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Town of Shaftsbury
Municipal Offices at Cole Hall

Meeting Minutes

PO Box 409
61 Buck Hill Road
Shaftsbury, VT
05262-0409
(802) 442-4038

Recreation Committee

Date of Meeting: Friday, January 24th 2025 **Time:** 10:00 AM

Members Present: Deena Ruege (chair), Sarah Costin, Liz Duffy, Tony D'Onofrio. Also present was Town Administrator Paula Iken and member of the public, Heather Newcomb. Also called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Members in attendance introduced themselves.

1. Call to Order, Review & Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Deena Ruege
The committee reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. Noted corrections include:

- The committee **did not** pay for a laminating machine but **did** pay for laminating materials.
- Rebecca Miller's contact information: Phone: (802) 430-3335, email awoolgatherer@gmail.com
  The minutes were not approved.

2. Conflict of Interest Statements
No conflicts of interest were declared.

3. Announcements & Administrative Updates

- The town's Zoning Administrator, who handled minutes, has retired. Until a replacement is found, committees will be responsible for their own minutes.
- The Select Board is requesting committee members to take turns managing meeting minutes and Zoom recordings. Ms. Duffy volunteered to take minutes moving forward.
- Tony and Sarah volunteered to manage Zoom recordings for meetings.
- Committee members will explore a template for minutes to ensure consistency.

4. Public Comments & Community Involvement Ideas

- **Security Cameras:** Member of the public, Heather Newcomb's husband, David Newcomb, a security specialist, will assess camera placements and recommend options. His contact information, Phone: (760) 212-5098
- **Community Engagement:** Proposal to create an "Adopt-a-Park" program where local organizations maintain sections of the park. Ideas include:
  - Girl Scouts/Boy Scouts involvement
  - School and community service projects
  - Beautification efforts such as tree maintenance and painting

- **Winter Activities:** The committee discussed organizing a **Moonlight Lantern Hike & Bonfire** with hot chocolate. The event is tentatively planned for **February 12th**, pending logistics and availability of borrowed snowshoes.
- **Park Improvements:** Discussion on installing **trail cameras** to monitor park activities and deter vandalism.

5. Old Business & Ongoing Projects

- **Soccer Nets:** Mr. D'Onofrio will order new nets and check the frames of the existing ones to determine their usability.
- **Planters:** Ms. Costin will discuss the cement planters with Peckam and explore placement options. The hope is the planters could be placed at the same time as the new sign.
- **Cornhole Addition:** The committee supports adding cornhole as a new recreational activity. Storage logistics will be reviewed.
- **Peckham Signage:** The sign requires repainting; supplies will cost approximately $35-$40. John will assist in relocation to a heated area for painting. Ms. Costin will take lead on the painting process.

6. New Business

- **Color Run Fundraiser:** Ms. Newcomb proposed hosting a **Color Run** in **June** as a fundraiser for the local 6th grade class at Shaftsbury Elementary. The event will be open to the community and feature a running course with color powder stations. Ms. Newcomb asked if the run could either start/end (or both) at Howard Park.
- **Bicycle Path Proposal:** Discussion on adding a **bike-friendly path** in the park to encourage safe riding for families. The committee will explore potential locations and funding options. The committee also suggested the current path might be OK for fatter tire boke, but signage might be needed to ensure there are no Dirt Bikes or motorized vehicles.
- **Basketball Court Lighting:** Members discussed the feasibility of restoring lights with a timed activation system to allow nighttime play.

7. Adjournment & Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22. The next meeting is scheduled for **February 28th**.

Action Items Before Next Meeting:

- ✅ Tony to order soccer nets and assess frames.
- ✅ Sarah to follow up on cement planters.
- ✅ Liz to draft and post minutes.
- ✅ Heather to research logistics for the Color Run.
- ✅ Committee to explore bicycle path feasibility.
- ✅ Sarah to confirm final plans for Moonlight Lantern Hike.