

# Worcester Recreation Committee Minutes

Location: Doty Music Room

Time: 05/22/2023 6:43pm-8:50pm

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## 1 Members Present

1. Caitlin
2. Tracker
3. Michael
4. Chris

5. Nancy

6. Josh

## 2 Guests Present

1. Colleen Kutin

## 3 Approval of Minutes

The committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from 2023-04-06.

## 4 Old Business

### 4.1 Rt12 Repaving/Bike Lane - Muddy Onion Update

Due to a family emergency, Caitlin was unable to drop off our bike lane petition at the Muddy Onion tent in the Ladd Field. Josh proposed that we might want to distribute the petition at Onion River Outdoor Center, the Landing's events this summer, the North Branch Nature Center, LBJ's, and the Good Heart Farm Store.

Caitlin took a look at the VTrans repaving map and believes that it is just along Route 12 within the Worcester town border.

Josh drafted initial versions of a vision statement for our bike lane project as well as a template form letter to share with local organizations who would like to show their support for this endeavor. These drafts are made publicly available for further review and comment at the following link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1h3LvOYLdF19AinkaIGQ2YrAk17vZvVjgN8WMuFVdcrQ/edit?usp=sharing>

#### 4.1.1 Action Items

**Caitlin** Share the petition to the list

**Michael** Distribute petition at Onion River Outdoors and North Branch Nature Center

**Josh** Distribute petition at LBJ's, Good Heart, and the Landing

**Josh** Write drafts of a one-paragraph and one-page vision statement for bike lanes on Route 12 as well as a form letter for supporting organizations and distribute to the committee

**Full Committee** Read and contribute feedback on Josh's vision statements

**Full Committee** Review template form letter for local organizations asking for their support of bike lanes through Worcester:

**Kip Roberts** Onion River Outdoors

Chuck's

Mountain Mamba

Josh Saxe - Jackelope Sports

Phoenix Mitchell

Craftsbury Outdoor Center

Concept 2

The Nature Conservancy

**Nancy** Compile community survey responses regarding bike lanes and pedestrian walkways and combine it with Josh's prior summary

**Nancy** Create a folder on our Google Drive with open access for public comment

#### **4.2 Vermont Land Trust Management Plan, Review of Section 4**

The committee voted to table this discussion until the next meeting.

##### **4.2.1 Action Items**

**Caitlin** Scan Ladd Field map and share with the committee.

### **5 New Business**

#### **5.1 Community Garden Updates from Colleen Kutin**

The Community Garden had their annual meeting last Saturday 5/20. Their sign and fence are both falling over, and so they want to repair and reinforce the fence and sign. They would appreciate any support from the WRC with these activities.

They are also having some trouble with the current mowing regime. The gardeners would like to create compost bins to collect their garden waste. They would also like the mowers to mow right up to the garden fence rather than leaving a large buffer.

The gardeners would also appreciate assistance in getting water to the field. The committee proposed various possible solutions including building a larger rainwater catchment in the garden, running sugar tubing from the fire house to the garden's barrels, using long water hoses to pump water from the Town Hall or fire house to the garden's barrels.

##### **5.1.1 Action Items**

**Colleen** Draw up an itemized list of the things the garden committee would like financial (or non-financial) assistance with.

**Chris** Ask the Selectboard about having the mowers mow closer to the garden fence.

**Michael** Loan his weedwhacker to Colleen, so that she can clear the long grass around the garden and remove any stones that could interfere with mowing.

#### **5.2 Eagle Ledge Trail Updates from Colleen Kutin**

Colleen explained that town recreation (particularly motorized recreation) has contributed significantly to the erosion and overall deterioration of Eagle Ledge Trail. Currently, the residents on the trail are forced to pay to upkeep the road. However, this is a large and continuous financial burden for these residents. She is asking whether the committee can find some ways to help improve and upkeep the trail.

The committee voted to table this discussion until next meeting.

### **5.3 New Meeting Time**

The committee voted to permanently move our monthly meeting times to the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30pm in the Doty Music/Arts Room.

### **5.4 Toddler Soccer**

We have received a request by a local toddler soccer team representative to use the soccer field. Caitlin has offered to coordinate their access to the field such that it doesn't overlap with other groups that have already reserved it. Chris suggested that they could use the space behind the basketball court if the soccer field is already reserved at a time they need.

### **5.5 Baseball Field Improvements**

Matt Morrisette informed us that he has spent several thousand dollars of his own money on revitalizing the baseball field. Unfortunately, the heavy equipment that he hired to work on the field drove across some sections of the field that they shouldn't have. It sounds like no damage was done to the property, and the paperwork that wasn't filed beforehand was fixed after the fact.

Matt is currently looking to fix the fence and buy some bleachers.

The committee broadly supports Matt's efforts to improve the town baseball field and agreed to coordinate with him more closely this year to determine how we might help him in this work.

#### **5.5.1 Action Items**

**Chris** Talk to Matt and invite him to come to our next meeting or to email us with a list of projects that he could use our assistance with.

### **5.6 Soccer Field Goal Nets**

We noticed that the soccer field nets are in disrepair. Chris noted that these are the property of the Onion River Soccer Club and thus outside our purview.

#### **5.6.1 Action Items**

**Caitlin** Send the Onion River Soccer Club an email noting their deteriorating nets, but any work done on them would bbbbe left up to the soccer club.

### **5.7 Pump Track**

Michael did some research and determined that the pump track in Montpelier was built by a company in Morrisville called Sinuosity. Apparently Kip Roberts from Onion River Outdoors was one of the project leads. This pump track was estimated to be built for about \$7k.

#### **5.7.1 Action Items**

**Michael** Contact Kip Roberts (Onion River Outdoors) and Max Van Wie (Backslope Trails) to see if they would be available to build a pump track in Worcester and what they might charge for this work.

## **6 Next Meeting**

Monday, June 26th @ 6:30pm at the Doty Music/Arts Room