

Mount Agamenticus Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Day: Wednesday, April 21, 2010
Location: Grant House, York, Maine
Time: 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Chair: Doreen MacGillis

Members Present:

Conservation Coordinator, Robin Kerr
GWRLT, -----
MDIF&W, Judy Camuso
The Nature Conservancy, Parker Schuerman
Town of South Berwick, -----
Town of York, Mike Sullivan
York Land Trust, Doreen MacGillis
York Water District, Gary Stevens

Public Present: Roger Clements, York Resident & Mt. A Friends Director
Richard Bartlett, York Resident
Susan Morse, Reporter for the York Weekly

Chair: Doreen MacGillis

Minutes taken by: Roger Clements, transcribed by Robin Kerr

Approved minutes from previous meeting: 03/17/10

Minutes were approved as written.

Public forum: *No public input at this time*

Gary Steven's report:

- *Gary discussed applying for a Maine Municipalities grant thru KWD for a fire suppression unit for their Gator. Parker has built some of these and has offered to share their design*

Coordinator's report:

- *Robin discussed storm damage and FEMA application (YWD has met with FEMA too).*
- *York High School volunteer worked community project through Mt. A*
- *Eagle Scout and Timberland projects are being coordinated w/Mt. A*
- *United Way, Day of Caring event is being planned*
- *Presentation to York Selectmen resulted in approval for office move.*
- *Intern will be starting in May and will help with the move. Parks will help with maintenance startup and painting.*
- *Discussed impacts of office move.*

Correspondence/ presentations/ requests:

Richard Bartlett- sledding/rope tow proposal- *Richard handed written proposal to Steering Committee and explained his proposal for a beginner ski & sled area on the summit of Mt. A to include a rope tow and deck/ramp. He explained the location would be near the lodge, ENE side based on best site available; suggests a user fee to cover on-going costs for operation; Parks & Recreation to maintain; chose Mt. A because of the question of insurance, safety, road/parking use, restrooms, etc. Use of the lodge also considered. Discussed possible future use by skiers, other sites, etc. Richard estimates that the proposal would cost \$39k to implement and with possible rebates and tax credits from the State would make it less. Overall, the Committee determined that an assessment needs to be done to determine compatibility with conservation and recreation plans for Mt. A. First effort in the assessment will be to relate "Summit Guidelines" with the proposal and conduct an onsite review. Once complete, the Committee will then forward their recommendation to the Recreation Board and York Selectmen. The Committee will conduct a site visit during the next meeting, May 19th at lodge.*

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Budget update: n/a

Discussion item:

learning lodge- revisit vision & goals- *last meeting Committee wished to review as some concerns were brought up about mission creep and time requirements involved. Robin reiterated that the goal for the Learning Lodge is to reach out to those already present and that we are not trying to promote additional use; that it will still be rustic & self-guided in nature; but stated that it is/will require much of her time as she works with volunteers to get it ready for a public opening. Committee agreed and is in favor of approach.*

friends/ open house/sneak peek community event June 12th

advertising & fundraising during this event- *Ok to advertise locally in papers, websites, and email lists. Will not pursue more media attention, and will be very careful to not advertise the event as a "grand opening" but rather a glimpse of what's to come.*

brainstorm ideas for partner displays- *Partners are to address this at next meeting but be thinking how they can cooperatively develop displays for each organization.*

fundraising strategy for items on proposed budget list- *Doreen gave Robin some additional funding leads and she will work with Mike to determine what YPRD can cover for match. Robin will update the proposed budget list and use this as she seeks additional grants and/or donor support.*

New business item: n/a

Adjourn 3:00pm

Next meeting scheduled for May 19th at 1:00 p.m.
Location: Mt. Agamenticus Lodge, York, ME