Minutes
Buffalo Mountain Steering Committee
Monday, September 28, 2026

Members Present: Brendan Buckley, Eric Remick, Lief Goldberg, James Kelley, Andy Gilbert, Joe Nudell, Margery Prevot, Julie Sullivan, Sue Rivard, Paul Cillo, Renaud Demers, Dylan LaFlam, Marie LaPré Grabon

Members Not Present: Brendan Buckley, Rachel Kane, Lucian Day, Tyler Buswell

Advisory Members Present: Hannah Redmon, Jack Travelstead

Agenda Item #1: The minutes from the committee meeting of September 22 will be presented at the next meeting on Oct 13.

Agenda Item #2: There were no changes to the agenda.

Agenda Item #3: There were no public comments.

Agenda Item #4: Lucian and Joe will lead a public forest walk on October 4. Julie and Brendan are planning another public walk on October 10.

Agenda Item #5: A review of the Management Plan draft to date. Emily S. will soon have recommendations on the health of the forest for the Management Plan. The committee will submit the Management Plan to the Selectboard without the Forest Plan knowing that the committee will meet again re: this issue. The committee will then again present the completed plan to the Selectboard.

The committee moved onto the issue of Camping on the Buffalo Mountain Forest. A number of ideas, issues and problems etc. were brought up…e.g. primitive camping for bicyclist using the Rail Trail, permits for educational groups to camp, etc. Lucian emailed the committee a map of proposed areas where primitive camping could take place. It was stated that the issue is a "slippery slope" and that there is a lot of gray area in allowing camping…a few of the questions being; who manages camping on the mountain, who is reliable for accidents, would there be signage for where camping is allowed, could there be permits for scouts and educational groups.

After much discussion Hannah suggested we put the issue to a vote and that the committee choose one from the list below for inclusion in the Plan.

#1. Leave the issue off of the Management Plan because the committee is unable to come to a decision…with a summary

#2. The Lucian's trial be proposed.
#3. Approve camping exclusively for educational purposes with permission of the town.
#4. Consideration of the all the committee's discussions re: camping to the Selectboard with a missive.

There was broad agreement by the committee for #3 to be the language used in the Management Plan.

The end of the Management Plans includes "Notes". This language was changed and inserted into the Proposed Governance Structure section of the plan.

The Stewardship Committee should include a diversity perspectives on all topics included in the Management Plan. Encouraging new perspectives should be considered when appointing Committee members, with the goal of forming a committee capable of addressing each element of the Management Plan and representing a wide array of interests present in Hardwick.

A few more items were added to the Proposed Act Schedule…
-Meet with trail builders
-Update website
-Meet with the CAE re: parking and signage at Atkins Field

A proposal was made to vote on presenting the draft to the Selectboard. All committee members voted yes.

The Buffalo Mountain Steering Committee will hold a public meeting tomorrow, September 29. There will be brief presentations by committee members to the public in attendance, and Hannah will make and present slides to add to the conversation.

The Management Plan will be presented to the Selectboard on September 29, at 6 p.m.

The photo shoot with Josh, Hannah, and committee members took place successfully earlier in the day (Sept. 28).

Dylan moved to end the meeting and Margie seconded the motion.
The meeting ended at 8:14 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on October 13, 6 p.m. at the Parker Ladd Room.

Respectfully submitted by Marie LaPré Grabon

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