

**Burlington Johnnycake Mountain Park Advisory Commission**

**Special Meeting Minutes**

**June 7, 2021**

**• Call to order:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm. This meeting was not recorded on Zoom. It was held at Town Hall. Commissioners present: Tricia Twomey, Joan Mack, Robert Dunn, Elizabeth Delano, Christie Dockman, Karen Geitz, Mark Moriarty and Craig Battisto.

**• Minutes of May 26, 2021 Meeting :**

Liz made a motion to accept the minutes, Joan seconded it and all voted in favor.

**• Amended the agenda for the May 24, 2021 Meeting:**

Commission Members had the wrong date for the minutes on the agenda. They amended the date. Liz made the motion to accept the May 24<sup>th</sup> minutes, Joan seconded it and all voted in favor.

**• Talk about your summer getaway or vacation.**

Committee Members (CM) all shared information about their future plans for vacations. The goal with this activity is for the CM to get to know each other better.

**• Mission Statement:**

Joan read the Mission Statement.

Mission Statement is to create a feasible and visionary short and long term master plan for the purchased property that provides the multi-generational community of Burlington with opportunities for active and passive recreation. Our recommendations will be based upon considerations and input from our entire community, will support documented community needs, will strive to retain the unique, farm-like character and natural landscape of the property and will be aware of the potential impact to the surrounding neighborhoods.

We endorse the following values:

- Open-mindedness
- Team unity
- Respect for one another
- Commitment to a positive outcome

**• Public Outreach Efforts:**

Commission Emails:

Alyson Powell

Alyson requested an update on the park process on the JM Neighbors Facebook page. She asked if the survey results had been uploaded onto the website. Tricia said yes. AP also inquired about the comments on the survey. They had not been uploaded, but Tricia has since

put them up and responded to Alyson. CM decided to put links on Burlington Chatter and the JMN Facebook Page to the Commission's Town website for the public to access all the information. CM will also include the old and new survey comparison that Robert Dunn created on the website. Joan will write an introduction to the links.

CM also discussed posting the park programming guide. The current programming guide is not complete. It needs to have "Draft" typed across it. CM have compiled the results, but this programming guide may change during the Master Plan design process. CM decided to label the programming guide a "draft" since it is a work in progress. It's the Commission's responsibility to the almost 900 residents who completed the survey to show what programming has priority due to their responses. All CM agreed to post it with the word "Draft" across the page. It's important for the CM to get as much input as possible from the community so that the design will have been debated ahead of time. CM also need to put out this information for whole community to access, not just specific groups like FB and BC. CM have to provide justification to the public for items in the programming like native species, Dog Park, etc. CM need public support in the end.

Alyson Powell also sent another email to Ted and the BOS about the name of the park. Are we going to call it a park or a farm? It is not in the purview of the CM to name the park. It's up to the BOS.

#### Dwight Harris

Dwight has asked CM to review the transfer deed for property next to the park. It's important for the CM to consider the property listed in the deed as possible future land in the park. Ted and Carl Salsedo are looking at the agricultural plan in that deed. The Town Attorney is also checking into it. The Town needs to work this out because the designers should know if the property is in up in the air or if it should be included as part of the program. Does the Commission wait for something to be resolved and not include it in the programming? The Town is evaluating the farm status and property lines.

Dwight's second email was about all the maps that he had done about the farm. Ted has many of the maps and the one that is missing is the test hole map. The Town has contacted the Health District to see if it has this map. The new design firm will get all the maps that were done before by the BSC group. This will help to keep the costs down for taxpayers. Also, some of the maps have been placed in the CMs' shared folder.

- **Park Programming:**

#### Update

The BOS were very impressed with the programming information. The feedback from them has been positive and it's good they recognize CMs' effort.

- **Upcoming Meetings:**

CM were supposed to give their recommendation for a design consultant to the BOS tomorrow on June 8<sup>th</sup>, but the BOS' meeting was cancelled. The Commission's first three meeting dates with the design firm will have to change. Can CM ask the BOS to look at our choice for design firm or have a special meeting to discuss it? CM can give the BOS the recommendation and they can think about it even if they are not meeting. The BOS can look over the information and give CM their questions about the consultant ahead of time. CM should also notify the consultants as to their choice.

Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 pm at Town Hall is our next meeting. Town Hall is not set up to do a hybrid meeting (Zoom/Live) yet. If the consultant would like to meet remotely with a ten minute update, CM can bring their laptops and Zoom from Town Hall.

- **Public Comment:**

Dwight Harris asked about the maps that were done about the farm. Dwight did an entire plan about a possible subdivision on the farm that produced many maps prior to the Town's purchase. Dwight said it would be a shame to waste taxpayers' money to pay for the maps again, if they cannot be found. Is it possible that the Town gave them to the appraiser? Dwight gave the maps to the Town. Dwight said that if he can be of any assistance, CM should ask him. The map for the test holes is not at the board of health. The town should have it. 75 test holes were dug and that map contains a lot of valuable data. It's important for the consultant to know that there may be an additional piece of agricultural land added to the park.

- **Executive Session:**

CM went into Executive Session to discuss their choice for design consultant. Craig made the motion to go in Executive Session, Liz seconded it and all voted in favor.

Liz made the motion to come out of Executive Session, Tricia seconded it and all voted in favor. The consultant recommendation is tabled to the next meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

- **Meeting adjourned at 8:25:**

Joan made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Liz seconded it and all voted in favor.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,  
Karen Geitz  
June 13, 2021

