



Meeting Minutes

Stewardship Councilors in Attendance: Walter Bickford, Elisa Campbell, Heather Clish, Whitney Hatch, Michele Hanss, Wayne Klockner, Toni Pollak, Dennis Smith, Jim Van Dyke, Nate Walton

Stewardship Councilors Absent: n/a

DCR Staff in Attendance: Jim Montgomery, Andy Backman, Julie Martin, Joe Rotondo, Stefanie Williams

Public Attendees: Ellen Arnold (Friends of Upton State Forest & MA Forest & Park Friends Network), Bill Bolles (NEMBA), Bill Taylor (Friends of Upton State Forest)

Attachments: RMPs Currently Underway

Chairman Hatch called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

- Chairman Hatch reviewed the agenda
- Chairman Hatch asked whether or not there were any questions or comments regarding the agenda
- Chairman Hatch recapped DCR's Supervisor's Academy
- Chairman Hatch discussed his meeting with the Ways & Means Committee
 - Asset Management System Commission

Commissioner's Report – Jim Montgomery, DCR Chief Financial Officer

Jim Montgomery informed the Council on/of the following matters:

- April saw a secretariat-wide celebration of Earth Week
 - Commissioner Roy and Brockton Mayor Bill Carpenter attended a ceremonial tree-planting to mark the start of the DCR's 2017 Greening the Gateway Cities Program
 - Governor Baker, Secretary Beaton and Commissioner Roy joined to cut the ribbon on Phase I of the Muddy River Restoration project
- This past Saturday, DCR held its 11th annual Park Serve Day
- Family friendly programming was offered throughout the state parks system during school vacation week
- DCR also announced the opening of the Quabbin Reservoir Fishing Season on April 12th
- Commissioner Roy held a "Coffee with the Commissioner" listening session with South Region employees at Myles Standish, and a meeting with Boston-area staff is being rescheduled

- The Tennessee Gas Pipeline Co. started work on a pipeline through Otis State Forest
- Throughout May, the DCR will be marking National Preservation Month with various educational programming that will bring visitors on guided hikes, tours through historic buildings, and other activities to learn more about how DCR protects Massachusetts's heritage.
 - We have a strong social media presence during this month using the hashtag #ThisPlaceMatters
- A decision on an ice rink for the South Shore to be made in the next several weeks, and staff is currently preparing to hold one or more public meetings to inform the residents of Canton and Norwood about the winning design and where this new facility will be situated

Committee Updates

Policy and Planning Committee, Chairwoman Elisa Campbell

Chairwoman Campbell informed the Council on/of the following matters:

- Deputy Commissioner Geigis and her team are updating the RMP Process
- The Committee would like to see the Invasive Species Program on a future Stewardship Council agenda

Finance Committee, Councilor Heather Clish

Chairman Hatch informed the Council on/of the following matters:

- Councilor Nate Walton has joined the committee
- Councilor Clish reviewed updates to the legislature's budget
- The Committee would like an overview of revenue generation at DCR

Special Business

- The Trustees of Reservations Stewardship System
(Presented by Tom O'Shea, The Trustees of Reservations Director of Stewardship & Natural Resources)
- Tell Your DCR Story – Preliminary Results
(Presented by Erica Mattison, Environmental League of Massachusetts Legislative Director)

Approval of Minutes

- Motion by Councilor Campbell, seconded by Councilor Van Dyke to accept the April 2017 minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

New Business

- n/a

Public Comment

The following constituents expressed their opinions/issues/matters to the Council:

- Ellen Arnold

- Congratulated the Myles Standish State Forest Friends Group on their 10 year anniversary
- Thanked Commissioner Roy for his work protecting well water
- Discussed Off Highway Vehicle Recreation Trails
 - The Friends group would like to include this community
 - Suggested moving towards the NH & VT model
- Update on the Upton State Forest Friends Group
 - Discussed their efforts to bring in funding
 - Discussed the programming they are providing
 - Working on research projects that will lead to RMPs
 - Recapped their work on Park Serve Day
- Would like to see more support from DCR to the Friends groups
- Bill Boles
 - Commented on Chairman Hatch's *Commonwealth* Article
 - Discussed NEMBA's work on Park Serve Day
 - Rebuilt the bridge at Massasoit State Park
 - NEMBA continues to advocate for DCR funding in the legislature
 - Encouraged by the new amendments
 - Would like an update on any work being done at Sandwich beaches

Closing Comment

- n/a

Meeting Schedule

Next meeting will be held on June 15th at Lawrence Heritage State Park, located at 1 Jackson Street, Lawrence.

Chairman Hatch adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m.