MAC Meeting Minutes

Date: September 26, 2019
Time: 4:00 pm
Location: Jaffrey Civic Center

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Review of minutes from previous meeting
   - Minutes approved
3. MAC Financial Report
   - Balance $2,770.38, no change since February
4. Monadnock SP Manager’s update
   - This Foliage Season we’ll be trying out a new parking reservation system:
     - 30 reservable spots, $15 per vehicle – flat fee for up to 6 people for this trial period.
     - Good all day, at least for now. Once they leave we can re-park that spot.
     - Questions-
       - Are we privileging the privileged? We’ll still have mostly non-reserved spots, this is a first step toward some kind of cut-off. Also it will allow people driving 3 hours to the park a way to not be turned away to GPA.
       - Similar thing at Mt Major (SPNHF)? That’s in the works but still far away.
• Not everyone has a smart-phone, will this exclude them? No, you can make reservations on a computer or call RA. You can show your reservation on your smartphone, but can also print it or we could look you up by name.

• The new Toilet Building is completed!
  o Going great so far. Wonderful hiker comments, love being able to close either side to clean the other.
  o October 4\textsuperscript{th} – SPAC meeting at 10 AM, then 1:30 ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Park
  o Power line looks better than expected to...we haven’t received a single complaint.

• First Day Hike will be at Monadnock this year. It moved to other parks for a couple years, back again this New Year.

• Manager’s MAC Report attached separately.
  o The full year’s numbers including Foliage Season will be reported in March meeting, the figures in this report are just through September.
  o More rescues than usual this year. No discernable cause, location or pattern.
  o Focus this year has been on staff development and training.

5. Division of Parks & Recreation update
• State Budget has been approved, no longer working under Continuing Resolution. It was a challenge, as parks typically spend 70\% of their budget in the first 3 months.
• Question- how are the barriers at Franconia Notch going? We think kind of OK, though may not have decreased the number of hikers.
• (this agenda item and #4 got a bit muddled, some of what is listed under Monadnock was discussed here)

6. Division of Forests and Lands update
• Rhodo timber project went to Round 2 Timber – they just did the sale at Pearly Lake
• Will start making the landing in a couple of weeks.
• Looking at part of Monadnock’s west side maybe 2 years out This is just a very preliminary FYI, but here are the ideas:
  o The Sawyer lot, Wheeler lot, a small part of the Jaffrey lot
  o Maybe access agreement w/Forest Society off the Toll road?
  o Above 2000’ is the Reserve, they won’t be in there.
  o Will do a view-shed study, wouldn’t do anything SPNHF wouldn’t do.
  o Will they chip on-site? That’s up to the contractor.

7. SPNHF update
• Matt Scaccia introduced – will be taking over Partnership, working with Parks, etc.
• Matt and Will had a visit with Deb DiQuinzio form NPS about Monadnock’s National Natural Landmark status. No action steps, just interesting.
• Monadnock Trails Week was a success, though it was shortened to 3 days by excessive heat.
  o 39 volunteers, some came multiple days.
  o Work was on Dublin Trail (water bars) and the White Arrow (rock steps), with a new instructor Karl Sebago who was a great addition to the team.
  o Gates at Gap Mtn. Parking to close during mud season.
  • Someone was plowing Gap South…? Nobody’s sure who.
  o Timber harvest planned at Gap South. Marking now, plan to do over winter.
• Q: Wasn’t there an agreement with homeowner for no more logging trucks? A: that person is no longer there.
As of Tuesday we have a new President – Jack Savage. Last president was there for 23 years.

8. MERE update
   - Meet the Mountain Day will be October 19th, trying Fall instead of Spring this time (Flier passed around).
   - Summit Steward Erica is heading up to ADK Stewardship Training.
   - Jill Weiss has been looking at Monadnock as part of the Northeast Alpine Stewardship Network – research on-going. Looking at trends in impact - Human waste, painting rocks, etc. Looks like Cairn-building and trash is declining.

9. Open Floor
   - Q: is the Master Plan required to be reviewed every 10 years? A: No, not a requirement. We’re excited for the Carrying Capacity study - that would likely do more to inform further decisions.
   - Public Notice of next meeting should be in Ledger & Sentinel

10. Set date for next meeting
    - March 19th, 4pm to 6pm at the Jaffrey Civic Center.

11. Adjourn