 9 add "on behalf of the MASC" to second bullet point.
- JB #6- Nature Cons. Making sure they are out of the picture.
- Robin will send out updated draft. Jill- All to review and goal to adopt by October. Robin- resend MOU.

Conservation Officer:

- Don talked to Pisko, couldn't make it. PD is creating position, working on putting someone through the academy. First time they are fully staffed in years and increased benefits to attract and retain.
- Jill- Think it would still be good for them to come to the meeting so the committee can advocate what they would like.
- Don- Press release was just sent out from the PD with news from the latest LE Grant and the new ATV bringing the total to 200k. Looking to the partners to put money into the position. Water Districts covered 40k for the past 2 years, of the 120k position but would be easier with more partners. YPD just went from 100 an hr to 150 an hr for hourly and as a group the money would justify the cost of the patrolling.
- Jill- what can we do as a committee, GWLT has agreed to this and signed on. They need to come to the land trust with a dollar value, they said the money had been found after the land trust had made that commitment.
- Don- The money hasn't been found, need to update the numbers and need to know who is contributing and committing too. What the districts have committed to expires at the end of this year and the board will want to see progress for more commitment.

- Jill- Will a letter of support and a note of commitment be enough?
- Gary- PD says it will probably take another 2 years to get a cons officer. Currently position is paid from the 2 water districts. We need to figure out the funding for the next 2 years.
- Peter- Essentially, we need the support from the partners to create the position and show that it is needed and that when PD isn't fully staffed, they don't pull the position.
- Jill- The LE grant info should be added to the original Pie Chart to contributors to show to the other supporters what they have contributed.
- Josh- Needs to show the difference between a dedicated fund from the State and that the money is actually coming from a public competitive grant. The state will not be able to do a dedicated fund for the position.
- JB- Has SB PD done anything in the past as a part of the patrolling program?
- Gary- They haven't had any involvement in the past
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Action items:

Next meeting -Oct 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30