

Richmond Recreation Committee

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR March 9th, 2021

Members Present: Chrissy Keating, Kirsten Santor, Rich Roberge, Stefani Hartsfield, Mark Fausel, Jack Linn, Kate Anderson

Members Absent: Ashley Hanlon, Harland Stockwell, Naomi Hahr

Others Present: Ravi Venkataraman

Kirsten Santor opened the meeting at 7:04 pm.

Public Comment:

1. Jack Linn found a copy of the 2006 survey/map of Brown's Court. Brown's Court was determined to not be a viable space to have bocce ball courts. He is interested in building 3 courts on private land and making them accessible to the public with available parking. More to come.
2. The Richmond 4th of July festivities have been cancelled for 2021. The Recreation Committee should reach out to the 4th of July committee to help support and plan for 2022. Please check out the active Richmond VT 4th of July Community Celebration Facebook page for more information.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting:

Motion by Kirsten to approve the February 2nd meeting minutes, seconded by Stefani Hartsfield.

Voting: unanimous.

Motion carried.

Internship update:

The internship was offered to Kurtis Swahn. Details are being finalized with Castleton and the internship is under legal review with the Town of Richmond.

Kurtis's tasks:

- Pool ALL recreation opportunities from Richmond, Bolton, and Huntington into a living document that will be on the Richmond Town website.
- Attend Recreation Committee meetings

Working groups update:

Action Now:

- Richmond Town Library has confirmed they will house the snowshoes purchased for the Snowshoe lending program next winter. They have asked our committee to create a liability waiver before the lending program starts next winter. Kirsten has purchase 7 adult snowshoes, 4 kids snowshoes, and 4 sets of trekking poles for the program.

- Bike Bonanza update: Justin Graham is communicating with Old Spokes Home, Richmond Rescue, and Mr. Godfrey about putting an event together this summer. Old Spokes Home will donate kids bikes and helmets to income eligible families. More details to come.
- Radiate Picnic Tables: There is no new update. We support Radiate Art Space in their request for funding.
- Playground Improvements: Justin Graham indicated that there could be funds made available through the Covid Relief Fund. There is potential to support the PTO in applying for funds to upgrade playground equipment before replacing the rubber mats at the Volunteer Green playground. Applications may be available in April. More details to follow.
- Kate is creating a timeline to proceed with the Brown's Court usage plan. Timeline will include stages, input, and goals. Mr. Godfrey has indicated that he would like to put a pump track in at Brown's Court to teach kids how to mountain bike. Kate will share the timeline at the next meeting.
- A Richmond Recreation Committee community participant, Trish Healy, has offered to create a Volunteer Green 12 month usage plan.
- It was recommended that Stefani Hartsfield reach out to the owners of Stone's Throw Pizza to see if they would build and oversee storage of free frisbees and wiffle balls/bats for community members to use on the Volunteers Green. It would be a way to engage with the community when people get take out pizza.

Research:

- Jack found a copy of a 2006 Brown's Court Survey. Ravi will see if he can secure another copy for the committee.
- Jack and Rich will look for the survey pins when the snow melts.
- Jack and Rich will meet at the Town Office on 3/10 to research the history of the Recreation Committee funds.
 - The recreation budget line item has changed over the years
 - There are multiple recreation budget line items
 - Recreation committee will need to keep track of funds available in all recreation line items
- Next steps:
 - Review Town audit available on Town website
 - Follow up with Connie to determine the Recreation line items in the budget
 - Review the Town plans for Bolton and Huntington and report back on Recreation goals for each town

Community Outreach update:

Stefani and Chrissy presented at the Richmond Selectboard meeting on 3.8.21. They requested, on behalf of the Recreation Committee, \$3000 of the DASH grant funds be used to contract with Civic Wellbeing Partners to assist the committee in previously identified wellbeing/ community building efforts. Civic Wellbeing Partners will assist the committee in identifying key

stakeholders in each town and writing a grant to secure additional funding to sustain future projects. The Selectboard approved our request.

Mark Fausel will join the community outreach working group.

Next steps:

- Reach out to Civic Wellbeing Partners for a contract to present to the Town for approval
- Get letters of support from community organizations for the upcoming DASH Community Impact Contact grant application
- Determine who will be the grant administrator
- Invite Civic Wellbeing Partners to a future Recreation Committee meeting

Stefani made a motion to end the meeting; Mark seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm