

**Bear Brook State Park Management Plan Revision  
Steering Committee Meeting - 9/12/19**

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chair Tom DiMaggio

**Steering Committee Members Present**

| <u>Name</u>     | <u>Representing</u>             |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| Avis Rosenfield | Non-Motorized Recreation        |
| Sandra McKenney | Town of Allenstown              |
| Brian Adams     | Conservation Commission         |
| Carol Foss      | Non-Game Wildlife               |
| Armand Verville | Cultural and Historic Resources |
| Tom St. Martin  | Town of Candia                  |
| Eric Orff       | Game and Sportsmen              |
| Dan Dwyer       | Non-Motorized Recreation        |
| Wendy Weisiger  | Forest Management               |
| Tom DiMaggio    | Recreation at Large (Chair)     |
| Steve Hampl     | Motorized Recreation            |
| Matthew Lavoie  | Town of Hooksett                |
| Jeff Ames       | Forest Products Industry        |

**Steering Committee Members Absent**

Suzanne Smith, State Park System Advisory Council  
Jeff Lougee, Forest Ecology

Chairperson Tom DiMaggio asked for a motion to accept the minutes; there was a correction to be made regarding that the word hunters be removed from the statement of Jim McKenzie about people shooting in the park. This correction was accepted and the committee approved them.

**Welcome and Chapter Review-** Tom DiMaggio

Tom DiMaggio hopes everyone had time to review the chapters on the management plan online and would like to start reviewing what was written. Steering committee members can ask questions or state changes they suggest be made.

**Chapter One: Introduction and History**

Will Guinn would like to remind everyone that there will be no presentations for the first four chapters. However in later chapters there will be presentations or power points for actual management chapters. Will then opened the floor up to the steering committee members to comment on any errors they found. What is their opinions? What are their questions on the introduction chapter?

Carol Foss: Suggestion that all bureaus involved have their mission statement listed. For an example trails bureau's mission statement

Will Guinn: How is the history section on the park? To Armand Verville

Armand Verville: Stated that the section looked okay and everything was accurate.

Carol Foss: Suggestion of including Hall Mountain and Hayes Marsh dam installation dates and what were the dam's purpose? – Environmental Education Center with Audubon dates  
It would be nice to include the history of the Nature Center

Tom St Martin: Spelling error “were” page 5 top of the page

-Send all structural errors to Johanna and Will

## **Chapter Two: Division and Management Approach**

Vision for Bear Brook State Park

Wendy W: Vision- Practice Forestry management for economy of New Hampshire, does it include other reasons for forestry? Such as wildlife or ecology?

Dan Dwyer: Reads manages forests to produce revenue, is that our only goal?

Wendy: Are there restrictions? Legal obligations? Please explain LWCF

Tom St Martin: Candia forests close to Bear Brook and Pawtuckaway. Should a part of this vision be to link external parcels of land?

-A larger vision statement needed? Regional conversation groups?

Scott R: Expand on regional approach to the division- the point of chapter four.

Carol: Use Natural and Cultural landscapes instead of Human landscapes.

-Add public safety?

Tom DiMaggio: Just look at Bear Brook, if it affects surroundings then include it

Tom St Martin: Consider linking Bear Brook and Pawtuckaway. Consideration to keeping things open and connecting to other conservation areas.

Will: We can develop language

Dan Dwyer: How is Bear Brook relative to our park system?

Johanna: An interesting point and may be touched upon in other chapters.

Will: We can mention in this vision that in other chapters will contain more detail and a broader vision

Eric: Is there something endangered or a piece of land that should be protected

Will: We have a list of in-holdings

Eric: Are we looking to protect what we have by buying in holdings?

Avis: We did this on the Allenstown side, off Deerfield and Podunk Road. Small farm land.

Bear Brook State Park Management Plan Revision website: <https://www.nhstateparks.org/about-us/commissions-committees/bear-brook-state-park-management-plan-committee>

Management Approach:

We are guided by our criteria areas

-To be discussed more in detail in the forest management chapter as well as others

Matt: Do we use similar approaches in other parks?

Will: In Pisgah we do.

Carol: Criteria 3: we use even aged management? –mistake should be uneven

Wendy: 30 acres for management?

Will: This is an informal policy we use

Wendy: Do undisturbed area have areas without trails?

Dan Dwyer: NEMBA had to move a trail because of sensitive species

### **Chapter Three: Infrastructure**

Johanna: This is when you will first see recommendations. Johanna has been taking surveys and having park staff complete the surveys with information from the parks users. The survey sees what people are here to do and what they have to say.

- Recommend dispersing parking
- Assist hikers and bikers
- average age is 40

Jeff Eames: Can we identify where the archery/wildlife refuge is. Signs are in the wrong place

Tom St Martin: Are the Smith Pond Shelter and the UNH cabin featured on the buildings list?

Will: The UNH cabin will be demolished within a years time

Plots: Podunk Road, south side by gate and prior to gate on left

Plot: On currier Road

Dan Dwyer: Page 14 item 3- We might face issues with parking on busy days if we put in parking islands

Page 16 item 2: Remove fitness loop. Don't close the trail, families use this loop and it is very accessible.

- Bad tree health problem and is a safety concern
- Remove exercise equipment

Johanna: Relocate this trail to another area in the park

- this is a liability and identified risk

Bear Brook State Park Management Plan Revision website: <https://www.nhstateparks.org/about-us/commissions-committees/bear-brook-state-park-management-plan-committee>

Tom St Martin: Some people are looking to use this type of trail with exercise equipment on it

Dan Dwyer: Don't demolish the fully function building in the hiker biker lot

#### **Chapter Four: Landscape**

Tom St Martin: 4.3 lamprey River? Include

Wendy: Can we make the maps bigger so we can see details? 11x17

-Yes we plan to do this

Tom St Martin: 3.10 Page 20. Beaver pond, Far East hill with old stone work. Goes up ridge to view of the pond. Can we rehab this area?

#### **Public Comment:**

Mike Lawrence: Southern NH Snowslickers

-Looking to scout all the trails at Bear Brook and Pawtuckaway. There is a lot of bridge work and major projects that need to get done. They will be rebuilding the Black Hall Road bridge this fall. Next year they would like to work on other projects like repairing Lowland trail. They will also be cutting back brush on trails this fall.

Next Meeting date for October 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 5pm  
Natural and Cultural Resources Headquarters  
172 Pembroke Road Concord NH

Meeting Ends: 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Christina Barton, Park Manager