



Jericho Underhill Park District P. O. Box 164 Underhill, VT 05489 802-899-1141

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Jericho Underhill Park District
MEETING MINUTES - **DRAFT**

Jericho Underhill Park District---Minutes: August 6, 2025

Present: Livy Strong, Bruce Blokland, Chris Greenwood, ,
Dave Williamson, Kim Spaulding Paula VanDeventer

Absent: Donna Pratt

Public Present: none

Meeting called to order by Livy Strong, at 7pm.

1. Public Comment: none
2. Adjustments to agenda: Livy asked to discuss recent changes to VLCT open meeting guidelines.
3. Review of Draft 06/25/2025 Minutes. Livy asked to correct the date of the Anniversary Celebration on page 3 from August 17 to August 16.

Motion: Dave motioned to approve the 06/25/25 minutes once corrected. Paula seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

4. Finance Report: No report.
5. Board Discussion Items:
 - 25th Anniversary Celebration planning, Dave and Livy
 - Tennis ball river race will be at 1:30pm and will need four people to conduct the event—two at the starting area, and 2 at the finish. Participants will pay \$1.00 per ball. Prizes will be awarded to top three finishers.
 - Dave suggests we pay for the Buck Hollers' lunch truck meals.
 - Gnome Hunt will start at 10:30am and will need two people to assist. There will be inexpensive prizes for participants.
 - Corn Hole games will be independent play throughout the day. We currently have three sets of adult boards and one set of child-size boards.
 - Art Tables will be set up underneath the Cedar grove near the kiosk. Bruce will trim the cedars and pines of low-hanging branches.
 - Rock Painting will be run by volunteer Sue Adams. Rocks and paint supplies will be available to participants.
 - Livy will purchase a quantity of cookies to make available for guests.
 - There will be a water station set up in the park.
 - Livy has obtained a vinyl banner, printed with names of the original donors to be displayed.

- Publicity is already occurring via Seven Days, Front Porch Forum, Facebook. VPR will have a tent at the park for the event.
- Poster Sales will be available at the park.
- Livy and Dave are working on getting enough tent/canopies for some of the activity sign-up areas, the water station, the poster sales, etc.

- CCSS program's second week was cancelled and the program has asked JUPD for a refund of the second week's fee.

Motion: by Paula to refund CCSS \$475. Seconded by Dave. Passed Unanimously.

6. Informational Topics:

- MRP Trail Map: Livy passed around the new MRP trail map completed by Marcy. Bruce noted some upper trail inaccuracies and Livy will contact Marcy to follow up.
- Summer Concerts: Livy reported that five summer concert performances were held this year without necessitating any rain cancellations. Board will begin to discuss 2026 summer concerts after January.
- Welcome Garden: Dave says the watering schedule is working well. He will be talking to Creative Landscaping about switching out some smaller plantings for some larger ones.
- Venmo: Livy would like to see better and more focused signage to spur donations.
- Code of Conduct document was circulated and signed by all members present.
- Ash Tree/EAB: Bruce has viewed Fieldstone East and West to determine dead and dying Ash trees originally inventoried and marked by the Jericho Tree Warden. Bruce does not think there are any ash trees of concern at this time on Fieldstone East. Bruce has marked and located 14 dead or dying ash trees on Fieldstone West, and recommends that we plan to have them taken down some time soon. Bruce has cost estimate of approximately \$1400. to fell these 14 trees. Plan to discuss again next meeting after reviewing ash tree budget.
- Bridges: Bruce reported that the main bridge had been repaired earlier this summer. Correspondence with engineer Cricket McCasker indicates satisfactory remediation based on photos sent to her.

Bruce suggests we re-inspect the bridge every two years going forward.

The deck and railing replacement to the South Hill East upper pedestrian bridge had been completed in July. Painting the replacement boards will be done in August. Removal of the damaged lumber will be removed and disposed of in August.

- Interpretive Signs: Livy is still working on edits to sign 1. Livy requests assistance from board members when developing sign 2.
- Riparian Buffer: Livy and Dave walked both sides of the river bank with riparian expert Alair Diamond. The bank's erosion on the park side seems to have stabilized. It was suggested that we consider "willow staking" the bank to develop willow trees and a root system adjacent to the river bank.
- Off Leash Area: Livy and Bruce met with Chris Wells in July. We have a \$13,000 estimate from Chris Wells to remediate an approximately two acre area of briar and pucker brush and to turn it to lawn. Dave suggested that we forego the expense and try mowing the area regularly through the summer and fall, and then overseed with grass seed.

- Trail Accessibility: Bruce will walk the Meadow Loop with a member of the Trail Accessibility Hub (TAH) on October 16. The TAH will then provide an analysis of the trail and cost estimate.
- Capital Improvement Plan: members must submit their lists to Donna by September 17.

7. Other Topics:

- Potholes at the park's entrance have gotten bad. Livy to contact Chris Poley for grading.
- Smoking at the park: Paula has raised the question of our no-smoking stance and will investigate what smoking rules are commonly in place at public parks.

Motion: Livy motioned to adjourn, and Dave seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

Respectfully,
Bruce Blokland

Meeting Recordings

Use the link below to access meeting recordings.

Note: Recordings are posted once minutes have been approved and are available for 30 days.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1VDckTyvioosbWqEacYly9pgrzYdM8mzi>