

Moretown Recreation Committee Meeting

Meeting Date – November 24, 2025

Meeting Time – 6pm, Location – Town Office

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

Public Present: Mike Debonis, MRVRD, mad7nm@yahoo.com

Meeting called to order at: 6:03 PM

Proposed Agenda:

- Approve Minutes
- Budget Update
- Playground Discovery Work
- Website Content Management / Instagram
- Tennis Court
- Fields Maintenance
- Trails maintenance
- 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 October meeting with corrections, Chris made the motion, Lee Anne seconded. Approved.

Mike Debonis introduced himself as the new Moretown representative to the Mad River Valley Recreation District and highlighted his impressive resume and expressed his interest to work with the Recreation Committee to advance our goals within the MRVRD.

1. **Playground update**

The playground planning is at a standstill. Decisions still need to be made with the school regarding site location and design, drainage issues and sorting out funding for the school playground vs. the Town playground. The subcommittee needs to schedule another meeting with Kate and possibly with the Harwood Board. We also need to start promoting the project to the town and voters to gain support. Posting the drawings on Town website would provide some visibility.

2. Fields

Susan and Mike met with Carla Lewis and they applied, on behalf of the Friends of the Moretown Library, for a MRVRD grant to make accessibility improvements to the Storywalk. Carla sent a draft of the applications for review and comment to several other people who have worked on the Storywalk. She also needed assistance from Laura at MRVRD due to glitches in the online application. Maximum grants are usually \$5000. The projected total cost is \$29000.

The Town Forest is posted for hunting. The boundaries of the posted area have been moved uphill to buffer the ECO classrooms. Some local hunters have, unofficially, commented that the restricted area has become too large.

3. Courts

Tennis nets are stored for the winter, Neil will store the pickleball nets.

The Select Board has suggested a maintenance reserve fund to make larger projects like tennis court resurfacing easier to budget. LeeAnne suggested \$6000/year for 3 years based on the quote from Advantage.

The Food Pantry needs improvements for temperature control, There is a concern about the hours the pantry is accessible. Other area pantries are staffed which allows for better quality control. It was suggested that the library could be a solution to some of the issues. We would need to discuss possibilities with Cory.

4 Budget

Chris is making a list of Moretown priorities for the MRVRD. His list includes Storywalk, Forestry Harvest, Trails, Courts, Pavillion, field drainage
Chris is working on a Recreation Committee summary for the Town Report

Next Regular Meeting

Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6pm Town Office

Proposed Agenda:

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

Ongoing Business

- Bylaws review draft template (on hold)

Meeting adjourned an 7:58