

## BOYCE HILL STEERING COMMITTEE

### Minutes - Draft

January 13, 2022

**Present via Zoom:** Pete Colgan, Lisa Koitzsch, Karrie Thomas, Sally Dwyer, and Woody Dugan

1. Sally moved to approve the minutes from December 14, 2021. Woody seconded, no further discussion, all in favor, motion was approved.
2. No public input.
3. Updates
  - Mapping – Lisa sent GPX files of flagged areas to Liza and Caitlin at VLT. Caitlin will work on mapping the tracks and waypoints.
  - Horses – Chuck and Sally met via Zoom to discuss issues and concerns regarding horses at Boyce Hill. Sally has reached out to a few horse riders and will talk to someone at the Vermont Horse Council (perhaps Bev McMullen), a representative from Mobb’s Hill in Jericho, and at Karrie’s suggestions, someone from Vermont Trails and Greenways Council. Goal is to hear from people with experience managing horses on trails and public land. Pete will reach out to Meg Hilly, and Karrie will informally talk to several friends with horses.
  - Viewshed Analysis – All agreed this is a useful tool for the management plan.
  - Hunting – SC briefly continued the discussion regarding hunting and trapping on Boyce Hill. Next steps are to reach out to various people, such as locals Ross Saxton and Matt Howes, to get their perspectives on how the influx of visitors to the property and the changes in ownership will affect these uses. The SC will also reach out to Sean McKenzie for some historical context re: hunting on this property.
4. Town Meeting Planning –Town Meeting will be held via Australian Ballot on Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022. An informational meeting will be held via Zoom approximately 10 days before. The Select Board asked the SC to provide a Boyce Hill update. All agreed to schedule a meeting with SB before Town Meeting to discuss current management plan status and enlist their feedback.
5. Management Planning
  - Commercial Use  
SC discussed allowing commercial use and parameters that could limit this use. All agreed to review Special Permit Use Document before next meeting. Several issues were discussed: limit group size, important not to disrupt the spirit and community ethos of the property, abutting landowner permissions, parking lot limitations, potential impact on other users and how to mitigate this, etc. Public survey respondents not very supportive of allowing commercial use or public events. Special Use Application will be reviewed by either the SC or the FCC within a few weeks to a month (depending on meeting schedules) to ensure it is an activity that will fit into the overall ‘vibe’ of Boyce Hill.
6. Who will implement the management plan and steward Boyce Hill?  
Discussion re: creation of a Friends of Boyce Hill Committee. This group would report to the FCC and its focus would be to manage the property, conduct stewardship work, etc. The Committee should have a representative from the FCC and be relatively small – 5-7 people. Ideas re: public/private partnerships.
7. Next meeting date – **Tuesday, January 25, 2022, at 4:00 pm - via Zoom**