

Shelburne Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes for 8-12-26

Attending: Members Dan Post, Diana Hardina, and Norman Beebe, Cowell Director Grace Thorne, and guest Thomas Rabideau, co-director of Shelburne Falls Pickleball Program.

1--- Call to order

* July 15th meeting minutes approved with one change

2--- Updates/reports/program check-ins

* Cowell Director's report (as submitted by Grace Thorne)

1. Dion and Son sent me a quote on gym floor repairs and I shared with the committee.

2. John Walsh updated me on the TAB Room construction. From John " Next month the project will start. Materials have been either delivered or ordered. We need 10 feet cleared from the front of the old door in the tab room."

3. The entry to the parking lot has some potholes that I will discuss with Jeff at the highway department about potentially filling.

* Gym floor – The quote from Dion and Son provided two options. Option 1 would cost over \$35,000. It would replace 500 square feet of flooring (these would be the areas which are screwed down), but there's no guarantee that this would end our dead spot problem. It would cost an additional \$3000 to line the pickleball courts. This is more than we can afford. Option 2 would cost \$5500. It would buff and provide two coats of finish but states it may not be feasible because of the tape on the floor. It also doesn't address the dead spot issue. We ask Grace to again reach out Hilltown Flooring for a quote for repairing the gym floor.

* River Trail – the third meeting of the Conservation Commission went well. The easements are still being worked on.

* Voting in the Cowell – days needed for set up. Norman spoke to Joe who said the Friday to Wednesday morning closure of the gym is necessary as election officials calibrate the machine on Friday and once calibrated the machine needs to be under lock and key.

* Basketball – Tuesday night 35-and-over basketball has seen 6-10 players per night. Thursday night 18-and-over basketball has seen attendance of around 10 players per night. Should more than 20* players show up, admission shall prioritize Shelburne residents 18 years+, then Mohawk District players aged 21+, then others aged 21+. *(Pending consultation with players, especially Shelburne players, a lower number may be chosen as the maximum).

* Pickleball – has had lower numbers for a variety of reasons: illness, vacations, and an overall dip in attendance among pickleball players in the region (as reported by the Rally House owner). Monday and Wednesday evenings have had particularly low numbers. Thomas says that some players are discouraged from coming due to the lack of online sign-

ups; those coming from a distance need assurance that there will be enough players before making the trip. Going forward, players will be encouraged to sign up to alert their comrades that numbers are sufficient to play.

- * Play catch – started today and had only two participants.

- * Kickball for women and non-binary players continues to be popular.

3--- Ongoing/new business

- * Cowell Gym Code of Conduct – adopted by a unanimous vote. Document attached.

- * Cowell outdoor courts – we decide to paint lines for an additional 2 pickleball courts over the north side of the basketball court. End lines will coincide with the end line of the basketball court, and one sideline of each court will coincide with the basketball sidelines. The lines will be light green. This will mean we'll have 6 pickleball courts lined plus the one which overlaps the net and the original two pickleball courts. This will allow us the possibility of having tennis and pickleball play at the same time or basketball and pickleball at the same time. There will also be a 12' x 12' four square court lined along the street side of the south half of the basketball court, with the westernmost line starting 2' from the grassy border. These lines will also be light green.

- * Start discussion of fee structure for use of the Cowell – Thomas proposed a monthly membership fee that would allow members to go to all programs. Per-event fees would continue to be available. Membership categories could be residents, non-residents, families, youth (18 and under), and seniors. He proposed a fee structure for residents as follows: \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors, \$8 for youth, and \$24 for families. For non-residents he proposed: \$40 for adults, \$35 for seniors, \$20 for youth, and \$60 for families. For reference, monthly fees at the YMCA are \$46 for individuals, \$60 for families, and \$42 for seniors. Thomas says some health insurance policies will reimburse for monthly gym fees. We'll discuss his proposal at our next meeting.

4--- Next meeting on Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30 pm

Shelburne Recreation Code of Conduct

1. Visitors should keep in mind that this is a place for fun and personal development for all ages and abilities. In order to create a positive environment, we ask that visitors honor this Code of Conduct.
2. All visitors agree to show respect and courtesy to others regardless of race, gender, creed or ability while at this facility.
3. All visitors agree to exercise good sportsmanship by refraining from expressing negative or insulting statements. Foul, abusive or obscene language is not permitted.
4. Acts of physical or verbal aggression by players, coaches, parents, spectators or officials are strictly forbidden under any and all circumstances.
5. All children under the age of 12, who are using the gym, must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or designated adult.
6. No pets are permitted in the Cowell Gym or outdoor courts with the exception of service animals.
7. Smoking, vaping, spitting or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
8. All visitors must respect this facility and report any person or persons damaging the property by calling the Cowell Gym Director at (413) 625-0305.