

Ludlow Recreation Committee

Minutes of

October 12, 2021

Present: Nick Miele, Jeannie Stasz, Scott Baitz, Marissa Selleck, Joe Gurdak

Community member: Gary Blodgett, Mariel Meringolo

Call to order at 5:39 p.m.

Comments from Citizens:

- Nick mentioned he has received compliments over the flower pots and planters that are thru-out the town. Scott B said that there has been a lot of activity at the fishing pond at West Hill, and Tim Billings has also been fishing at the pond and will donate the fish for next year, Scott B said he would match the donation.

Approval of Minutes:

- Scott B. made a motion to approve the minutes as printed, Marissa 2nd the motion.

Director's Report:

- Nick stated that many youth's soccer games were cancelled due to cases of covid, hope to resume this week. Youth soccer is coming to a close with final games to be completed by October 29th. Adult activities have begun in the community center. Volleyball on Monday nights and basketball on Tuesday nights. Hope to get adult indoor soccer started soon.

New Business:

- Currently there are no guidelines for Halloween. Benson's is holding a truck-a-treat at their location. The Community center will be holding a haunted house this year starting at 6:45, candy will be given out and games to be played.
- The mountain bike sub-committee met on Tuesday, Oct. 5th with more than 12 people attending.
- Unfortunately, we were denied the Recreational Facility Grant that we were going to apply towards the upgrades to West Hill.
- We have been notified that out of 104 applications for the VOREC Community Grant, we are one of 37 that can re-submit our application for the grant. The grant to be used for the bike park.
- Budget:
Much discussion on what the committee's priorities were for next year.

Tennis courts:

Nick had received 3 estimates on repairing the tennis courts at Dorsey Park, prices ranging from \$5,100.00 to \$140,000, from pressure washing and repairing cracks to completely replacing current court. Gary Blodgett suggested we contact Springfield Paving and have them give us an estimate for resurfacing the court, a lot less expensive and just as effective. Gary Blodgett suggested putting pickleball at Dorsey Park tennis courts (it would be a matter of only marking of the lines) and have people schedule times for playing on the court for both tennis and pickleball, Jeannie totally agreed this was the most effective way to go.

Playground equipment:

Committee agreed it was many years with the existing playground equipment at Dorsey Park and we should consider replacing the current playground equipment.

West Hill:

Continue to improve West Hill with new basketball courts and pickleball court to the cost of approx. \$40,000, does not include dredging out pond or bringing in sand. Playground equipment is not on the schedule for next year.

Bike Park:

Discussed ways to raise money for the park, a GoFundMe Page was suggested, Mariel said she didn't think that it was a tax write off and should look further into it. \$15,000 would get us started with a skilled track.

4th of July:

Committee agreed to bring the fireworks back to West Hill, Marissa suggested we ask Terry Fortuna if Epic Promise would provide the buses for the event,

Old Business:

Fall Events:

Our 2nd annual Scarecrow contest is under way and judging of the scarecrows has been extended to Oct 24th. The 3 categories to be judged are the scariest, funniest and Vermont's best representation.

Everyone agreed that in order to show our support on the above projects, we should get as many people, who support these projects, to attend the next Selectboard meeting which is scheduled for Nov. 1st

Next Meeting:

- Nov. 9th at 4:30 at the Community Center

Motion to adjourn was made by Scott B., with a second from Jeannie. Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Stasz/Clerk

Marissa Selleck/Chair

Scott Baitz/Vice Chair

Joe Gurdak

Sue Pollender