

**Shelburne Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Jan. 23, 2017**

DRAFT

Members Present: Peggy Coutu, LynnAnn Prom, Susan McLellan, Renee Davitt, Ann Clark, Marv Thomas, Kathie Pudvar, Kelli Magnier

Staff Present: Betsy Cieplicki

Public Present: Mike Clapp, Charlotte-Shelburne Rotary Member

Called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes Nov. 29, 2016: Susan requested minutes to be amended as she was listed as in attendance but was not present at the meeting. Approved with amendment.

Public Comment: None

Recreation Committee Comments: Discussion held about Winterfest event. Ann is concerned that we (Shel. Rec.) pay all the expenses and are not allowed to sell anything. Betsy expressed that Shelburne Farms does a lot to host the event. Sue asked why 4-H can sell sugar products but we can not. Historically, Shelburne Farms has paid half of expenses. Rotary did the parking, not Shelburne Farms staff. Betsy said advertising costs are split evenly between Rec. and Shelburne Farms. LynnAnn thought the climbing walls was a huge hit and very successful. Betsy said our relationship with Shelburne Farms has changed over the years. Peggy suggested to change the order of the agenda to discuss the Beach House first since Mike Clapp attended for that reason.

Beach House Renovation Discussion: Mike Clapp from Rotary came to the meeting to hear discussion about the project. Mike said overall scope of the project is more than Rotary can do. The new Rotary President, (Lara, Pierson Library Director) thought this would be a good project for Rotary. Betsy gave background into beach house project, which we started discussing this past fall. We will need to stay in the current footprint. VIA (Vermont Integrated Architecture) suggested that we start from scratch and build new on existing slab. This will be less expensive than fixing and upgrading the current building. We had hoped to get design work in budget for next year, but it did not get approved. We will need about \$9,000 for initial design work. We need to educate the townspeople to get support. Peggy and Betsy went to speak with Chris Davis today to update him (and Meach Cove) on the project. We need to find out how to get on a bond issue for this project. Mike inquired how many people use the beach each season. We have not kept daily counts, but over \$1,000 season passes are sold each year, and many groups use the beach. Mike said he was blown away that the repairs were more expensive

than a new beach house. Rotary now understands better that we are at the beginning of the process but they will stay involved. Typically they spend \$4,000-\$5,000 on a project they help with. They might be able to do a landscaping or painting piece of this project, but cannot take on the renovation itself. Betsy said it's helpful to know that Rotary is interested in supporting this project. We are not eligible for any Federal grants at the beach because it is not open to the general public, only Shelburne residents. Mike wants to keep Rotary informed about the project as it moves forward.

Director's Report: See attached below.

Darwin has been doing Maintenance duty on his own. A Candidate has had a second interview and hopefully will be announced soon. The proposed budget to be voted on in March is attached. Kathie noted our expenses are more than our revenues. Betsy explained that salaries, benefits and parks are not covered by our revenue. Revenue from programming covers program expenses and overhead such as administrative expenses and marketing.

Prep for Me & My Guy Dance: Ann will help with decorating during the day. Renee is out of town. LynnAnn can maybe come. Kathie can come and can bring a helper. Sue and Peggy may be away. Maybe Tim and Bruce can help with cleanup.

Beach Tree Plan Update: Betsy, Renee, Bruce and several members of the Tree Advisory Committee went to the class presentation at UVM in December. There were lots of great ideas, some of which were pie-in-the sky, some good long range ideas. Betsy reiterated that we need to do some master planning for tree plantings at the beach. We were expecting David Rapheal, UVM Landscape Design professor, to bring the presentations of the beach landscape design to us in Town to view, but so far he has not. Renee said students had no idea of ADA accessibility. Many students were suggesting cluster of trees, and changes to the fence in the parking lot as it is ugly and needs to go. Renee said this is a good reminder that there are resources available to tap into for help on such things.

Other Business:

Betsy mentioned that Nathaniel Mick has proposed an Eagle Scout Project to build benches along the trails in Laplatte Nature Center. Discussion regarding the location led to the Committee recommending a greater need at Bay Park. Betsy will follow up with Nathaniel regarding why he chose Laplatte.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm. Motion made by Marv, seconded by Kelli.

**Director's Report
Jan. 23, 2017**

Current Program update:

After School Fitness – 12
Dog Obedience – 11

Young Rembrandts - 8
Gardening Workshop (2) *cancelled*

Winterfest Recap: Thanks to all the volunteers who were able to come and help! Although we had no snow, the event drew a good size crowd and it was steady through most of the event. LynnAnn experienced a continuous line at the climbing wall, which was a huge success thanks to the weather! Our entertainment, Mr. Chris and Mr. Ethan, performed in front of a packed room and engaged kids and adults with their beautiful harmonies and fun lyrics. Popcorn balls were once again so popular, we ran out of maple syrup!

Making Shelburne Special Campaign 2017: Peggy has been gathering sponsorships for the 2017 year. So far the following have committed to support our events: Almartin, Automaster, Rice Lumber, Archies, Precourt Investment, Associates in Orthodontics.

Budget update: Current fiscal year budget status is attached. Residents in March will vote on a Town budget that includes \$185,807 in Revenues and \$334,377 in Expenses for the Parks and Recreation Department. This is a change of -0.5% in Revenues and 2.0% in Expenditures.

Recreation Office Intern: Connor Trieb, one of our former lifeguards, is joining us in the office for his spring semester as an intern. Connor is a junior at UVM and we look forward to working with him. He will be in the office for ½ days on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. He will assist with marketing, special events, general office duties and program organization.

Staff update: The interview process has begun to fill the maintenance tech position that is open. Betsy participated on the hiring committee and we look forward to having a new member of the team joining us soon, just in time to get acclimated before the crazy spring season hits.