

Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 1, 2022
4PM, Zoom

Present: Barbara Bigelow, Christine Robinson, Christine Marglin, Ann Brigham, Elaine Puleo, BZ Reilly

Meeting begun at 4:01

Approval of last minutes : minutes approved

Agenda:

1. Planning for Field Day
2. Invasive Plants workshop - Goals
3. Tie-in programming for community read in April
4. Orienteering event - location and tie in with summer read
5. Rec Committee Web Page ... update!

Meeting adjourned at .

Next meeting Tuesday, at 4pm.

Compost workshop March 24 online, Barbara and Christine will attend.
Soil testing will be done for the library and there is a lot of library programming in the works as well.

Christine R attended a long meeting about how to avoid trouble as a town committee member. She didn't find it useful.

Barbara is in email contact with someone to give a workshop on native plants, and has enlisted the library to help pay the \$600 fee for this workshop. What is the purpose of this workshop? Focusing on the site of the community garden and learn how to control invasive plants there, will enable residents to clean up their own yards and elsewhere. End April/early May ideal time.

Orienteering event: a reading event from the library centered on people being out in nature, the orienteering event can coordinate with the summer reading event, happening in fall 2022.

Library grant: we should hear outcome by March 15. Ground breaking and garden creation won't happen until 2023.

Location for orienteering: behind Lake Wyola keeps coming up as the best site. Maps can be expensive to make, can cost thousands, but this map is for beginners and won't include woods, so should be relatively simple. Families with young children, teens, older people, most ages accessible.

Tie in program for community read in April. The read is about people giving up urban life for farming. Barbara is interested in Zoe, who has a local farm, speaking about and having people visit her farm. Exact timing for the most happening on her farm TBD. Barbara is suggesting \$250 for Zoe.

Field Day: Elaine has spoken with the gym teacher at SES. She can't run the day if it happens in spring. Suggests summer or fall and that maybe the cross country and track teams at Amherst HS could get involved with running it as a community activity. Entails coordination.

Running, jumping, throwing are the usual activities. We could do fun activities like sack or three-legged races. Ann suggests jumping rope.

Christine: school has lots of equipment, obstacle courses and so on.

The fire department has been wanting to increase visibility in town, maybe they could bring their truck to event and be available for first aid.

SES needs to be on board with this event before it goes further.

A subcommittee can meet to discuss these arrangements. Voting and decisions would be brought back to general committee meetings.

Rec Committee web page: doesn't reflect what we do. We have to go through the web committee to reconstruct the web page. We need to define our goals. Our activities are a reflection of our goals and have been helping us refine our goals. Our activities demonstrate that we care about community building, bringing people together, and outdoor activities. Getting a description of our goals up on our web page would be a good thing, and being certain the goals are really accurate to what we do. Our focus is outdoor, but not exclusively outdoor, recreation and educational enhancement.

Ice skates for SES students still in progress, Christine is still hoping to make this happen, and an ice skating rink for kids would also be good.

Unsaved accessible trails: Chris Volente told Barbara about an accessibility advocate living in Northampton who is trying to do signage for trails about accessibility for people using wheelchairs in a way that is interesting and informative.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 29, 4 pm.

Meeting adjourned: 4:56.