

Wallingford Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2025 6:00 PM

Committee members present: Shannon Pytlik, Sandra Hochberg, David Cornwell, Brian Ferguson & Mark Noble.

Shannon called the meeting to order at 6 PM

Agenda was approved by consensus.

Public comment - none

Approval of minutes from November 14th - approved by consensus.

BUDGET - Discuss budget meeting with selectboard in December. Board members reported that it went well.

Money left in flood/art grant we should figure out how to spend. Need to be floor, art or community related: Wish list:

- A few outdoor movies (\$300/each)
- Ice Skating rink for winter
- New outdoor door for shed -current door has flooded and we cud get a more secure door
- Fix concession window

Other wish list items:

- Nets for the back of soccer goals to catch balls
- Single golf cup with flag

Discuss revised bylaws – and makeup of the Rec Committee

Shannon emailed some revised bylaws.

The group discussed the option of having one person from an adjacent town on the board, as well as increasing the size of the board. Most members were concerned about the precedent that allowing people from other towns would set. Nonresidents on local boards has been a big issue in the past and given the Recreation Committee oversees a budget and manages land most felt it would be difficult to justify having a nonresident on the board. All members were ok with having non Wallingford residents participate in discussions and attend meetings but were cautious about adding nonresidents to the voting membership.

The board agreed we could formalize having a non-Wallingford resident as a nonvoting member, as we have discussed in the past.

Shannon will revise the bylaws to remove the non-Wallingford resident member and we will discuss the remaining changes at the next meeting.

Ethics training – board members were notified of the training.

Meadow Street Recreation Area

- Ice Skating Rink – The board discussed the option of an ice skating rink. The people we have talked to have been excited about it. The group discussed option for construction and thought it would cost about \$800. Shannon will see if we can repurpose some of the flood/art grant for the cost of materials. We can reuse the material every year. Marc can pump the water from the river, assuming it is deminimis.
- Shannon will ask Kathy if we need approval from SB.
- Baseball field / FEMA reimbursement – Sandy put in an extension request for work to be completed in the Spring. Marc mentioned this to SB when he met with them about the budget.

Flood Grant - Plan for Community Breakfast May 3rd – will be green up day maybe CC can hand out bags at the field? We can ask if they want to coordinate might be nice to have a joint activity.

Meadow St Field Clean up – April 26, 2025

The board discussed the Mill River use of the Meadow St Softball Fields last year. Early spring of 2024 both Shannon & Marc asked the MRU athletic director if the softball team would be using the Meadow St fields, as the former volunteer run softball group had. The softball program has switched hands from volunteers to the MRU district. We were both told MRU would not be using the Wallingford fields and that all practices and games would be at MR. About a week after we were told this, we found out that MR softball games had been scheduled at Meadow Street Park. The lack of notice caused a lot of scheduling conflicts at the Meadow Street fields, and Marc ended up creating a google doc to manage the practice and game schedule. Last year the Rutland Baseball group was planning to use the softball field for practice and younger baseball teams since the south field had not been repaired from the flood damage yet. We would like to avoid the chaos this year so are hoping for better communication from MR. We want the fields to be used by as many local children as possible and are happy to work with other groups, but want to make sure we have good communication so we can plan for the season.

- Future Rec Ideas
 - Chess – Decided on Thursdays 5:30-6:30 and will offer snacks. Dates: Jan 30, Feb 6, 13, SKIP VACATION WEEK 27, March 6 & 13. Sandra will advertise for more volunteers and ask the library if we can use their space. Jordan Jankus offered to help.
- Next Meeting Agenda Building
- Adjourn at 7:20 PM

Minutes Approved 02/24/25