

# North Yarmouth Parks Committee

Minutes of meeting of October 5, 2022

Minutes Approved January 4, 2023

- I. Call to Order** 6:37 PM
- II. Members present** Scott Kerr, Laurie Gilman, Steve Palmer, Bob Abbott  
Guest: Martin Kremer, volunteer
- III. Announcements** None
- IV. Approval of Minutes** August 2022 and September 2022 approved 4 - 0
- V. Financial Report** None presented
- VI. Public Comment** None
- VII. New Business**
- A. *Hunting signs.*** Scott will contact Draven to get information about the hunting dates. Plans are to post last year's signs again at entrances to Parks and Preserve where appropriate. ***Scott, Steve, Bob***
- B. *Reporting minutes to the town for posting on the website.*** It was agreed for future minutes: North Yarmouth Parks Committee  
Minutes of Meeting on September 7, 2022  
Draft of 9/22/2022 for review or for approval
- And when approved be titled  
North Yarmouth Parks Committee Meeting  
Minutes of Meeting on September 7, 2022  
Minutes Approved: October 5, 2022
- That the subject line of the email to Cheryl would read:
- NYParks Minutes for the meeting on September 7th, 2022 approved on October 5th, 2022
- And that the file name would read  
NYParks Minutes 2022-09-07 Approved 10-5-22
- VIII. Old Business and Updates**
- A. *Bastion Park*** – ***Scott*** is still investigating depth modeling technology options to provide hard data for the Royal River from Bastion Park to the Elm Street dam and will report if something is found.



B. **Select Board and P&R Mission** – The North Yarmouth November vote on Charter changes includes removing the Recreation component from the name and responsibilities of the present North Yarmouth Parks and Recreation committee. It would also change the membership from seven (7) to five (5) members.

C. **Communications kiosks, website and Facebook** –

1. There was a discussion of the Parks Rules and Regulations that Laurie had sent to the committee in a sign format. *Committee agreed that **Laurie** should go ahead and have some copies laminated.*
2. Bob reported that he had talked to Jackie Hersey, Director of WHCC about putting a kiosk near the entrance of the building. She said that was fine with her but the Select Board needed to make the decision. **Bob** will email some basic ideas regarding content for this kiosk. *This will be further discussed at the next meeting with our SB liaison Andrea Berry present.*
3. Laurie reported that she had put a request for suggestions for ideas for entrance to OTHP on our Facebook and received several responses from the public such as make it a garden area. *No action taken on this by the committee.*

D. **Financials** - Steve reported there were still problems getting monthly financial figures from the Town offices. In the discussion that followed it was *suggested that an official requests for specific information available for our monthly meetings be sent to the Town Manager by the Committee – Steve, Scott.*

E. **ALL PARKS**

1. **Invasives:**

- a. Paul Larrivee's grant request for State money for invasives in Eleanor Hayes Town Forest was denied.
- b. Eric Grove was unable to do work on invasives in OTHP due to lack of personnel resources.
- c. Folks from Cumberland contacted us inquiring about disposing of invasives. What NY policies and procedures are is unclear.
- d. Since we are unable to hire people to treat invasives and are falling behind, the possibility of having some in Public Works trained and doing it



ourselves was discussed. *Clark Baston is to be contacted discuss this possibility – Scott.*

## 2. Trails

- a. Bob reported that the section of **Sam Ristich Nature Trail** where it crosses Parsonage Road was **rerouted** around behind the sand shed to keep users from having to walk on Public Works Way. A new kiosk was installed at that location, a direction sign relocated with the help of PW and new trail blazes put on trees in the new section.
- b. Bob reported that several **obstructions** on the loop section of the SRNT were **removed** leaving only one larger tree left to remove which he plans on removing in the next few weeks - **Bob**.
- c. Scott reported that in conversation with Fire Chief Payson the idea of **identifying trails with names** and **identify markers** was discussed as a way to assist rescue efforts in parks and woods. The committee discussed possibilities including the use of cell phones. *No decisions were made but the consensus seemed to it was an issue that needed further attention – Scott.*
- d. **Dog waste, bags and receptacles.** The perennial issue of dog poop resurfaced and was discussed after one of the PW people had to confront a violator in CB. *No decisions were made but the consensus seemed to it was an issue that needed further attention - Steve.*
- e. **Metal detector prospecting.** An incident of someone digging in the parks was brought to the committee's attention. The problem was discussed. *No action taken.*

## F. Chandler Brook

1. *South field brook-side trail* – Presently listed as a 2 season trail because it is overgrown in spring, summer and fall. Efforts to have PW mow it to give year-round use haven't come up with a workable plan so far. The consensus was to pursue these efforts and offer an all-season trail or perhaps abandon the trail altogether – **All**.
2. The question of the status of the *new map* for the preserve that RRCT is developing was raised. **Bob** reported that comments from the committee on it were given to RRCT and he would inquire as to the current status.
3. *Recreational management plan* – The consensus after a lengthy discussion of the plan that we need to push for closure even if it means having a workshops before the next



committee meeting to provide *a version that can be sent to the Select Board and Royal River Conservation Trust* - **Scott**.

G. **Next Meeting** - Wednesday, November 2, 2022

H. **Adjournment** – 8:52 PM

*Submitted by: Bob Abbott*