

Shelburne Recreation Committee
***Draft* Minutes**
Tuesday, Aug. 14, 6:00 PM

Members Present: Peggy Coutu, Susan McLellan, Marv Thomas, Kelli Magnier, Renee Davitt, Bruce Whitbeck, Kathie Pudvar

Staff Present: Betsy Cieplicki

Public Present: Tre McCarney and Megan Camp, representing Shelburne Farms

Called to order at 6:05 p.m.

The Minutes from June 11 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Bruce and seconded by Marv to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comments: none

Directors Report: (See written report below):

Marv asked about the slow progress on the Dog Park move. Betsy explained that we were waiting for a wetland delineation of land at Bay Park to be completed as that site was the one that met the most of the criteria. The area between Bay Park and State boat launch will not be possible as it is a wetland. However, they are looking at a small dog park area to the west of the Bay Park access road. They also could decide to stay where they currently are and just have to follow the wetland guidelines. They are exploring all areas that can be used in town. Hopefully more info available in Sept.

Summer Concert Review: Discussion with Tre and Megan about how the Summer Concerts went this summer.

What went well: Turn out was big and it's a hit in the community. Lots of positive feedback from residents who attend. Beautiful location and good rapport with community and farm. Farm cart and ice cream truck are enjoyed. Donation Barrel did very well this year. Sign at the barrel helped and traffic moved better as people were ready.

What did not go well: Bruce explained that the Recreation Committee is getting "squeezed" a little. It can be a win-win for both sides, but it would be nice if the Rec. Committee could offer more. Peggy commented that she would like to meet with Shelburne Farms to discuss any changes ahead of time. Peggy and Marv think that where we set up should be a better spot. Don't get enough exposure where we had the concession set up this year. It's also hot for the band when they set up. Megan explained that the stage was moved to provide ADA accessibility for day programs, but the stage is too heavy and time consuming to move each week. We need to look into a new stage that is more portable and light. Shelburne Recreation would consider collaborating on this. The Rec. Committee concession is poor. We don't have anything left to sell. Susan mentioned issues with parking and trash

removal. It's confusing for patrons to see trash cans and then be told to carry in/carry out. Need more signage and to clear up what is acceptable. For Parking, discussion was held on what has happened in the past and how it's changed to the current situation with Shelburne Farms hiring out parking staff. Marv admitted he was disappointed in Shelburne Farms because things were taken away. Marv wants to come up with something else we can make and sell. He appreciates that they came to talk this over with us.

Suggestions for improvement: Megan asked if Shelburne Rec. Committee could join the Farm Cart to combine concessions and we would get a cut. We could have volunteers work at the Farm Cart to show our collaboration. The Committee members would get the opportunity to interact with more people and it would help the Farm Cart with staffing. Shelburne Rec. Committee members also were in agreement that they could help with parking so Shelburne Farms didn't have to hire it out. They want to be involved. Marv, Bruce and Betsy will work with Shelburne Farms on getting a new stage.

More discussion was held around Winterfest event and the liability issues that have created new challenges for that event. Megan asked if we could think about how that event could be reinvented. This year it will be held on Feb. 9th, 2019. Looking for new ideas like the climbing wall to encourage outdoor activity but aren't dependent on the snow. Unfortunately, the climbing wall went out of business.

Fireworks Event at Vermont Teddy Bear: Reviewed volunteers, parking, bounce house, porta-potty, volunteer assignments, set up and clean up. Set up for cones on Sat at 3:30-4pm. Parkers and other volunteers to arrive 4:30-5 at latest. Clean up on Sunday at 8am: Bruce, Kelli, Sue, Kathie, Marv (truck).

Shelburne Vineyard approached Betsy this week about serving at the event. After discussing with Town officials, Teddy Bear and DLC, we accepted their application.

Other Business: None

Marv made a motion to adjourn. Susan seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Director's Report

Summer Review: We are wrapping up our final Summer camp this week (basketball). We had many successful camps including: Redhawk Soccer, GPS Soccer, Basketball, Tennis lessons, Swim lessons, Lacrosse, Field hockey and Horse camp. We also had a couple camps cancelled due to low enrollment including Rocket Camp and Movie Making Camp.

Overall the Beach season has gone well. We are still staffing the gate, and lifeguards when available, through the end of the month, but staff are slowly filtering out for college and fall sport commitments. Staffing was a challenge this

year and recruiting is getting more and more difficult. It will be interesting to see if this trend continues in the future. A big thanks to our Beach Supervisor, Peggy Coutu, for her dedicated time, energy and commitment to Shelburne Beach! Thanks for another great season!

Fall Program Update: Soccer is just around the corner and we will be focusing solely on that in the next couple of weeks. Final numbers are TBD as pre-school and Kindergarten registration just opened yesterday, but we currently have 243 in grades 1st-6th, which is about right where we normally are. We expect a few more late sign ups of course.

Our Fall brochure and programs are currently available on our website and online registration is open as well. The printed brochure will come out in the Aug. 30 edition of the Shelburne News. Several other adult and youth programs will start up in Sept. and Oct.

Town / Admin Update: The old library and Town Hall have officially shut down and begun the construction phase. We are balancing the increased demand for the Town Gym and activity room with the loss of the Town Hall space.

Lee Krohn will continue as the interim Town Manager through at least the end of Sept. The Search Committee is currently working with a consultant and is accepting applications to fill the position permanently. To date, Lee has been a pleasure to work with and very supportive of our Recreation Dept. needs and issues. He has created a smooth transition for Town Staff as the interim Manager.