

Westbrook Recreation and Conservation Commission

MINUTES

MARCH 18, 2021

6:00 PM

ZOOM MEETING

TYPE OF MEETING	Regular
ATTENDEES	<i>Members:</i> Nate Dyer, chair; Paul Drinan, vice-chair; Matt Brunner, secretary; Rebecca Spitella, treasurer, Warren Lain, Phil Spiller; Bruce Wallingford;; <i>Associate members:</i> Amanda Lessard, Kevin Price, Unfilled Seat; <i>Absent:</i> Aubrey Belanger
GUESTS	Jamie Parker – Portland Trails

Agenda topics

UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

NO DISCUSSION	<p>Opening: Kaitlyn Morse has resigned due to new obligations</p> <p>Welcome Guests:</p> <p>WEIC Update: No WEIC meetings since last Rec and Con and no meeting scheduled this month.</p> <p>Community: River clean up permit is expected 4/24 1-3 pm. Mountain Division Alliance – Rock Row to Main St – PD encouraging to extend to Riverwalk. Legislation happening that could effect all interested parties for trails in the state.</p> <p>Maine Outdoor Film Festival still possible for August.</p> <p>Future: MDT construction docs</p>
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FINANCIAL AND CITY REPORT

DISCUSSION	<p>Planning Board approved Bridge and E.Bridge plans. 364 Spring St fee in-lieu. Robyn Saunders presented to CC – presentation available on city website. Westbrook commons goes out to bid in Spring. Vertical Harvest reducing footprint, sidewalks on all side. Increasing resident count from 50 to 60 units. Cornelia Warren pool updates much more expensive than originally planned. PS raised budget concerns about developments, Robyn Saunders may be back to talk to funding sources. Kaitlyn Morse has submitted resignation, City has reached out to Andrew Krantz to fill position. Mountain Trail Division – prelim design in 2012 Westbrook to Windham never finalized; current goal between WSBK/WNDM to get construction docs by summer. Commission should decide on level of support in future.</p> <p>Financials – Difference is allocation for Snowmobile club.</p>
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PORTLAND TRAILS CHECK-IN AND UPDATE

DISCUSSION	<p>Jamie Parker: trails and Transportation Manager for Portland Trails. Current project that may overlap and discussions on how R&C can integrate. Partner with PRLT, Sebago to Sea, own land on Conant property. Trails arrive in Westbrook – E Bridge on river, Middle School to High School and town. Spring St – Stroudwater trail to Smiling Hill Farm, Blue Spruce trails. Continuously working on and maintaining all trails. May be getting to Sappi on South side of river, even in consideration of landslide. Working with Sappi to traverse Sappi land. Rock Row – PT is part of MDA, very interested in getting the MDT to Fore River sanctuary, other connectivity. Consider holding them to their nature/natural concepts. PT recently had a focus on under resourced neighborhoods to fill gaps. Would like Westbrook to consider these objectives during open space plan. Consider the connection between the open spaces as linear public spaces. Landing Road Trail to Beaver Brook idea was to connect to Twin Falls.</p>		
CONCLUSIONS			
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

STRATEGIC PLAN

DISCUSSION	RS: Applied items and edits from Special Meeting. Timetable elements entered.		
CONCLUSIONS	Edits made, final plan to be supplied to RS prior to next meeting for up/down vote to be forwarded to council.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	
.Reach out to neighboring and regional communities for info on their R&C	Paul Drinan		

OPEN SPACE INVENTORY (SUBCOMMITTEE FORMATION)

DISCUSSION	Motion: Nate/Matt/Warren/Kevin/Phil/Amanda to be subcommittee All in favor		
CONCLUSIONS	Public Meeting Notice: More than 2 people let RS know, it will be posted to city website.		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE	

Meeting adjourned 20:26

Minutes submitted by Matthew Brunner 4/15/21

Next meeting Match 15, 2021