

Richmond Recreation Committee

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR February 2, 2021

Members Present: Chrissy Keating, Kirsten Santor, Rich Roberge, Stefani Hartsfield, Mark Fausel

Members Absent: Ashley Hanlon, Harland Stockwell, Naomi Hahr, Kate Anderson, Jack Linn

Others Present: Ravi Venkataraman, Justin Graham (RiseVT), and Martha Nye

Kirsten Santor opened the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Public Comment:

Stefani brought 2 community requests to the committee:

1. Could we have an ice skate lending program similar to the snowshoe lending program? Have the Rise VT funds been used to purchase snowshoes yet?

Kirsten reported that the action team is moving forward with purchasing snowshoes.

The Rise VT funds were specifically allocated for that purchase. The committee feels that snowshoes are more accessible as a community resource. The snowshoes purchased may not arrive this winter due to the winter gear shortage.

The committee thinks it could be a good idea to revisit the ice skate lending program for next winter.

2. Rod West would like to publicize use of the Richmond Park bandshell as a meeting or small group gathering space. Picnic tables have been moved into the space. The committee discussed if this could be a social distance meeting place. It was determined that due to COVID restrictions, we can't advertise or promote this space for public gatherings. Ravi and Stefani will respond to Rod's request. There is potential for this space to be utilized post-COVID in this capacity. Committee will need to discuss reservation management of the space if it is used as a public meeting space in the future.

Rebecca from Radiate Art Space emailed Kirsten asking for the Recreation Committee's support in purchasing picnic tables for the outdoor space by the Town Office and Library. She asked if we could sponsor a picnic table or write a letter of support for the project. Rebecca is going before the Select Board to request funds and would like to have the committee's endorsement for the project.

There are 2 picnic table options: Standard table is \$715 and the ADA compliant table is \$695.

Permits will be needed.

Committee questions: Where will the tables be stored in the winter and who will maintain them?

Can it be built into the funding request?

Can this tie into Katie Mather's Better Places Project?

The committee recommends that we engage in more conversations with Rebecca on the project. We would also recommend that Rebecca speaks to the Select Board by March so the tables can be ordered and arrive by May.

Justin asked for the committee's support of a Bike Bonanza event. The event is a collaboration between Richmond Fire Department, Rise VT, and Old Spokes Home. Richmond Fire Department fits and distributes helmets and Old Spokes Home would give bikes to kids and families who need them(as supplies last). Free bike tuning will also be available. The Richmond Fire Department event usually happens in April, but due to COVID restrictions, the event may need to be postponed.

The committee will support the event through volunteer opportunities and promotion.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting:

Motion by Kirsten to approve the January 5th meeting minutes, seconded by Rich.

Voting: unanimous.

Motion carried.

Internship update:

We had 3 applicants for the internship. Kirsten will send the applications to the committee for review. The Action Now working group and Ravi will be interviewing the candidates soon. Committee members are encouraged to suggest questions to ask in the interview as well as share their top candidate choice based on the applications.

Rules of Procedure:

Kirsten made changes to the document based on feedback from the last meeting. We can continue to make changes as needed. The committee still needs to decide on the role of the "alternate".

Chrissy made a motion to approve the Rules of Procedure as written. Mark seconded.

Voting: unanimous

Motion carried

Parking Committee:

The committee was born from parking issues in Richmond-especially the access to the river. We would like to stay informed on the work of the parking committee but do not need to have a voice at the table.

Working groups update:

Action Now: Reviewing intern applications and setting up interviews.

Waiting on final invoice for snowshoes and trekking poles.

Research: Jack Linn was unable to attend the meeting, so there is no new update.

Browns Court update: We received \$502 from Rise VT to support the Browns Court design and planning project. Committee will get an update from Jack on his progress of securing a design firm to do the work. Justin will also review the Richmond town survey as well as Bolton and Huntington's town plan to determine the priorities.

Community Outreach update:

Stefani and Chrissy are looking into next steps for funding based on results from the DASH grant. They would like to work with Civic Wellbeing Partners to identify priorities and stakeholders to participate and support the next round of DASH grants coming out in March or April. They will go to the Select Board to request \$3000 in leftover funds from the previous DASH grant to support this work.

For the next round of DASH grants, we should fit into the Health/Wellbeing category. We will need to focus on health equity in the next round.

Kirsten made a motion to end the meeting; Rich seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm