

Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 27, 2023

4:00, Zoom

Meeting begun: 4:00

Present: Barbara Bigelow, chair, Ann Brigham, Christine Marglin (taking minutes), Elaine Puleo, BZ Reily, Christine Robinson

Approval of minutes from May 23 meeting

Agenda:

- 1.Process for inviting/selecting new members
- 2.Review FY 23 programming
- 3.Family Field Day cancelled; will be held in September. Volunteers?
- 4.Programming ideas for FY 24

New members:

We are now up to 11 possible members. We don't have to reach this number. We should have a process in place for bringing in new members. What do other committees do? We can advertise in Our Town newsletter. Possibly it can go in library newsletter. People are invited to write a short statement about why they want to be on the committee, ask them to attend a meeting, and the committee can vote later about whether to move ahead. BZ suggested people tell us at a meeting why they want to join, rather than have to write something. We all agreed to this process. Three people have already approached Barbara. One person has approached BZ.

In sum:

The process for recruiting new members will be to advertise, invite people who express interest to attend a meeting, to speak at the meeting about why they want to join, then we might ask at the end of the meeting if they still want to be part of the committee. The chair will contact the town clerk if they want to join. We will probably have to let them know in a month, after our next meeting. In advertising, we should mention pick all, community garden and other endeavors that they might work on. We may be able to skip voting and we may not. Barbara will craft a statement for next meeting.

Community Garden: we could begin creating it in the fall of 2024; the library ground breaking is to happen in spring of 2024, and the library is projected to open in spring of 2025.

Every program that happened in 2023 has been successful.

Family Field Day: Steve Carra feels the fall is a better time, new families will come, there will be more attendance and more opportunities for rain dates.

Programming ideas for 2024:

Christine R: Mushrooming, fern identification workshop (Pioneer Valley Ferns), pollinator workshops, speakers to educate about the importance of local species planting, plants that attract the insects and other creatures we want to promote ecologically. The library can cosponsor events if they are interested.

Gail Fleishegger, open space committee, indicated they might be interested in cosponsoring walks with us. Kestrel has rebuilt the boardwalks at the Ames zoo d property off Wendell Road, and they might be willing to cosponsor a walk with us.

Ann: indoor events in winter? Pickleball classes, something arts-related, such as a visit to artists' studios. Dry stone wall workshop. Gardening workshops to generate excitement about the community garden. Garden tours.

Meeting adjourned: 5:00

Next meeting: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 at 4.