

## **Shelburne Recreation Committee Minutes Monday, April 17, 2023**

**Members Present:** Peggy Coutu, Kathie Pudvar, Kelli Magnier, Bruce Whitbeck, Ann Clark, Renee Davitt, Hayley Cimler (via zoom)

**Staff Present:** Betsy Cieplicki

**Meeting called to order by Peggy at 6:30 pm.**

**Minutes from Dec. 12, '22, Jan. 17, '22, and March 20, '23 Meetings:** Minutes for were approved as written for all three dates.

**Public Comment:** None

**Director's Report:** See attached at end. Betsy summarized written report. Short discussion and explanation of contract delays for Beach House, but final is expected soon.

**Parks Update: A quick overview and update of each project was given, with discussion to follow.**

Davis Park Pickleball project – An ad hoc committee of self-appointed residents has been gathering signatures to support a proposal to the ARPA committee. The proposal would cover power washing the courts to prepare for resurfacing, resurface and repaint the lines, and change to set up of the courts from 6 multi-purpose (tennis/ pickleball) and 1 basketball court to 4 Tennis courts, 4 pickleball courts, and 1 basketball court. This would help alleviate the demand that pickleball players are putting on the tennis courts. Pros and cons discussed. CVU Athletic Director was informed and agreed it made sense for balancing the demands of the community and was ok with it. Not much other feedback from the tennis community. Spoke with a few people and only heard a negative reaction from one. We expect a decision from the ARPA committee to be announced soon. There was a sense from the Rec Committee that pickleball players outnumber tennis players in the area. Hayley suggested we might offer kids' clinics. Betsy commented that the adult clinics are filled. Kelli motioned, Haylee seconded and the Committee voted to approve the recommendation for the project.

Davis Park Raised Garden Bed project – An ad hoc group of residents are working with the craft school to start this project. The craft school is offering a class to teach students how to build a raised garden bed. They will donate the finished beds to the park, and arranged to have soil donated as well. The one immediate issue is access to water this year. The design is

intended to increase accessibility for people. The beds will be 36" high. The Vermont Community Garden Network is helping support the project and is applying for a SCHIPP Grant to help. This first year will be a pilot program, but the hope is to expand in the future and manage it like the other community garden at LaPlatte.

Dog Park – The SVDP Committee is again looking for additional space and considering the yard at the nearby wastewater facility on Turtle Lane, along the Harbor Rd. side.

Trail Projects – Stone is being brought in and staged at Bay Park for work on the Ti-Haul trail, mooring trails, and Bay Park Rec path. Leftover stone will be used to grade the parking lot at Bay Park as well.

**Special Events and Planning, Cont.:** We've had a lot of great ideas that we've discussed to both add in the spring and to replace/ change Winter Carnival. Discussion held to determine a direction and focus so we can start planning. For the alternative to Winter Carnival, which is needed due to lack of confirmed space at Fieldhouse for 2 fields, discussion included a Craft Fair, Talent show, Circus if we can get the school facility. Want it to be family oriented with the intent to gather people together. 1<sup>st</sup> step is to secure space. Betsy will reach out to SCS.

For the new spring event, discussion was held about options but we decided to move forward with Hayley's suggestion of a spring Pet Show or Parade on the Town Green. There could be categories for adults and kids, fashion, tricks, etc. This could work very well if the new Town Gazebo / Stage shelter is built depending on a Grant that was applied for. Could have vendors to promote pet Rescue, safety, dog park, training, etc.

Back to the Beach is Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Betsy needs to confirm grill with Fire Dept. We still plan to provide an opportunity for kids to perform in the gazebo for entertainment.

Concerts at the Farm – Discussion was held whether the Committee wants to help at the Farm Cart Concession this year. Voted yes. We will also be parking cars again, but will need to solicit help from other volunteers, friends, etc.

**Other Business:** None

Adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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## **Director's Report**

*Program Update:* Spring Lacrosse and Little League are prepped and ready to go. Some preseason practices have already started for Lacrosse, and LL expects to start this week.

We have finally been able to finalize a date for the Women's Safety Self Defense Class. We will be offering a Level 1 workshop July 19 in the evening. Great time for high school seniors going off to college the following month!

We will also be adding swim lessons with one of our returning Lifeguards, Celi Barringer. We are in the process of figuring out the details but expect an announcement soon! We are excited to offer lessons again after struggling for several years to find instructors! Celi is not WSI certified, but has four years of experience teaching lessons through her swim club.

*Beach House Project Update:* Final details have been agreed upon for the contract and we expect to have it signed by the Town and Farrington Construction very soon. We want to have it signed off on before Lee Krohn leaves office as there is a month before the next Manager arrives.

*Office Update:* Applications are currently being accepted for a summer seasonal full time grounds maintenance laborer as well as Beach Lifeguard positions. The Beach attendant position was advertised and we received plenty of applications. The Interview and hiring process has begun. We expect to make hiring decisions by the end of April/ first week of May.