

Jericho Underhill Park District P. O. Box 164 Underhill, VT 05489

802-899-1141

www.millsriversidepark.org

JUPDistrict@gmail.com

Jericho Underhill Park District MEETING MINUTES-

Jericho Underhill Park District---Minutes: November 05, 2025

Present: Chris Greenwood, Donna Pratt, Dave Williamson, Paula vanDeventer, Kim Spaulding,

Bruce Blokland, Livy Strong

Absent: None

Public Present: none

1. Meeting called to order Livy Strong at 7:00pm

2. Public Comments: none

3. Amend Minutes to 10/15/25 meeting: correct typo: "bidders"

<u>Motion</u>: by Kim, seconded by Chris: Approve 10/15/25 minutes with above mentioned correction. Approved unanimously.

4. Park Management:

-Financial Report –Donna presented the FY '27 proposed budget for final review and board approval.

<u>Motion:</u> by Donna, seconded by Dave to approve the proposed FY '27 budget in the amount of \$116,665, reflecting a 10% year to year increase in the two towns' assessments. Passed unanimously.

Donna detailed for the board the FY '26 adjusted budget due mainly to updated changes to trail work, poster sales, and funds to our cash reserves.

<u>Motion:</u> by Donna, seconded by Chris to adjust FY '26 budget to reflect an annual budget of \$116,495. Passed unanimously.

Detailed JUPD financial reports are available upon request to the board's Treasurer.

The JUPD annual public budget meeting will be Wednesday, 11/19 at the DRML meeting space. Paper announcements will be placed around the two towns warning the meeting.

5. Informational Topics:

- Officer Election Procedure discussion postponed to 11/19. Roles and Responsibilities document may need to be adjusted as some roles are shared.

- -Accessible Trail Project: Donna reported that the RTP initial grant application is in process, and due to be submitted by the end of November. Bruce and Donna discussed their recommended plan to complete Phase 1, from the bridge to the pavilion, at a cost of \$23,000. And, contingent upon an RTP grant award, also implementing the trail upgrade to either a 700' or a 1000' section of the "Vista Loop", from main kiosk heading eastward, at a cost of \$23,000. Board discussion ensued relating to the Vista Loop phase. Donna and Bruce to get back to board with finalized trail repair details and costs.
- -Fieldstone East trail repairs no update until spring.
- -Boundary Signs- Kim has completed research and sign sourcing and pricing. The board had originally moved to buy plastic signs, which were cheaper. Kim pointed out that metal signage, while more expensive, should last quite a bit longer that the plastic signs, and is environmentally friendlier. The metal signs will be about \$500 more expensive.

Motion: by Paula, and seconded by Kim to purchase metal signs and increase the sign purchase price to \$900. Passed unanimously.

Related to reserve accounts, Paula asked if Donna and Chris can look for better interest rates as our reserves accumulate.

-Riparian buffer: Dave and Livy met on October 31st with Kyle Birrer, an Ecological Restoration Fellow with the Vermont Land Trust (VLT), and Lucas Goldfluss and his team from the Winooski Conservation District to view our eroded area. Kyle noted the lay of the land and suggested that we expand the buffer to 60 feet in one area, and Dave helped to measure. The line is reduced to 50 feet by the new maple tree. There was a discussion about the best ways to mitigate the erosion, and planting was high on the list.

Livy noted that there is a grant opportunity to have a variety of trees and shrubs planted within our riparian buffer area. She supplied a map of the riparian zone. Farm Upstream on Lee River Road has already been chosen to provide the plantings, as they

have a sizable nursery of native stock. The grant will cover the cost and labor.

- -Grey Shed and Roof Repair: Donna reported that Dave and Bob Pratt have begun tree trimming in advance of the shed evaluation. Cost estimation to follow.
- -Picnic Tables: Dave reported that 3 tables are in need of replacement. The park has 23 tables.
- -Trail Map Project: Bruce to look at TrailFinder.info. Paula to look at EcoPixel's web app.
- -Park Posters: Chris reordered stock for the upcoming December sale.
- -Interpretive signage: Livy is working on finding vintage photos of the park from 25 years ago.
- -Ash Trees/EAB monitoring: No updates until spring of '26.
- -Assistant Treasurer role: Chris has updated Union Bank's records; working on EastRise C.U.
- -Website upgrades: Paula had extensive talk with EcoPixel. Will review at 11/19 meeting.

-TrafX People Counter: October: Bridge: 10,200; Main Connector: 1668; Off Leash: 3729

Other Business: None

<u>Motion:</u> to adjourn at approximately 8:46pm by Dave, seconded by Kim. Approved unanimously

Respectfully submitted, 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