

Thurston Park Committee
Minutes of January 19, 2023

In Attendance: Steve Nelson, Sonia Nelson, Trevy Bumps and Jen Smith

Call to order 6:45 pm

The minutes of the November 17, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Sonia Nelson and a second by Trevy Bumps.

The park sustained significant damage in the December 23, 2022 storm. Yorktown Road washed out at the Yorktown Brook crossing. The culverts did remain in place, but the gravel is gone and the road is not passable without a high clearance vehicle. Yorktown Road also washed out at the south entrance where the brook crosses the road. There were several areas of Trail 1 and 2 with significant washouts, plugged culverts, and blowdowns. The hiking trails have blow downs as well. The majority of the meeting was spent assembling the information for the FEMA application. Steve and Sonia Nelson met with Art True, Director of Emergency Management for Kennebec County, at the park and discussed the repairs that will be needed. The information needs to be submitted by January 23, 2023 at the latest. We have pictures to include with the estimates for repairs as well. Jen Smith will type up the information and submit it tomorrow morning.

Steve Nelson reported that Art True said if we are successful in getting a FEMA grant it would only be to repair things to their condition prior to the storm. We then could put in for money to improve things so this will not happen again. We may be able to get engineers to look at the road and design it better to prevent future problems as we experience more severe storms.

A brief discussion was held about the long-term plans for the park and future funding. Members will think about this and plan to discuss at our next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 6:30 PM at the portable building at the Town Office.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette "Jen" Smith