



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

603 424-3531

6 Baboosic Lake Road

Fax 603 424-1408

Town Hall - Lower level - East Wing

www.merrimacknh.gov

Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

WILDCAT FALLS SUBCOMMITTEE (of the Merrimack Conservation Commission)

Meeting Minutes

July 5, 2023

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Andrew Duane
- Karen Labonte
- Elizabeth Petrides

CALL TO ORDER:

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Merrimack Memorial Room.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comments

NEW BUSINESS:

- There is no new business

OLD BUSINESS:

- A discussion was held about the future of parking solutions for the Wildcat Falls area.
 - The general consensus of both the MCC and the Wildcat Falls subcommittee is that any significant expansion of the existing parking lot would be met with significant resistance from the neighborhood abutters.
 - Potential “external” solutions of the baseball field area across the river off Atherton Road, and at the High School were also both problematic.
 - There is plenty of room at the baseball field area, but the cost of a pedestrian bridge across the Souhegan River is quite high. Liz to discuss options for fund availability (grants, state or town money, etc) with Lynn Christiansen on the Planning Board.
 - The high school seems unwilling to allow use, and the connecting trails are quite some distance from Wildcat Falls (and would need updating to account for more traffic).

- There is some potential with the tie-in to the Town Center trail system, we will continue looking at this possibility.
- There is no word from DPW on when then erosion work will happen on the connector trail to the power lines from the retention pond. We would like this done before spring runoff again damages the trail.
 - Karen will look at the area and report back to the subcommittee.
- Only three “No Parking” signs have been installed, and they apparently continue to be ignored by the public visiting the area.
- There has been no further word from the memorial company about transportation logistics for the MLMF granite bench to the North Loop Trail. It seems unreasonable to expect it is possible to do so. Alternative bench designs are still being discussed by the foundation.

MEETING MINUTES:

The April 2023 meeting minutes were read and approved as is. Andrew moved to approve; Liz seconded; approval was 3-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Andrew, seconded by Liz; Motion carried: 3-0-0.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.