

Shelburne Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes for 9-16-26

Attending:

Members: Dan Post, Diana Hardina, Norman Beebe, Stefan Topolski, and Walter Chadwick

Cowell Director: Grace Thorne

Guests: Co-directors of Shelburne Falls Pickleball Ann Kitson, Lisa Greaney, and Thomas Rabideau; and pickleball players Bodhi Kraus, Dave Weiland, and Eric Halloran

1--- Call to order

* August 12th meeting minutes approved.

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

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

1. *Hilltown hardwood said they are still interested in giving us the quote they were supposed to send me in April. I still haven't received the quote after multiple follow ups.*

2. *Jeff at the highway department is putting the bulletin board together and it should be up soon.*

* TAB room – renovation to begin this coming Monday, September 21st.

* River Trail – Norman reports that some additional time with the town's attorney to finish the easement work is needed. The committee authorizes him to ask the Selectboard to provide the necessary time with the town's attorney.

* Basketball – Tuesday night 35-and-over basketball continues to have 6-10 players per night. Grace dropped in on Thursday night 18 and over basketball and reported there were 12 to 13 players.

* Pickleball – co-directors and players presented a fee proposal. They reported collecting \$4000 in user fees thru July. The possibility of creating a pickleball winter program for kids was discussed.

* Play catch – had four players tonight, the most so far!

* Women/nonbinary sports – kickball finished its outdoor play this past Monday, and would like to consider playing indoors, perhaps on Friday nights if volleyball does not draw sufficient numbers.

* Volleyball – tentatively scheduled to resume Fridays at 7 pm in October.

3--- Ongoing/new business

* Cowell outdoor courts – the additional pavement part of the project has been completed! We finalize the layout and number of courts to be lined. Norman will send this information to Vermont Recreational. The money to line the kickball court (which we forgot to include in the original proposal) and the additional pickleball court will be paid for out of recreation committee funds.

* Blood drive inquiry – a Shelburne resident had reached out to see if the Cowell could be used for a blood drive. Since this posting they secured the use of the Shelburne-Buckland Community Center.

* Continue discussion of fee structure for use of the Cowell – the Committee decided that it would be useful to meet with the Selectboard to find out what if any expectations they have for revenue from user fees and rentals. Norman will schedule this for when he meets with them to ask for time for the town attorney regarding the river trail.

* Start discussion of Cowell winter schedule – not really addressed but it's agreed we should collect information on who is using the gym as folks reenter the building beginning in November. Norman has been working on a form for this purpose and will bring it to our next meeting.

4--- Next meeting on Wednesday, October 14th at 6:30 pm