

Moretown Recreation Committee Meeting
Draft Minutes

Meeting Date – January 22nd, 2024

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

Members Present: Chris Stephenson, Mike Strojny, Sue Werntgen, Becky Auger, Neal Mostov, Saiward Turnbaugh, Lee-Anne Martin

Public Present:

Val Strojny

Meeting called to order at: 5:52 PM

1. Public Comment

None

2. Agenda

- Approve Minutes
- Budget Updates
- Town Forest Management Plan Update
- Ecofest
- Fields / Drainage project
- Storywalk Relocation
- Trails
- By Laws status
- Succession Planning

3. Approve minutes from 10/23/2023

<https://www.moretownvt.org/minutes-and-agendas/recreation-committee-minutes-agendas/>

Motion to approve the minutes from the November 27th meeting, Chris made the motion, Mike seconded. No further discussion, all in favor. Approved.

Motion to approve the minutes from the December 12th meeting, Susan made the motion, Neal seconded. No further discussion, all in favor. Approved.

4. Budget

2024 budget draft remains completed, no open questions. Next step town meeting day.

The invoices to reimburse Neal for the nets, paint, supplies etc. has been submitted to Sasha as of 1/22. Neal needs to submit a 1099 given the dollar amount is over \$500, town policy. Neal has a copy of the form.

5. Eco Classrooms

Becky clarified that Lulu is head of the Friends of Moretown ECO program. Becky to follow up to see if they are hosting a winterfest ECO open house again this year. If not, we could consider doing something in early April coordinated with the solar eclipse.

6. Portolets

Chris to follow up with Wasted* to get a quote for an accessible unit available to the public for May through October. Based on a discussion between Thor and Chris in December a quote is still forthcoming.

7. Town Report

Chris shared a draft annual report for the rec committee to Sasha for inclusion in the Town Report. All present had a chance to review the document, no change requests were made.

8. Town Forest Management Plan

Chris sent a copy of the most current draft to the rec committee. The Town Forest Subcommittee meets again on February 8th at 5pm at the town office. The next major milestone will be eliciting public comment; direct abutter notices will be sent out in advance of an upcoming meeting. Exact dates are still being confirmed.

Chris walked the committee through the document highlighting key changes specific to the role of the recreation committee in supporting the management plan and an overview of the maps and nature of the deeryard easement. This was a very lengthy conversation mostly absorbing the content as written, it's a long document full of information about the parcel, the management oversight, and the forest composition and proposed forestry treatments pending. No notable changes were requested in advance of the pending public comment, the recreation committee was generally supportive of the document as written.

9. Storywalk Relocation

The Friends of the Moretown Library are looking to expand the story walk to include more posts allowing for longer books to be showcased. Given the snowpack we agreed to pick this up once spring surfaces the ground. Susan and Carla Lewis will do a site walk with Chris and formalize the ask back to the rec committee accordingly. It was noted that the portion of the walk that currently wraps behind the tennis courts has been extremely wet and slippery and may need to be relocated as part of the process. No next steps until the snow melts.

10. Bylaws

Chris and Lee-Anne attended the SB meeting on January 16th which included a discussion of the Morefest Committee formalizing their structure. In that meeting Tom Martin shared templates from the VT League of Towns/Cities that formalized the mission/purpose, committee meeting schedules, committee members/roles/term lengths, among other items. At our next meeting the hope is to populate this template document with our rec committee desires; thus formalizing our committee structure. A draft bylaw proposal document will be prepared and sent to the SB for consideration and support.

11. Website

Mike, Val, and Susan shared an overview of the new website content. It was extremely well received, everyone is excited to see this finally making progress. Then followed a general discussion about adding more content and maps, improving the ease of finding the information, separating committee business from a page focused on all of the great amenities. Everyone agreed it was reasonable to get direct editing access to the pages so we can better engage the community. Mike and Val have extensive web experience qualifying them to support this ask. A letter to the SB will be sent as a follow up formalizing our request.

Next Regular Meeting:

Monday, February 19th, at 5:45pm in the Town Office

Proposed Agenda:

- Approve Minutes
- Budget Updates
- By Laws build draft template for review
- Town Forest Management Plan Update
- Ecofest
- VOREC / Conservation & Recreation Visioning Committee updates

Ongoing Business

- Fields / Drainage project
- Storywalk Relocation
- Trails

Meeting adjourned at: 8:10 pm