

Burlington Johnnycake Mountain Park Advisory Commission

Meeting Minutes

August 30, 2021

- **Call to order:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm. Commissioners present: Tricia Twomey, Joan Mack, Robert Dunn, Elizabeth Delano, Christie Dockman, Karen Geitz, Craig Battisto and Mark Moriarty.

- **Motion to approve the July 26th and August 21st meeting minutes:**

Liz made the motion, Robert seconded it and all voted in favor.

- **Talk about the BEST thing this summer:**

Committee Members (CM) and Brian Frost shared information about their best thing this summer. The goal with this activity is for the CM to get to know each other better.

- **Mission Statement:**

Christie 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 Comment:**

No public comment. The public provided feedback with its attendance at the workshop on August 21st. Thirty-eight people registered for the event and 33 showed up. There was lots of good input.

- **Public Outreach:**

Brian Frost brought copies of the four table maps that workshop participants created on August 21st. The maps represent more data or input from the community. Brian will send CM diagrams and written descriptions about each table's map. Brian made general observations about the maps:

All groups kept the entrance more or less where it is. A uniform recommendation was a LAX field along Rock Rd. The center was the core of the park where the biggest programming

elements are located. Many put the dog park in the lower northeastern area. Groups also wanted grazing, wildflowers and hayfields.

Tricia said that Katie Ierardi, the Town's Animal Control Officer, has the experience to set up a dog park. Currently dogs are not allowed in any of the other parks in Town. Dog parks give dogs an opportunity for off-leash play with other dogs. The survey results showed that the townspeople want a dog park.

Carl Salsedo is an organic farmer from Burlington and he is willing to help with an agricultural plan.

CM received an email from Sharon Farmer and Mark answered it.

A question came up about using the word "farm" in the name of the park. Farm is not part of the name of the park. It's an issue for the Board of Selectman to address and is not the charge of the CM.

There is a lot of sentiment about sports fields at the park. The Town has to honor the referendum the people voted for, which included sports fields. At the same time, people want to keep the rural character.

- **Park Master Plan Progress:**

Kent and Frost devised four different schematic plans:

Plan number 1:

It is the most economical and has the least impact. LAX has one season in the spring. The plan includes 100 parking spaces. Some workshop participants suggested gravel parking lots that are permeable, but Brian said that the maintenance can be challenging. This plan preserves the center that overlooks the corral with an event lawn. There are areas for rotational grazing of cows, chickens and sheep. Animal shelters are on wheels. The fences need to be replaced and Brian recommended using the same type of fencing.

Plan number 2:

This plan has an alternative entrance off of JM Rd. The main entrance goes through the park and back out to JM Rd. The Town can use a gate to control the flow of traffic. People will go in and out the same way, except for special events. Part of Barn A can be a big pavilion that overlooks the event lawn. This plan also includes a community building and a second LAX practice field. A single field is not that useful for a LAX league because there is no place to practice or warm-up before a game. They will need another parking area.

Plan number 3:

It has an entrance from Rock Rd. that goes out to JM Rd. The JM Rd. entrance is moved over. There is also an informal play area for LAX.

Plan number 4:

The entrance goes from Rock Rd. to JM Rd.

- **Upcoming Meetings:**

CM decided to meet on Tuesday, September 7th at 6:00 in Town Hall. CM will look at the four plans and have feedback to share at this meeting. CM will also start to plan which work will be done during which phases.

- **Motion made to adjourn meeting at 8:00 pm:**
Christie made the motion, Liz seconded it and all voted in favor.

**Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Karen Geitz
September 5, 2021**