

Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

4:00, Zoom

Meeting begun: 4:00

Present: Barbara Bigelow, chair, Ann Brigham, Christine Marglin (taking minutes), Christine Robinson, Sam Spisiak

Absent: Elaine Puleo, BZ Reily

Minutes from last meeting approved.

Agenda:

**Sam co-chair**

Could we take another vote? Sam had not been officially approved as a member when we took our previous vote. She is now an official member.

**Ames Pond Walk**

I corresponded with Stu at Kestrel and here is what he wrote:

Construction at Ames Pond (now [Bright Water Bog](#)) is winding down, but we anticipate it spilling well into June. I think it would be okay for you to schedule a walk there in June, but I encourage you to schedule it as late in the month as possible. We'd also encourage you to check in with us a week before the walk so that we can give you an update on the status. said that it would be better to wait until after June 30 to schedule.

I recommend that we put this off until early fall and then plan another one in the spring.

**Bird Watching**

Go or no go.

**Night Sky**

This was a great success (around 20 people were there).

Many thanks to Christine R. for organizing this!!!!

There will be interest. For one, with the changed date some people who signed up could not make it. For another, participants were expressed interest in doing this again in August. Plus Tom is very willing. Can I tell him we'd like to schedule another night or two? He will pick the best dates ... are weekday evenings okay?

**Confirm purchases**

Exercise classes @ library	\$1000
Family Field Day – Steve	\$250
Family Field Day – food & beverages	\$82.40
Graeme Sephton - Ames Pond	\$250
Kites	\$38.98
Tom Schielding – Night Sky	\$250
Shutesbury Open Studios	\$300
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2171.38</b>

Balance if we do the bird watching: 578.62

Balance if we do not do the bird watching: 828.62

We agreed last meeting that we would spend the balance on:

- soccer balls, pinnies, cones, net for young kids ...
- event tent
- The prices range from 150 on up with the most common price for a 10 x 20 tent \$350

I need

- someone to help me pick out what we need for soccer (assuming that we are moving ahead with this) and the event tent
- approval to go ahead and make the purchases

### **Shutesbury Open Studios:**

We will send out a Town Wide email in June – will get the text from Joan Green and then send it out.

### **Next Meetings:**

**June 25** ... agenda will be to review activities from this year and get a preliminary list of activities for the coming year. Construction at Ames Pond (now [Bright Water Bog](#)) is winding down, but we anticipate it spilling well into June. I think it would be okay for you to schedule a walk there in June, but I encourage you to schedule it as late in the month as possible. We'd also encourage you to check in with us a week before the walk so that we can give you an update on the status.

### **No meeting in July**

**August 27** – I will be away but we have a co-chair!!! This is the meeting to plan the Family Field Day and to consider dates in late September or October for a guided walk Bright Water Bog (aka Ames Pond)

Unanimous vote confirms Sam as cochair of the committee.

Ames pond has been renamed, we will reschedule our next walk there in the fall.

Bird watching: Clif Read will lead in late June, thinks Ames Pond best site, at 6 or 7 am. Will he want a different spot with work going on there? Elaine will settle details with him. We will promote the event, working with the library. He should have a backup place.

Night sky event: wonderful, everyone had a great time, twenty or more people attended, of different ages, including folks new to town as well as longtime residents. It was a great, dark, hilly place for viewing stars through telescopes. There were supposed to be two dates, which had to be cancelled due to weather. Should we do another date in August? Or even two dates in August? Tom suggests second or third week, we can leave it up to him. We will ask him to do two nights. Christine R will check in with Tom.

Budget: we agreed to spent remainder on an event tent and soccer equipment. Sam will purchase the soccer equipment with whatever is left in cooperation with Sean after the tent is purchased.

The Rec Committee will support soccer but not be responsible for it. Insurance is an issue to be resolved. Barbara will ask Elaine.

Art Studios: Joan was given \$300, which will be used for promotional material and refreshments.

Next agenda, we will review this year and out together a calendar for new year of events, with yearly events like Family Field Day, walks, and so on.

Ann: how do we publicize our events? A town email, which not everyone gets, was the only way the night sky viewing was publicized.

Meeting adjourned: 4:35

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 at 4. We will meet thereafter on August 27.