

Cliff Walk Committee

August 6, 2018; 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Wheeler Room York Public Library

Approved Minutes

Members Present – Bob Gordon, Ted Little and Tom Rose

Members Absent – Diane Kleist and Bob Luttman

Town Staff – Dylan Smith, Director of Planning

Parks and Recreation Department – Robin Kerr and Lindsey McGillis (CW Ranger)

Public - Jack Bjourn (Eaton Peabody Associate) and Bette Rose (Friends of Cliff Walk)

Cliff Walk Property Owners – Dick Jackson and Will Etheridge

1) Announcements – Chairman Bob Gordon welcomed the two CW Owners to the meeting as well as the Parks and Recreation personnel.

2) Minutes of the June 4, 2018 and July 2, 2018 CW Committee Meetings: Ted Little proposed approval for both meetings and was seconded by Bob Gordon.

3) Public Comment and Questions: Dick Jackson offered both compliments and concerns for his experiences with the Cliff Walk. He was pleased with the presence of the Cliff Walk Ranger and the nightly patrols by York Police, but he was concerned about walkers going off the path and exiting the Cliff Walk through his driveway. He suggested some additional signage that indicated “Keep on the Path, this is Private Property”. Jackson also mentioned that the Cliff Walk had some damaged areas that were a safety hazard. He said that he knew of at least 2 walkers had been injured and had been treated by the York Village Fire Department.

Bette Rose spoke about the Friends of the Cliff Walk in past seasons had set up an information table at the start of the CW in Harbor Beach to provide information to walkers as they entered the Walk. She indicated that the Friends could help staff this table with volunteers.

4) Meeting with Robin Kerr and Lindsey McGillis on Maintenance and Communication with Property Owners – Robin reported the following information:

a) She presented some approaches for signs to be added to the Cliff Walk to keep walkers on the path -

“Respect Private Property”, “Stay on the Trail”, “Caution Poison Ivy” and “No Dog Allowed” and she asked the Committee to review and offer other versions.

b) The next FEMA review meeting for repair budgets has been scheduled for August 15th

c) She has received some complaints relative to overcutting the plant growth on the Cliff Walk, but the problem could be other owners more than Parks & Rec Staff.

d) Robin also mentioned that she is preparing a letter to the Cliff Walk Owners explaining the repair work to be scheduled.

CW Ranger Lindsey added that the presence of dogs was the major problem for her, many walkers said that they did not see the sign or explained that they had always brought their dogs on the Cliff Walk. She also reported that most walkers were happy to see her and the information that she was providing.

5) Discussion of Issues relating to the Book “Coastal Hikes in Maine” – Bob Gordon reported that he had been contacted by the author of this book and that the book had treated the Cliff Walk as a public path to be used by anyone who read the book. Bob informed the author that our path included private property that had to be respected by walkers.

6) Possible Problems at 111 Norwood Farms Road – Bob Gordon also mentioned that this property had recently been sold and it included a Cliff Walk exit that was shown in all of the early twentieth century maps. The committee agreed that we needed to obtain more information.

7) Review of Draft Outline of Report to the BOS – Chairman Gordon distributed this rough draft of the report that will be submitted to the BOS in the Fall. This report will be reviewed and discussed during the September CW Committee Meeting.

8) Adjourn – Moved by Ted Little and seconded by Tom Rose