

Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 27, 2022

3:30, Zoom

Meeting begun: 3:30

ChristIne Marglin, minutes

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

Absent: BZ Reily

Meeting started 3:32

Approval of minutes from Sept 1 meeting

Agenda:

Review annual report FY 22

Planning for FY 23. Among the events/activities to be considered:

Celebrate Shutesbury

Orienteering Event

Family Field Day

Invasive Plant Workshop

Farm Visit

Update on timeline for Community Garden

FY2022 annual report below

Ideally two people will work on each of our projects going forward.

Invasive plant workshop and farm visit: these will be done in collaboration with the library. The invasive plant workshop had to be cancelled due to weather, and will be rescheduled for spring. The farm visit might be nice at the height of summer, when things are fully in bloom, though that wouldn't work as well for people wanting to set up their gardens in spring. More than one workshop is also possible.

Celebrate Shutesbury: possibly in spring, need to coordinate with library. Possibly in May, possibly next fall.

Christine R suggests getting a list of things that have to happen from Jessica. Barbara and Mary Anne made a list of the things typically done in the past. Barbara and Elaine will take point on this event, with Mary Anne, and others can pitch in for Individual jobs.

Music, dance, bounce castle, face painting, donut hanging tent for people to bite donuts, baseball throwing, tag sale, book sale, different committees have tables about their work and how to join, food, bake sale and tour of the church. Bicycle workshop possible.

Orienteering: a scaled back event. Find trails within Shutesbury, to simplify. A small network of trails. Elaine will ask BJ Tomlinson about trails owned by Shutesbury. A network of trails is needed. Also will ask Cinda.

Farm Visit: Barbara will speak with Zoe.

Barbara wants to visit a pole dancing class with Christine R and discover what's involved in hosting such a class. Class should be recorded. Clothing optional.

Family Field Day would happen in June, probably the weekend before school gets out.

Ultimate frisbee day: high school or middle school teams could come do a practice in Shutesbury, elementary school kids would be invited to learn. This might work into Field Day. Also competitive rope jumping, and competitive power walking might be added. Bike tricks is another idea.

Trail walking in general, in addition to Orienteering. Scheduling regular walks on trails in town.

Ice skates: Christine R can look into the possibility of purchasing used skates for elementary children.

In terms of scheduling, Town Meeting is scheduled for the last weekend in April. But if we again have to be outdoors, that will probably push it later in season.

Our next meeting: January 26, 2023 at 3:30 pm.

Adjourned: 4:19.

Recreation Committee

FY 2022 Annual Report

Prepared by Barbara Bigelow, Chair

Members: Ann Brigham, BZ Reilly, Christine Marglin, Christine Robinson, Elaine Puleo

Community Garden: The original plan was to site the library behind Town Hall. A vote at Town Meeting approved relocating it to Lot 0-32. The implication is that the garden cannot be created until after construction of the library.

Kestrel Trust and Janowitz Land: The committee was approached by Chris Valenti from the Kestrel Trust to discuss the Trust's plans for the Janowitz Land. Among their plans was the creation of an accessible trail from the parking area to Ames Pond. Ms Valenti came to the January 25th meeting of the Recreation Committee to discuss their plans. The committee provided letters of support.

Recreation Committee Mission: The mission of the Recreation Committee was outdated. The committee reviewed Recreation Committee missions in towns of comparable size in Massachusetts and towns in Franklin County. Based on the review and the activities of the Recreation Committee voted unanimously to adopt the following mission statement:

The Recreation Committee develops recreational activities designed to build community and enrich the quality of life in Shutesbury. The committee sponsors and supports recreational experiences and related educational programming for all age groups.

Workshops: The Committee co-sponsored two workshops with the library:

- An invasive plant workshop on May 7 presented by Brian Colleran, an invasive plant expert.
- A farm tour at Ancient Pony Farm on April 30 led by Zoe Weizenbaum

Family Field Day: On June 11 the Committee sponsored a Family Field Day. Working in collaboration with Mr. Steve Carra, the Physical Education teacher at the elementary school, numerous games were offered for children and parents. In addition, three students came from the high school track team to demonstrate the basics of sprinting.