

Ludlow Recreation Committee

Minutes of
September 13, 2022

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

Community member: Mariel Meringolo, Gary Blodgett

Call to order at 5:05 p.m.

Comments from Citizens:

- Gary Blodgett commented that the dog park facility has greatly improved by people picking up after their dogs. Gary also commented that the work that was done on the tennis courts was an improvement, but the courts still need additional work. Jeannie commented that the pickleball courts have been very active.

Approval of Minutes:

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

Director's Report:

- This weekend Dorsey Park will host the Josh Cole Tournament. Local businesses have been contacted to allow parking at their facility for the two-day event. There will be no parking on Pond St.
- Over 70 players have registered for youth soccer, allowing for teams in all grades, starting in kindergarten. October will be a busy month; we are hosting 18 games in 26 days.
- Summer concerts are over and looking to extend the concert time from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. next year.
- Epic Promise volunteers repainted the picnic tables and painted the front of the building at West Hill on September 10th...they will be returning to repair the gable end of the building. Epic Promise volunteers will return both in the Spring and Fall to provide us with assistance.
- Dog Obedience class will be held at the dog park late September, early October.

Old Business:

- Mountain Bike Park: Mariel has been working together with Scott Murphy to send out RFP's for the developing of the bike park. RFP's to be sent out this week in hopes that the park will start in April-May. The RFP's would include developing of one loop and a pump track in Phase 1, Phase 2 & 3 more machine built trails.

- Skate Park: Hope to receive our grant in November from VOREC, it's been a very slow process and has definitely slowed down the construction of the park.

The recreation department have done some much needed work on the existing structure to allow skaters to use the park until the end of the season. The plan is to demo the park this fall and begin construction in the spring. The committee has done an excellent job in raising money, however, additional funds are needed. The rec committee suggested that we create signage with QR codes for donations for not only the skate park, but the entire Dorsey Park Project, which would include skate park, new play ground equipment, tennis court improvement. Signage would illustrate goals and current funding available, very much like a thermometer. Once a cost has been determined for the park, and monies appropriated, the concrete park will be constructed, which will also include lights and cameras. It was also discussed that the town would be receiving monies from a lawsuit from an opioid supplier and the possibility of using some of that money toward the park, also suggested that we put another bulletin board at Dorsey Park, we used to have one.

- West Hill: Swimming next year is a priority at West Hill, Scott Murphy will be sending out RFP's for dredging and sand, we already have \$25,000 which was allocated by the selectboard. Swimming will be at your own risk.

Halloween: The rec will have a haunted house on Halloween evening between 5:00 and 7:00, Scarecrow contest will be held starting Oct. 2 till Nov. 1st. Voting for the scarecrow contest will be done by QR code. Marissa suggested we also have a truck or treat in addition to Benson's.

New Business:

- Nick is submitting a letter to the Select Board requesting the dog park to stay open in the winter
- Marissa is drafting up a press release and will send out by the end of the week.
- Joe suggested that we charge a fee for the usage of Dorsey Park to teams outside of our area to cover the cost of lights, and maintenance of fields. Gary also suggested that we charge an entry fee, like other surrounding towns.

- Next Regular meeting:

October 11th at 5:00 in the Community Center

- Motion to adjourn was made by Jeannie, with a second from Pat. Meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Stasz/Clerk

Marissa Selleck/Chair

Scott Baitz/Vice Chair

Joe Gurdak

Patrick Gray