

Mine Falls Park Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes – January 9th , 2023

Attendees: Jeff Hannigan, Paula Lochhead, Dick Gillespie, Pamela Anderson, Laura Santer, Trisha Mullin, Bryan Conant

Guests: **Lon Hohberger (Committee Candidate)**, **Gene Whitcomb (Committee Candidate)**, **Kathleen Palmer (Mayor's Office)**

Call to Order – 7:02 PM

Approval of November Meeting Minutes – Motion (Jeff) Seconded (Trish)

Parks Dept Topics:

- Lincoln Bridge Upkeep – Will look into treatment of the exposed metal infrastructure, consisting of cleaning the surface and applying a protective coating
- Repairs were made to the Cove Overlooks
- Graffiti cleaned from the Gatehouse

Committee Topics

- Committee Elections:
 - Motion for position candidates – Trish; Seconded – Paula; Voting: Unanimous in favor
 - Chair: Jeff Hannigan
 - Vice Chair: Paula Lochhead
 - Secretary: Laura Santer
- Term Renewals: Planned, in backlog between Mayor's office and Board of Alderman meeting
- 2023 Prep:
 - Trail Day Schedule
 - April 22
 - May 20
 - June 24
 - August 19
 - September 23
 - October 21
 - Dates to be added to MFP Public calendar for event request planning
- Public Request – Personal Memorial Installation
 - A request from a New Hampshire resident was shared with the committee for an advisory decision, consisting of a proposed placement of a memorial for a deceased family member. Described with proposed placement location, photo examples, and sample text detailing placement of a boulder with an attached metal plaque
 - The committee reiterated some of our existing positions from prior similar proposals:
 - Memorials within the park are typically placed with relevance to service to the park, city, or country (examples like the Testa dedicated tree and the veteran memorial at Whipple St.)

- When the park installs a non-natural feature, we otherwise typically reserve it for functional value, like the running markers and benches. While a personal memorial holds sentimental value it does not overall improve the experience of our park users
- It creates a precedence and expectation to accommodate future requests and a proliferation of personalized content in the park
- As a result the committee voted unanimously against the proposal

Adjournment – 8:11 PM