

Shelburne Recreation Committee Minutes for Tuesday, April 20, 2021

Members present: Diana Hardina, Jackie Walsh, and Norman Beebe and director Bill Buck
The meeting began at 6:30 p.m.

1. Community Preservation Act. There is a committee looking at the town adopting the Community Preservation Act. It would mean that residents would pay the equivalent of 1-3 percent of their tax bill (perhaps with an exclusion of taxes paid on the first \$100,000 in property value) towards a fund for land preservation, recreation, affordable housing and historic preservation. There is a match involved from the state. Norm asked for a volunteer. Jackie volunteered to go to the next meeting.
2. Basketball. When can we put the outdoor basketball hoops up? Bill spoke to town administrator, Terry Narkewicz, who asked him to check with FRCOG health agent Randy Crochier about whether we can/should open the courts for basketball, but he hadn't heard back. (Note Bill heard back the next day and Randy said not yet.) The rumor is that the federal CDC is going to drop the outdoor mask mandates.
3. Pickleball. Norm hasn't yet heard back from someone who could paint lines on our tennis/basketball courts for two pickleball courts. He will get a quote from him. Until the Cowell is open, the committee decided the equipment (net, paddles, balls) can be on Jackie's porch as she will be playing and organizing play. She will let people know when play is beginning and will start Tuesday/Thursday morning play. It might not begin until the courts are painted as drawing the lines for games is time-consuming and it's unknown if we yet have four players for games. We're estimating it might cost \$1,000 to \$1,500.
4. The Shelburne Historical Society is interested in using the building for its annual meeting in August. More information will be forthcoming. The committee expressed support for the idea.
5. Bill Buck's report. The clothes closet/food pantry are now open where people can come into the building to shop (earlier, it was just a drive-through service since March 2020). The building's heating system is working now after many months of difficulty. One remaining problem is that the heat in the office is always 80 degrees. The Christmas lights are again being stored in the building, and more lights will be arriving, donated by the makers of the Dexter shows being filmed (in part) downtown. The police chief has told Bill that the Bridge Street trees by the Shelburne downtown businesses are coming down as part of a sewer line/road repair project.
6. Girls' softball. The Hilltowns' Girls Softball Leagues for grades 4-6 did not happen this year. In May Norm would like to revisit softball. Perhaps there could be a summer camp once a week. Little League is happening in town.
7. Walking the streets of Shelburne. Nothing has changed on that.
8. River trail. The organizers have consulted with a lawyer and are looking at easements. The current plan is to create it from the end of Deerfield Avenue to behind the Sweetheart Restaurant.
9. Town report. Norm has written a draft of our section of the annual town report. We applauded it and gave him an idea or two to add to it. He will share the final version with us via email before submitting it.

Adjournment -- the meeting ended at 8 p.m.