

Richmond Recreation Committee

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FOR April 6, 2021

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

Members Absent: Ashley Hanlon, Harland Stockwell, Naomi Hahr

Others Present: Ravi Venkataraman, Martha Nye, Jon Kart, Kurtis Swahn

Kirsten Santor called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

Public Comment:

1. Martha Nye would like the Recreation Committee to help identify an area for Pickleball. CHMS will not allow painting or taping on the basketball court. Options for CHMS: spray chalk. Stefani added a link to spraychalk in the chat.
Other location options: Smilie and Bolton Valley
Action Now committee can do more research.
2. Harland would like Farmer's Market to stay in the field instead of on the hill next to the bandshell. We are unsure who has the authority to make the decision since there is a long-standing relationship already established between the Town and Farmer's Market. This should be on the agenda for the next meeting. Action Now committee can move it up their priority list. The Rec committee needs to review the park ordinance again.
3. Capital Improvement Plan: The Town is gathering information for the 5-year plan for upgrades to infrastructure. What would the Recreation committee like to propose to the town for upgrades?
Examples: Volunteer Green updates(playground, bandshell, signage, etc), updating River Path trail, and Brown's Court
We need to create a plan that includes rough estimates for costs before our next meeting.
A short term Capital Improvement subcommittee has been formed: Kirsten, Ravi, and Jon Kart. Others are welcome to join if interested.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting:

Motion by Kirsten to approve the March 9th meeting minutes, seconded by Mark Fausel.

Voting: unanimous.

Motion carried.

Internship update:

Kurtis has met with Ravi and Kirsten to review the scope of work.

Kurtis shared that he has photographed a few well known recreation areas for the brochure and website including: Huntington Gorge, Brown's Court, and Volunteer's Green.

He will compile a list of additional areas and bring them to the Recreation Committee.

We will advertise the well traveled recreation areas and not the "secret gems".

No one area will be publicized more than another.

Stefani recommended using existing trail maps as a resource.

Once this task is complete, we may be able to utilize his skills for other projects.

Volunteer's Green Ad Hoc Committee-Jon Kart

Jon presented the following projects and asked if there are pieces that the Rec committee wants to take on or offer support. All projects were approved by the Selectboard.

1. Widen forested buffer between the Winooski River and Rec fields.
 - a. Will need help planting more trees on April 29th/30th
 - b. Will need assistance with watering trees and general maintenance
2. River Access:
 - a. Built stairs down to river
 - b. Plantings will go along the stairs for stabilization
3. Developing Bandshell landscaping plan
 - a. Area needs significant upkeep
 - b. Potential to replace Bandshell
 - c. Move or replace picnic tables and park benches
4. Volunteer Green Signage
 - a. Supported and funded by Lake Champlain Byways
 - b. Need to develop language and gather photos for the signs-Jon can create the content but would need assistance with editing and final approval.
 - c. Examples of signage include: Richmond Park history, Maps, Ecology/Floodplain description

Committee discussed including support for these projects in the Capital Improvement Plan. Maintenance for these projects could be costly. Jon will keep the committee informed of the projects.

Working groups update:

Action Now:

- Bike Bonanza update: The event will be postponed until the Fall 2021 due to low inventory of used bikes from Old Spokes Home.

Community Outreach update:

Ravi is finalizing the contract with Civic Wellbeing Partners(CWP). It should be signed by the end of the week.

Stefani, Chrissy, and Mark will connect with CWP with a list of local partners to include in our first meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm