

The Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee met on March 1, 2022 at 3:30 PM in the DPW building. Those in attendance: Kate McMullan, Ken Warren, Doug Smith, David Beaufait, Rob Taylor, Liam Ehrenzweig, Ed Morris, and Meredith Smith, Chair. Attending via zoom: Pattie Fried and Shirley Green. The February minutes were approved after three small corrections

Financial Update: Doug reviewed the monthly financial statement, reporting several new donations for the bike rack and discussed how much of the match is left to raise for the LWC grant (approximately \$50,000). Doug made an appeal for others to participate in raising the remaining funds needed for the match.

Grants: Ed Morris confirmed to the committee that the ADA access to the lake, as discussed in the February meeting, is not necessary to meet the terms of the LWC grant. A redesign of the area will be undertaken after the new retaining wall is built. Doug reported that we are awaiting a decision on the grant applications to the Eastman Charitable Foundation and the Brundage Foundation.

Park Management and Overall Landscape Plan: There was a general discussion of where and when to schedule various park improvements. It was decided that developing the woodland trails should be addressed first, prior to parking lot improvements. Plantings to coincide with the development of the trails and surfaces of the trails were also discussed. Pattie Fried suggested a surface similar to hardpack that is used in a garden park in Warner. The committee felt that it was important to have an overall landscape plan as soon as possible that would indicate the placement of trails and possible planting locations. Kate McMullan volunteered to contact Norwich University about a possible landscape intern and Meredith Smith will contact AVA. She will also attempt a rough sketch of a possible design.

Retaining Wall: Liam Ehrenzweig presented seven bids for the replacement of the retaining wall. They ranged from \$25,000 to \$69,000. Enfield landscape contractor MB Pro Landscape Designs LLC was the winning bid 2 \$25,000. A unanimous vote was taken to hire MB Pro. It is anticipated work will begin in early spring.

Rail Trail Access: David Beaufait made several signage suggestions for the Rail Trail. Ken Warren also presented a rough sketch of a possible sign to encourage parking at alternative sites in Town. Parking for Rail Trail use is encouraged at these alternative sites to free up space for those using the park.

Planning for Spring: Pattie Fried discussed the plants she has ordered from Grafton County Extension that will be planted in the spring. She added that Master Gardener Henry Homeyer has volunteered to assist in planting advice, coupled with his Master Gardener wife, Cindy Heath who is also a longtime parks and recreation director. Pattie will be scheduling the first workday of the season in late April or early May.

Volunteer Hours: Ed Morris urged the committee to keep careful records of their volunteer hours. He pointed out that these hours will be important in meeting the LWC match and can be considered as cash contributions.