

Moretown Recreation Committee Meeting
July 25th, 2022 Minutes

Meeting Date – July 25th, 2022

Meeting Time – 5:45 pm, Location – Town Office

Members Present: Chris Stephenson, Susan Werntgen, Gregg Mason, Meg Schultz, Becky Auger

Public Present: None

Meeting called to order at: 5:50 PM

1. Public Comment

No public comment was made.

2. Agenda Items

- Budget Updates
- Community Value Recreation Survey
- Pollinator Garden Project
- Trail Maintenance
- Storage Shed, School Collaboration
- Tennis Maintenance
- Website planning
- Permanent Story Walk
- Town Forest Management plan
- Outdoor Classroom Bathrooms
- Morefest

3. Approve minutes from 6/27/2022

Motion to approve the minutes from 6/27/2022 was made by Chris; Meg seconded. No discussion - 5 Approved.

4. Budget

Two months worth of the portlet invoice line item for \$25 labeled “fuel recovery fee” will be refunded by Wind River. It’s unclear if it will be applied to the next invoice or separately as a credit check. That fee will not be applied to future months. Thank you Susan for pursuing this, it was not disclosed in their original pricing. And thank you Wind River for the easy conversation.

5. Community Value Recreation Survey

Meg will dig into the data in the coming month and report out before our next meeting to the committee. We will discuss findings in a group at that time and work towards a draft 2023 budget and an updated vision for the next few years.

6. Pollinator Garden

It’s growing! Lot’s of buckwheat, with hidden wildflowers within it. The Town Office garden is slightly weedier given the low quality soil compared to the upper garden which is growing-in slightly stronger. We are reaching out to Bee the Change in hopes they can join at Morefest and support educational information related to the gardens, and/or set up a separate time for public interaction.

7. Trail Maintenance

Work is being defined, and a builder is being selected by the Mad River Riders (MRR) to complete the roughly 5k investment. Two new tracks will be added to the skills park and more material will be added to improve the existing 4 wooden features to lessen their attractiveness to nests and improve rider confidence and lessen the height of a fall. Additional work above the tennis court to fix drainage and address overgrown areas. And ideally to re-route a small corner of the trail to enter the woods directly near the main septic shed and come out in the woods at the entrance of Pine Needle Path.

8. Storage Shed, School Collaboration

Still in progress to be built off site, the project is moving forward quickly and the PTO did another onsite walk with Chris, and Mandi from the school to finalize suggested locations just prior to the rec meeting today. As a result, Chris made a motion to support the PTO in placing the shed near the port-o-let (the parking spaces between the pavilion and the skills park). Ideally the shed would push back behind the parking spots leaving them available for cars in the future (towards the stream). The site is marked with 4 orange stakes. If the site prep work is pushed out, the shed location can temporarily pull forward and occupy 1-2 parking spaces until the site prep work is completed. Meg 2nd'd motion, all in favor.

Next steps Chris is connecting with Stefan to understand when the culvert is slated to be replaced in front of the playground/skills park area. And to ensure this proposed shed location is agreeable and out of the way of town maintenance efforts. The culvert work would be an ideal time to prep the shed foundation with a few loads of fill/gravel.

9. Tennis Courts

Sue continues to call Advantage, no response. Appears that Vermont Tennis Courts might be out of business. Sue will connect with the Waterbury Rec Committee. Chris will reach out the MRV Rec District.

10. Website Planning

No updates

11. Fence

In support of conversations over the last year, and more recently formalized with the Morefest Committee, Chris made a motion to remove 5 sections of fencing directly in front of the pavilion. Repair the gate near the large MRV Trails Collaborative trailhead sign, the gate was accidentally or intentionally damaged in the spring. Repair a few areas along the fence where the fence clips have detached from the fencing. Remove the two spring pump heads that randomly stick up near the baseball backstop towards the pavilion, and one right in front of the pavilion where the current fence ends. Meg 2nd'd the motion, no further discussion, all in favor.

12. Permanent Story Walk

Rec committee discussed the plan to install between the trailhead sign, behind the backstop at the bottom of the sledding hill, through the woods tunnel, and then around the tennis court ending under the big tree with the picnic table neighboring the skills park. The friends of the library are proposing this to the selectboard. Rec committee has worked through details with Stefan and are supportive. An installation volunteer effort will be needed to both widen the trail in spots (small trees, limbing)

and install the posts.

13. Town Forest Management

No updates, next meeting August 10th 4:30pm at the pavilion.

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 22nd, at 5:45pm at the Pavilion / Town Office

Proposed Agenda:

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Motion to adjourn was made by Chris Stephenson and seconded by Susan Werntgen.

Meeting adjourned at: 6:47 pm