



Jericho Underhill Park District P. O. Box 164 Underhill, VT 05489 802-899-2693

www.millsriversidepark.org

JUPDistrict@gmail.com

The Jericho Underhill Park District Board of Trustees had a very busy year. Besides the ongoing management of this beautiful land and the events and activities that take place within it, the board has focused on improving the park's trail system. Over 6 miles of paths stretch across open meadow and lead park visitors up the forested slopes of South Hill. Heavy rainfall and frost heaves coupled with the increasing enjoyment of the trails by walkers, mountain bikers, and horseback riders have taken their toll over the years. Last year, heavy equipment was used on the West Fieldstone Loop to reset and install larger culverts, create better ditching and grade the trail. This year, a grant from the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation provided for the restoration and improvement of our South Hill East Loop by the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC). Another grant has been submitted this year in the hopes that we can address the East Fieldstone Loop this summer and again with the help of the VYCC. We expect that the entire trail system will receive critical attention within a few years. Besides trail improvements, we have had major high wind and ice/snow events that have brought down trees and large branches which block trail access. We are very fortunate to have dedicated volunteers and Scout Troop 627 who help with trail clean up. Annual maintenance of this trail system is also required and volunteer help is always welcome.

Also this year, the Park District Board approved a purchasing policy that requires seeking estimates for any work that costs \$1000 or more and bids for any work over \$5,000. Our Conflict of Interest Agreement was also reviewed and updated. The Park's website at www.millsriversidepark.org was created last year and continues to be improved. Please visit the website for pavilion and field reservation information, the schedule of the summer concert series and the farmers' market , meeting agendas and minutes and much more. The board also decided to erect traditional doggie bag dispensers and receptacles instead of composting dog waste. The time and labor involved to compost grew to be too taxing. Board composition also changed in 2014. It is with great sadness that we received a resignation letter from long time board member Michelle Hayes leaving a vacancy currently from the Town of Jericho. Also, Andrew French, much to our delight, filled the board vacancy from the Town of Underhill.

The Jericho Underhill Park District Board of Trustees meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7PM at the Rawson Library's project room. These meetings are always open to the public. Please feel free to give us any feedback about the park via e-mail, phone, Facebook or in person at our meeting. Our hardworking board members include:

Livy Strong, Chairperson, Jericho
Marie Lynch, Co-Chair, Jericho
Marcy Gibson, Treasurer, Underhill
Andrew French, Secretary, Underhill
James Massingham, Underhill
Robert Naylor, Jericho
Vacancy from the Town of Jericho