

Minutes of Meeting

York River Stewardship Committee

July 25, 2023

Attendees: Karen Arsenault, Philip Bekke, Allan Cawrse, Beth Cromwell, Paul Dest, Sally Harold, Joan LeBlanc, Jim MacCartney (USNPS), Mary Marshall, Deane Rykerson, Jim Smith, Judy Spiller, Hannah Volk, (USNPS) Clayton Smith (guest)

Chair Judy Spiller welcomed committee members and opened the meeting at 5:35

- **Approve Minutes of June 27th Meeting:** Mary Marshall made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Jim Smith, unanimously approved.
- **Election of Officers:** Judy Spiller suggested that due to the steep learning curve for new committee members that members of the preceding Study Committee serve as the committee's officers for a one year term: Judy Spiller, Chair, Joan LeBlanc, Vice Chair, Paul Dest, Treasurer, Karen Arsenault, Secretary. Paul noted that in the by-laws the Treasurer is an official voting member of the committee. He is not a voting member and it would be a good idea to have a committee member to be able to "learn the ropes." Sally Harold volunteered to take that position stating she had past experience that would make her qualified.

Coordinator would be ex-officio, reporting to board/committees and serves as an implementer.

Mary Marshall made a motion to accept the proposed slate of officers originally proposed and then amended that motion to reflect the new slate, with terms of one-year, seconded by Allan Cawrse and passed unanimously.

- **Status of Coordinator Search:** Paul reported that the position has been advertised widely in appropriate publications, with 14 applications received so far. Deadline is August 16. Search committee will review applications. Interview time will be early September. Candidates will come to the full committee before hiring. Coordinator will hopefully be in place by October.
- **Review Draft Bylaws:** Judy, Jim, Sally

Many questions arose regarding the following:

Executive session voting; # of terms a member can serve and is it a town issue? Should there be an Executive Committee, and if so, what is their role. Regarding voting: how will that work in terms of numbers of votes needed to pass or is "consensus" OK? What does consensus mean? What number represents a "quorum"? Proxy votes: how would that work? What does "alternate" mean? Do alternates vote? How many meetings can be

missed “without excuse” before committee member would be asked to leave the committee?

The committee will review questions/ concerns, etc., will make revisions where appropriate and bring it back to the committee for review

- **Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers Program: Jim M**

Due to a power outage, this slide presentation will be delayed until the next meeting.

- **York River 101: Monthly presentations on the Stewardship Plan and the Watershed ORVs**: Judy suggested we have topic oriented sessions at future meetings like those done during the Study Committee. Suggestion was made to invite Tad Baker to provide archeological information. Another suggestion was to invite folks for an Advisory Committee. Question asked regarding the types of resources that were available through the Park Service; i.e. technical assistance, etc.

Next Meeting: August 22, 2023

Other Business:

River Cruises: Jim Smith announced the next excursion would be August 4th, time tbd; will try again at the end of August. A suggestion was made that perhaps it could be a weekday.

Teambuilding gathering: Allan Cawrse invited the group to his home at 172 Fernald Ave., York on August 6th, 3-5 p.m. Bring an hors d’oeuvres to share.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55.

Approved: 8.22.23

