

Moretown Recreation Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: June 22nd, 2026

Meeting Time and Location: 6pm @ Town Office

Members present: Chris Stephenson, Lee-Anne Martin, Neal Mostov

Public Present: Mike Debonis (MRV Rec District Moretown Representative)

Meeting Called to order at 6:05pm

Agenda

1. Secretary
2. Budget
3. Morefest
4. Pollinator Gardens
5. Succession Planning
6. Recreational Land Use Policy
7. Updates
8. Upcoming

1. Minutes

Motion to approve the April 27th, 2026 minutes by Chris, 2nd by Lee-Anne. No discussion. For reference there was not a quorum in May to successfully hold a meeting.

2. Budget

Budget approved. No updates. Chris is working with Sasha to understand the Wasted billing, Wasted is working internally to correct our account to show one accessible unit past the pavilion near the storage shed. Services should continue through November 1st and then pause until May 1st. An additional unit is being requested to support Morefest on September 19th, 2026.

Reminder: As part of the 2027 budget process the Rec Committee is advising the Select Board to consider adding language to our reserve fund to include recreational assets and specifically a tennis/pickle ball fund for future court replacement. We are looking to contribute \$6,000 annually to the fund with a target of \$18,000 of available funding by 2029.

3. Gaga Pit

Neck of the Woods is interested in building a GAGA pit as discussed in prior meetings. Summer camp has started and they are ready to build. The pit would go back near the tennis court / swingset area where the old stump circle was located. Lee-Anne made a motion to approve, Chris 2nd'd. In discussion it was agreed that NOW needs to complete the group registration form we recently released, and that we wanted a quick site visit before any work begins to confirm the location, material durability/safety, and timelines. Chris offered to meet with Larissa as an immediate follow up. All approved.

4. Morefest

Date confirmed: 9/19/26. 4pm until dark.

Volunteers Request: Volunteers are needed to help with setup, parking, take down, contests, cleanup, greeters, etc. Please contact Louisa / Natasha / Chris at moretownmorefest@gmail.com

Fireworks: Fireworks have been approved, the medium package was selected as a way to reduce and control costs although this might not be sustainable. We are hearing that other town budgets for small fireworks displays are at/above \$20,000 compared to our historical cost around \$8,000. Stefan has been contacted and is in the process of ensuring the management plan as well as public warnings in advance of the event.

Vendors: Over 20 vendors have signed up

Band: The award winning Glam Cowboys have been confirmed to come back for their 2nd consecutive appearance at Morefest!

5. Pollinator Gardens

Lee-Anne connected "bee the change" (<https://beethechange.earth/>) who confirmed that they just the prior week visited our lower pollinator garden. They added some new plantings, did some quick cleanup, and found a unique pollinator bee that had only been previously spotted once in Vermont. They are coming back later this week to check the upper garden. Chris will connect them with our contact at NBNC in case the summer camp kids want to connect when Bee the Change is back onsite.

6. Succession Planning

Recruitment is still necessary as current membership is down to four (4). Brainstormed projects for new members to take on or become involved in: Pollinator gardens, Morefest, Trail

Maintenance, Skills Park, Courts - Pickleball/Tennis Master, Playground, Instagram. Lee-Anne posted to FPF, no responses yet.

Action Items:

- a. Post to FPF via town Clerk, School Newsletter, reach out to community members individually - All
- b. Build an updated volunteer contact list - XXXXX

7. Recreational Land Use Policy

The policy has been approved and we now have NBNC summer camp already signed up. Neck of the Woods is aware and in process. The library is also aware in support of their programming.

Action Items:

- a. Contact Jenn Grant re playerline up contact info (email) included in policy - Neal
- b. Confirm singup with NOW
- c. Formalize the process on the town website rec pages.

8. Updates

Trails: Chris has a volunteer Hardwood Senior with community service hours looking to help with the skills park and story walk. Work to kickoff this week.

NPS FEMA Buyouts: The recreational visioning map is nearly ready for public feedback and will hopefully be available for discussion at Morefest. Ideas include an updated boat launch, and accessible boat launch, updated parking/picnic area, hiking trail access, bike trail access, train connectivity to Waterbury and Middlesex.

Playground: No updates

9. Upcoming

NA

Next Regular Meeting

Monday, July 27th, 2026 at 6pm Town Office

Proposed Agenda:

- Approve Minutes, Budget Updates
- Updates: Morefest, succession planning, Rec Land Use Policy, Accessible Storywalk
- Maintenance: Fields, Trails, Court, Storywalk
- Upcoming: NPS / FEMA project public feedback plan

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm