

## History of Richmond Recreation Committee

### **Established early 70's**

Help to create Volunteers Green:

One ballfield, a sand box, locally made swing set and climbing apparatus

Rest of the field a corn field leased by the Farr family

Hired the mowers

Picked up the trash

Established a concert series with town funds

Help sponsor a Red Cross swim lesson program at Lake Iroquios

### **1980's – 2000**

Band shell built in the early 1980's – flat area created with the concrete deck from the Bridge St bridge as fill;

- Landscaping installed in the bandstand area with funds donated in memory of a deceased town resident Jay Ladensack – 1982 – originally maintained by volunteers and Rec Committee members

-sandbox removed due to parent concerns

Installed the roadway along the north property line – met with the neighbors beforehand – Neighbors did not want traffic going down Esplanade – promised the neighbors that there would be no parking along the north side of the road.

Rec Committee members installed posts along the roadway and manually created speed dips to slow traffic

Expanded the fields to three using town funds, donations and funds raised by fund raising events; soccer fields added later

Had the bathroom/concession facility built – kitchen was designed to meet VT State health rules – needed to meet with the Army Corp of Engineers to secure permission to build in the flood plain

Dugouts built with donated concrete from ST Griswold – the plan was that they were supposed to match the restroom decorative concrete blocks – that did not happen – don't know if the Army Corp of Engineers was ever consulted

Started the Fall soccer league – meant to give all kids a chance to play – no tryouts

-Installed a new swing set and 2 backstops with donations and town funds

- hired the mowers until the Town Highway dept took over the mowing

-secured musicians for the concert series

- co-sponsored with the Library for 3 summers a day camp called Winooski Lore – focused on Richmond's history from the days of the Abenaki to more modern times – each year the time period was different

- during the winter sponsored movie nights up at CHMS

- help organize with the 6<sup>th</sup> grade team at CHMS in Oct  
a Fun Fair night for middle school students

Convinced the Fire Dept, original organizers of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations, to move the activities from CHMS down to Volunteers Green

- Playground equipment installed with funds raised mainly by Sue Pochop from bottle drives, duck races, bake sales and other fund raisers

- Snack bar bathroom facility built with the help of Town funds, donated labor and materials and fund raising – built to health department standards – needed a permit from the Army Corp of Engineers

- Helped Don Dresser start up and run many of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Fun run – proceeds went to the Rec Committee