

Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 22, 2023

4:00, Zoom

Meeting begun: 4:02

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

Absent: BZ Reily

Joined 4:18: Mary Anne Antonellis

AGENDA

1. Finalize protocol for new members
2. Family Field Day
3. Budget
4. Activities for FY 24

Approval of minutes from August 1, 2023 meeting

Protocol for new members approved by all present (see text of protocol at end of minutes).

Family Field Day, new date Saturday, September 23 with a rain date of September 30.

Some young parents have previously expressed interest in the recreation committee, and Barbara has an idea to have a sign letting parents know at the field day that we are seeking new members.

Christine R will approach someone who has expressed interest.

BZ will be assigned the making of the poster.

There is very little or nothing to do to get ready for field day. Fruit can be purchased just beforehand.

Barbara will send out an email with details, organize tents and tables, and let us know what else is needed.

Budget: \$3,000

Library request of half our budget, \$1500, for exercise classes.

Christine M suggests that we choose and plan the events we want to sponsor, and see what we need for those programs, donating whatever might remain to the library. This is seconded by Elaine and Ann.

Christine R is strongly in favor of funding the library programs.

If all four library classes happen 48 weeks a year, it comes to about \$11,000

3000-3500 from COA

2000 for library programming, fitness classes taking the majority

No additional grant funding now

There is a significant shortfall, which is a lot for the Friends of the Library to cover.

Classes are popular and in demand, and people don't like having class fees, so it's nice to offer the classes for free.

Recreation Program ideas for this year:

Walks cosponsored with the open space committee, four total, one in each season. All ages?
Accessible?

Guided walks, spring ephemerals, mushrooms, tree bark identification, fern walk, perennials walk, Ames Pond. There is a lot of expertise in town, people who may be able to lead these walks.

BZ: do you know someone named Wim Levine who might be able to lead a mushroom walk?

Pickleball classes.

Dry stone wall class.

Gardening workshops. Probably best to wait until we are creating the community garden.

Learning by analogy. Reading poetry and discussing developing a relationship between reader and poem, or listening to music and discussing relationship between listener and piece of music. Barbara can lead this class.

Ann has been speaking with Joan Green, an artist, discussing having an art fair in town. Possibly at the SAC, a juried art show. Joan is willing to do a lot of the work. Ann will commit to it, as will Christine M and Barbara.

Celebration of birthdays in Shutesbury. We are contributing time and work, not funds. On town common, September 10 at 3pm. Meetings at the SAC 5 or 5:30 to work on the event.

Possibly a cheese making class if not too pricey. Maybe some other kind of food making or Art making workshop.

Meeting adjourned: 5:00

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 4.

From Barbara, protocol for adding new members:

When people first express an interest in joining the committee, the Chair will get in touch with them for a conversation. In that conversation, the Chair will present the Recreation Committee's goal and tell them about the types of activities that the Recreation Committee sponsors or plans to sponsor. The Chair will also explain the time commitment (1 hour meetings once a month) and expectations (the person assumes a leader or co-leader role on at least one activity that matches with their interests and attends at least 50% of the programs offered). The Chair will ask the candidate to share why they are interested in joining the committee. The criteria for being invited to a meeting as a candidate for membership are

their interests coincide with the goals of the committee

they are interested in supporting existing and proposed programming

Although not a criteria, the candidate may have additional programming ideas that are consistent with the Committee's goals. If their interests coincide with the goals of the committee and with the current and proposed programming, the candidate will be invited to attend a meeting in order (1) to learn more about how the meeting is conducted (process) and the topics we discuss (content) and (2) to tell the members of the committee why they are interested in being a member. As we near the end of the meeting we will ask if they are still interested. If they say yes, the chair will tell them that the committee will now deliberate and vote. They are welcome to stay or leave the meeting as they desire. If the candidate chooses to leave, the Chair will contact them at the conclusion of the meeting with the decision.