

Moretown Recreation Committee Meeting

Meeting Date – October 27, 2025

Meeting Time – 6pm, Location – Town Office

Members Present: Chris Stephenson, Sue Werntgen, Lee Anne Martin, Saiward Turnbaugh, Mike Strojny

Public Present: Louisa Wilson, Liz Harris

Meeting called to order at: 6:04 PM

Agenda

- Approve Minutes
- Budget Update
- Morefest
- Playground Discovery Work
- Website Content Management / Instagram
- Tennis Court
- Trails maintenance / Steward
- Town Forest Management Plan

Ongoing

- Bylaws review (on hold)
- Storywalk re-route

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

Motion to approve the minutes from the September 22 meeting,
Chris made the motion, Lee Anne seconded. Approved.

1. Playground update

There was discussion around funding for the school playground vs the town playground and whether either entity would approve funds for a playground in the current fiscal climate. It is expected that most if not all funding would have to come from grants although the Harwood Board has not been approached about the idea.

Liz Harris, who supervises students using the playgrounds, spoke about student use of playground elements and student use of the bike park and tennis court area. It is already a difficult task to supervise the in different areas and would be more difficult if the town playground were moved closer to the school as the kids would get too spread out. Liz was not in favor of combining the younger kids' playground in the older kids' elements due to the numbers of students using the playgrounds at one time and the ability to move younger students in and out efficiently of the current location.

Louisa and Liz were in favor of keeping the playgrounds in their current locations with a possibility of using the tennis court side of the soccer field instead of using part of the softball field. It was also suggested to move the pavilion to the playground area as there is a lack of shade in that area.

Kate Liptak and the Moretown Elementary are key stakeholders in the decisions. Other interested parties affected by changes of use on the ball fields include Morefest and Neck of the Woods.

2. Fields

Board members reviewed the Storywalk with a consultant from Rabbit Track Trailworks who has sent the Committee a written, detailed estimate to improve accessibility to the trail. It was suggested that Carla Lewis from Friends of the Library might be interested in applying to the Mad River Valley Recreation District for a \$5000 accessibility grant. The quote to complete the improvement was \$29,000.

Mike will also contact Louisa Wilson see if the PTO is able to put together a proposal on short notice that might include playground improvements or repairs. The deadline for grant applications is November 1.

3. Budget

Chris attended a Select Board meeting regarding the budget. He noted that the Selectboard had appointed a representative to the Mad River Valley Recreation District. Chris also discussed the extension of a Valley path through Moretown to Rt 2 that will need to exit on Pony Farm Road and there are limited options available. A right of way will be necessary to get the path into the village.

Next Regular Meeting

Monday, November 24, 2025 at 6pm Town Office

Proposed Agenda:

- Approve Minutes
- Budget Update
- Playground Discovery Work
- Website Content Management / Instagram
- Tennis Court
- Fields Maintenance
- Trails maintenance
- Town Forest Management Plan

Ongoing Business

- Bylaws review draft template (on hold)

Meeting adjourned an 8:29