

The Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee met on May 3, 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, Terri Lynch, Pattie Fried and by Team, Shirley Green. Guest: Penny Koburger. The April meeting having been cancelled for lack of a quorum, the March minutes were approved.

Meredith Smith sent word that she expects to be under treatment for pneumonia for several more weeks, and unable to preside as chair. Terri Lynch volunteered to serve as vice chair and to preside until Meredith is able to return. Penny will apply to the BOS to become a member of the committee.

Financial Report. Doug reported that there had been no activity since his last report. According to his records, the committee has a cash balance of \$87,627, and total funds available, including grants and pledges, of \$197,727. Doug noted that the \$5,000 pledged by Eastman Charitable Foundation had not been received. Shirley offered to check on it.

Rail Trail Access. Ken produced three new signs to be erected on or near the Rail Trail directing users to the park from either direction, and from the park back to the trail. Ed reported that he had established an ongoing dialogue with Don Moyer of the Northern Rail Trail regarding parking for access to the rail trail and other issues. He recommends a positive approach through signage to encourage rail trail users to find alternative parking. Rob reported that improvements to the underpass are planned including railings. The committee discussed blocking entrance to the park down the bank and over the grassy area near the pavilion.

The asphalt drive opposite the pavilion will not be removed by the Town until an overall landscape plan is in place.

Mike Burns Contract. Liem reported that Mike will start in early May. The Town will pick up debris from the old wall. Mike has offered to load it onto the Town truck. The committee selected the medium color for the new wall as pictured at the Winslow home on the lake.

Planning for Spring. Pattie reported on her site visit with master gardener Henry Holmeyer. They discovered a vernal pool and an elm tree. He supports Pattie's approach to the shoreline replacement of invasives with natives. Henry advised working with an arborist to protect the existing trees. Pattie will meet with arborist Heather Green on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00. Committee members are invited to attend.

Kate reported on her disappointing efforts to find a landscape architect. There followed a discussion leading to the proposal that we lay out the woodland paths ourselves and use the May 9th meeting as an opportunity to walk the area and begin the process. Pattie suggested and it was agreed that interested members arrive at the park at 5:30. Ed said he would post the date and time as a scheduled meeting.

The Town did an excellent job of repairing the frost heave damage to the existing ramp.

Pattie recommended that the Town join the Upper Valley Trails Alliance for \$100/yr. The membership might be extended to include other town committees.

Park Management Issues. The porta-potty is now in place. It will be swapped for an accessible model.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10. Next regular meeting June7th. DAS