

Town of Jay Parks & Open Space Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 12:30 p.m.

Present: Olivia Dwyer, Councilor
Knut Sauer, Councilman
Paul Benway
Absent: Chris Sorrell, Interim Highway Superintendent
Sharron Hewston, Town Historian

Agenda:

- 1) Department report from Paul Benway: Spring cleanup has begun in parks. Paul will be working on setting up The Grove for the total solar eclipse event on 4/8/24.
- 2) Events — spring volunteer cleanup days
 - a) Upper Jay set for 4/27/24. Sugar House Creamery and Adirondack Mountain Coffee Cafe will donate food and beverage for volunteers.
 - b) Au Sable Forks set for 5/4/24. Olivia delivered a letter to Tops Market today (4/3/24) inviting them to donate food and beverage for volunteers.
 - c) Jay set for 5/18/24. Rotary Club will donate food and beverage for volunteers. Knut to order mulch.
- 3) Old Business
 - a) Removal of hedges around Au Sable Forks veterans monument
 - i) Paul reports that smaller shrubs have been removed. Paul recommends that some cedar hedges be trimmed back based on which ones could survive pruning and that hedges that threaten the foundation and make it difficult to see the monument be removed. The committee unanimously agreed on this course of action. Paul said that Dave Hart, who owns the neighboring property, has given his permission for the hedges to be removed.
 - b) Olivia updated the committee on report at March 2024 Town Board meeting on the new name and scope for committee.
 - c) Olivia will develop a public announcement for new committee member recruitment.
 - d) Olivia and Knut visited the proposed site for a parking lot in Upper Jay to review possible locations of EV chargers, info sign, and parking spaces. Discussed future opportunities for the parking lot to serve as an entry point to a nature trail that would link FEMA properties in the hamlet.
- 4) New Business
 - a) Naming opportunity for Upper Jay park. Olivia updated committee on interest from resident of Upper Jay to rename the park by the post office in honor of Marlene B. Prescott, former owner of the Brookside Motel and longtime Upper

Jay resident who recently passed away. Olivia has been in touch with family members and they are in favor of this idea. Paul recommended doing research to confirm that the park does not already have a name. Olivia will follow up on this with former town employees and Upper Jay residents.

- b) Olivia updated committee on conversation with Norman Jabaut, owner of the Ausable Theater, who was looking for information about requisition use of town facilities at the Grove for a summer 2024 event series on Sunday afternoons. Olivia will connect Normal with Clerk to the Supervisor Michelle Axtell to discuss next steps.
 - c) Paul presented quotes for a new mower to the committee.
 - d) Town Clerk Carol Greenley-Hackel updated the committee on the Missing Children's Tournament, which was a great success.
- 5) Next meeting: **WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 12:30 P.M. AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER**