

DRAFT MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Commission Special Meeting on Depot Landing - Minutes

Monday, November 15, 2021 @ 5:00 pm

**Hampton Falls Town Hall
1 Drinkwater Road
Hampton Falls, NH 03844**

Meeting called to order: 5:00 pm

Attendance: Lyn Stan (chair), Karen Sabatini (treasurer), Beth Forgione (secretary), Pam Fitzgerald, Phil Chura, Kathy Dittami, Larry Smith (GWP Liason)

Not present: Mark Lane (Selectman Representative)

Guests: James Mitchell, Alex Dittami, Patrick Casey, Steve Sabatini, Mike Stan, Paul Melanson,

Review of the Park & Recreation Commission Proposal for the Depot Landing

Lyn Stan presented the P&R proposal to improve and enhance the Depot Landing while protecting its natural coastal environment.

Subsequently the following comments were made:

- 1) James Mitchell –
 - a. interested to know where the idea of using gates on the north and south side of the train tracks come from. Response – from other towns using this technique to control traffic.
 - b. regarding commercial boat launching at this site – his concern was not access to commercial boat launching but the weight limitations of vehicles on the road and at this site.
 - c. concerned about the proposed fencing as it might be too restrictive and may cause turn arounds to be done elsewhere that might cause more harm
 - d. soil erosion and ruts – possible to use hard pack to minimize damage? Larger ramp area would work better for multiple activities such as launching a boat and kayak at the same time.
 - e. DES controls 250 feet from the high tide line so essentially our whole project area comes under their purview
 - f. need to consider complexities of parking trailers when defining parking areas
- 2) Alex Dittami –

- a. shared living shore project summary which includes information about similar projects and where funding was obtained; conservation groups look at projects like this and can help
 - b. need to consider what impact changes to upstream and downstream bridges will have which are currently being discussed
 - c. need to consider historical significance of location as it was once a working wharf and warehouse area
 - d. apparent significant erosion is occurring
 - e. need to include all of the above items in scope of sub-committee
- 3) Larry Smith – all of the above items can be addressed by the sub-committee currently being formed.

Formation of a Subcommittee of Parks & Recreation

- 1) members do not need to be sworn in by Town Clerk
- 2) membership made up from P&R, DAC and others appointed by the P&R as needed/appropriate
- 3) subcommittee to report back to P & R by March 1, 2022
- 4) scope of the sub-committee will be provided by P&R, but the sub-committee can modify the scope, if needed, with approval of P&R

Sub-Committee Members

At this meeting Alex Dittami agreed to be the sub-committee chair with Larry Smith vice-chair. Also volunteering are James Mitchell, Patrick Casey, Steve Sabatini, Mike Stan, Paul Melanson, Phil Chura with Beth Forgione as secretary.

Steve Sabatini recommended spreading the word about this project as more may be interested in participating and hearing about progress.

Next Steps

- 1) Meet with DES (Kirsten Howard, Coastal Resilience Program Coordinator and Kevin Lucey, Habitat Program Coordinator and RPC Scott Bogle, Sr Transportation Planner-NH Seacoast Greenway Coordinator for their recommendations and suggestions
- 2) Pursue possibility of grants for implementing a scope of work plan and for implementation at Depot Landing.
- 3) Alex Dittami will schedule a meeting time and place for the first meeting of this sub-committee.

Adjourn

MOTION: Move to adjourn at.6:01

MOTION: Lyn Stan

SECOND: Karen Sabatini

Abstentions: None

Passed

Prepared by: Beth Forgione