

**Shelburne Recreation Committee  
Minutes for Thursday, May 28, 2019**

The meeting began at 7 p.m., via Zoom because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

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

1 -- Tennis/basketball courts:

Bill said some people have asked when they would open.

Tennis: We can't open the tennis court until at least June 8, when the governor may begin Phase II. We agree we will not open them until the Board of Health says it's OK. Jackie will go to the Board of Health meeting on Monday, June 8.

Basketball: Basketball is not allowed in Phase II.

It's agreed that we reopen the courts for tennis only once these three conditions are met.

1--- the Board of Health says it's OK,

2--- the basketball hoops are taken down, and

3--- we post a sign that says, "Courts open for tennis only" and includes some guidelines for safe play. We agree we'll confirm the wording of this sign via email. Norman will check with Terry to be sure we can spend the money for a sign (the town has frozen all expenditures) and Diana will do the layout and get it printed at.

Existing rules sign: Bill fixed the sign with rules. He said it's good until it gets hit by a basketball and then it will break again. Eventually we'll have to get a new one made.

2. Gym

We will wait for the Board of Health to give us the go-ahead. Gyms are not allowed to be open in Phase II but perhaps in Phase III. We talked about reopening without bathrooms at some point.

3. Other recreational programming:

Walk all the town roads -- Jackie said she'd rather organize and do this program at a time when it's safer and when the walkers can stop together at a farm or graveyard or church to hear about their history, etc.

Summer softball -- So far, this doesn't look like it is happening because of Covid

Renting gym to families -- we can't do that because the town closed all town buildings.

We decided to delay all recreational programming.

4. Softball field -- Stefan used a rented power rake to level and prepare the infield. He has replaced the pitcher's mound with a new one. Shelburne Falls Girls Softball will cover the cost of the rental. For the outfield we had planned for the town to bring in topsoil and have Snow's level it (we originally had planned to have Snow's do the infield as well) but will put this on hold for now.

5. June 23 Town Election: It is going to be at Cowell Gym, the first time at least in recent memory that the gym has been used for an election. Many people will vote by absentee ballot, but there will still be polls. Town Clerk Joe Judd has a plan to make it safe.

6. River trail -- There is opposition to the planned access point off Maple Street by an abutter. In response to this opposition the Open Space Committee has abandoned the Maple Street access point and instead will look at accessing the river trail from Deerfield Avenue. As this access point will require an expensive geotechnical study and boardwalk the Open Space committee will first approach impacted landowners to get them to sign off on our proceeding.

7. The next meeting was scheduled for 7 p.m. on June 18.