

# Shelburne Recreation Committee

## Minutes for Jan. 16, 2020

Members present: Diana Hardina, Jackie Walsh, Stefan Topolski, Bill Buck and Norman Beebe

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m.

1. Approved **minutes** from Sept. 16 and Dec. 12, 2019
2. **Hiking trail** from town to Wilcox Hollow: We are going to pay FRCOG to administer and oversee a \$20,000 grant for the trail work. We won't need Town Meeting approval. The grant is out now, so it needs to be done soon. We are still tinkering with the plan. It will include a picnic area overlooking the Deerfield River. The Sweetheart Restaurant owner has tentatively given permission for hikers to park in their parking lot across the street from the restaurant. The person whose property is at the Maple Street end of the trail needs to be spoken to about it.
3. **Pickleball**: Norm volunteered to pay for the pickleball set -- the net, balls and racquets -- and Jackie will get the pickleball tape, if Bill doesn't have anything we could use. Norm will be reimbursed. It will be on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 7 to 9 a.m. Jackie will get info on it to Diana for marketing.
4. **Voting at the Cowell**: This is likely to happen later this year. Joe Judd is finding the space is adequate.
5. **Ice Skating at Stefan Topolski's**: Stefan has put up signs at the Bridge Street ice saying Skate at Your Own Risk and Be Kind. It's been poor weather for ice skating. But, the weather is changing. Stefan continues to perfect the condition of the ice. Lights are on there, too, from 8 to 9 p.m. Skates may be sharpened at the Greenfield Skating Arena for \$7. There have been three good days of ice skating so far.
6. **Cowell basketball program**: The girls 4-6 grade program is growing, and the participants each night seem happy and engaged. Thursday older boys basketball was cancelled because not enough boys were coming. The younger sections are going well.
7. **Pingpong**: Jackie will contact Eric, a neighbor of the Cowell, about organizing the program. We would like another helper/organizer and it would be great to have another pingpong table. Eric would like to get a league going. There is a UMass student who could do a ping pong demonstration. He doesn't drive, so we'd have to go get him.

8. **Heating issue at the Cowell:** The boiler continues to need to be reset daily! The boiler now has a new oil pump and monitors. Bill, Terry and Mark are working on the problem, and Pomeroy's heating service is doing all the work on it now for free (they've agreed to that because they were paid for many visits and it still isn't working). Pomeroy just worked on the boiler today. Diana has written a letter to the Town of Shelburne stressing the importance of solving the problem, as Bill requested. We decide to come up with a plan so that the heat malfunction doesn't just fall to Bill to monitor. We come up with a schedule of who will check each day, in case the problem continues. M - Stefan. T - Diana. W - Jackie. Thursday - Diana. Friday - Norm. Weekend - Bill. We will implement the plan on Bill's direction. Diana will also ask Doug Martin, former board members who lives across the street, if he could check on the heat some days. We are hoping that what Pomeroy's did on the boiler today will finally fix it!

9. **Bill's director report:** Bill has ordered basketballs, a trail camera and a hoop. The Draw-Around people will soon be taking the large paper rolls out of the Tap Room, making room for the ping pong table now in the meeting room. Lights have been flickering in the gym. We need a lift to get to them. We can hire someone to change all the lights. They are annoying basketball and volleyball players. Bill would like to have email addresses for everyone who comes to the Cowell so he can get news about programs to them. Diana gave him folders full of registration forms, etc., with emails on them. Jackie wondered if there is a way to get email addresses for families from the Mohawk district.

10. **Walk Shelburne:** Jackie is organizing a series of 3-5 mile walks that will cover every street in Shelburne. Some groups to send info to include the Cowell list, the senior group that walks at the Cowell, the Shelburne Women's club, and the Historical Society. It could also go in the newspapers. It would start in March, probably Saturdays at 9. They will include 20-minute stops at places of interest such as farms and graveyards.

11. **Vacation basketball program:** A local man who used to coach Harvard and was a pro basketball player wants to run vacation basketball programs at the Cowell. He runs Never Too Late programs for adults. He has a 10-year-old daughter. He/we would like it to happen from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in February and March. It would be for girls and boys, ages 8 to 11. All free. We need to get a First Aid kit in the gym, which he has requested. Bill said he has one he could lend us.

12. **Next meeting time:** 6:30, Thursday, Feb. 20

The committee adjourned at 8:30.