

Sept. 6th, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Karyn, Lisa, Erik, Vance, Josh, Brian, Zoe, Ron Sivisky (late arrival)

Minute Taker: Joe Noel

Minutes

6:32 PM - Call to Order

Brian calls the meeting to order.

6:33 - Prior Meeting's Minutes

- Vance **motions** to approve last month's minutes.
- Josh **seconds**.
- **Vote: Unanimous approval.**

6:34 - Wabenaki trail names for the Riverfront Woods Preserve.

- Erik summarizes the Wabenaki trail name process. Suggests color-coded blazes for the trails. Hopes to present at an event at Riverfront Woods on 23rd of September as part of the comprehensive planning process. The land acknowledgement will be read at this event. Josh and others will be leading naturalist tours.
- Brian asks if we have action items on this subject.
 - Erik says no for now, but feedback is appreciated.
- Joe asks if the maps will always be presented in color? Black and white might make it hard to read.
 - Erik is unsure but we'll consider a slightly modified black and white version, or making this one more legible in black and white.
- Joe gives feedback - Likes the names and the wrap-around text on the trails, but please keep the names in the key for legibility.
- Josh gives feedback - Names are a bit long, is there a Hemlock and Beaver trail in Pratt's?
 - Karyn - No Hemlock Trail. There is a Beaver Trail. Unfortunately, almost all of the indigenous names are long by their nature. Karyn suggests we vote on the trail names tonight so they can be presented on September 23rd.
- Lisa gives feedback - I love these names and the acknowledgement. Can P&L make a statement on the 23rd?
 - Karyn - We would encourage all to attend. Erik and I will probably not be there.
- Vance gives feedback - Has concern about length/complexity of names for emergency services. Suggests we have an alternate way of identifying where people are.
 - Brian agrees that we should have an easy identifier.

- Karyn says color blazing will make it easy to identify along with signage at trail intersections.
- Vance reiterates it doesn't have to be animal signage (Karyn noted P&L intentionally moved away from that 8 years ago), but something obvious for rescues/navigation like color-coded blazes and clear signage at the intersections should be prioritized.
- Josh gives feedback - I like the transliteration and translation. We could simplify it on trail signs?
- Brian **motions** to accept the trail names as presented.
 - Josh and Lisa **second**.
 - **Vote: Unanimous in favor.**

Note: We entered a second round of discussion after...

6:56 - Ron Sivisky joins. Ron assisted with the creation of the trail names.

- Erik & Committee thank Ron for his work on this. Josh considered having a QR code at each trailhead to correctly pronounce trailnames.
- Ron walks us through pronunciations. Notes that "Eyhtit" is misspelled. It should be "Eyihtit." "Awtossis" means "a small/little road," not "Carriage."
- After further discussion with Ron, Joe **motions** to change trailname to Kci Awtossis "a small path." (*kah-chee ow-tus-sihss*).
 - Josh **seconds**.
 - **Vote: Unanimous in favor.**

7:11: Lisa's Tree Committee updates.

- There had not previously been information included in the town comprehensive inventory about the tree canopy. It will be put in somewhere—unsure where. Potentially in Public Facilities.
- Karyn assisted with better communication regarding trees. Dave Craig is going to take to council our concerns. Hiring of a communications staff person. Dave feels the council recognizes the need for better communications within the town.
- Microforests. Tennis-court size (ish) forests can be tremendously beneficial. Self-sustaining piece of land. TC loved the idea and will be discussing it more going forward, especially location.

Note: At 7:12 Ron Sivisky drops from the meeting.

7:16: New Business

7:16: Grant money (LWCF - Land and Water Conservation Fund)

Karyn has good news! Grant funds for Royal River Park are moving forward in the next couple weeks. Maine Land Development Consultants, Inc (Freeport) is able to get to us in 3 weeks.

7:19: Brian - Applications for open seat?

Zoe has info: A more streamlined process for appointments is now in place (can be approved in workshop meetings), but nobody has applied yet.

7:21: Brian - Upcoming External Meetings

- Comprehensive Plan meeting on Oct 2nd
- Future Land Use on Nov 13th

7:24: Planning Committee Liaison

- For now, Brian will keep the role.

7:25 PM - Meeting Adjourned

- Josh **motions** to adjourn.
 - Brian **seconds**.
 - **Vote: Unanimous Approval.**