



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

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**Jericho Underhill Park District  
MINUTES  
1/17/24**

Board members present: Bruce Blockland, Jim Massingham, Donna Pratt, Kim Spaulding, Livy Strong, Chris Tardie & Dave Williamson

Board members absent:

Guests: Jessica Alexander, Leslie Dunn, Ted and Rachel McKnight

1. Livy called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.
2. Public comment: No public comment
3. Review of minutes
  - A. Dave moved to approve the 1/3/24 minutes. Bruce seconded. Motion approved unanimously
4. Park Management
  - A. The dry well cover has not yet been delivered. It is still staked and taped. There was some concern that, as bad weather impacts the warning tape, someone might accidentally drive over the temporary cover. Dave volunteered to improve the situation
  - B. The newly improved parking area seems to be holding up in the bad weather. Dave will organize installation of horizontal boards to further define parking in the spring
  - C. Bruce presented an estimate to repair the washed out culvert on the Connector Trail. Rabbit Tracks estimated a cost of \$5,700-\$6,100 to replace the culvert. Bruce recommended putting this projector to bid in the spring.
  - D. Someone has been clearing the hiking trails of blown in debris. This work is greatly appreciated.
  - E. Dave reported on the use of soccer fields. We now have the youth soccer schedules from Emmitt Manning and Eric Barker. Dave has discussed port-o-let needs for the heavily used time during summer soccer camp with Eric Barker. Eric agreed to rent additional port-o-lets for exclusive use by campers

5. Events

- A. Summer concert series dates are starting to book
- B. There was a lengthy discussion of some of the problems caused by a few dogs and their owners. Aggressive off leash dogs and/or dogs that are off leash and not under verbal control of the owner continue to be a problem
  - (1) It has been suggested at previous meetings that we need dog ordinance to enforce dog rules. At the last meeting, creation of an ordinance was put on hold due to lack of resources
  - (2) Donna has prepared a powerpoint presentation regarding dog challenges. She suggests a Positive Paws program. It would be an attempt to enlist community support to address the problems with those few dogs that are not under control of their owner. She also suggest JUPD host events for dog owners to provide assistance to owners and also help us inform dog owners of park rules and expectations
  - (3) Trustees emphasized that we need support from the Jericho and Underhill select boards to improve the situation. Livy, Kim and Chris volunteered to speak to the two select boards. They will explain the challenges brought on by some dog owners and emphasize the need for JUPD to lean on services of the Animal Control Officers of each town
  - (4) Donna requested Trustees review her presentation and send her feedback before the next meeting. She will edit and hopes it can be used as the basis of town presentations

6. Publicity

- A. Livy suggests an article for local press and Front Porch
  - B. Forum to inform the public about park rules and expectations. This would be done after we have the support of Jericho and Underhill select boards
  - C. Livy has three bands signed up for the summer concert series. Two slots to fill
7. Draft 5 of the Memorial Donation Policy was discussed. It will be voted on at the next meeting
8. Livy reminded board members that we will elect new officers in March
9. Donna moved to adjourn. Jim seconded. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Massingham