

Vershire Town Center Committee
Meeting August 2, 2021, 7:00 pm

In Attendance: Reva Seybolt, Suzanne Gauthier, Nicole White-Fogarty, Ken Bushey,
Nick Bennett, Caro Bick

The meeting started with a big congratulations for getting the wood chip project done so efficiently.

Reva will write 'Thank You' letters to Mark Fogarty for his fine tractor work, Gary Goodrich for cleaning the two memorials, Steve Ward for his loan of a tractor and Christy Parker at Crossroads for the donation of annuals for the pots that were part of our display on Vershire Day.

Then the discussion moved to the proposed timber frame addition for outside storage. Ken let us know that the select board was feeling excluded from the process. As of now they haven't seen any blueprints of the proposed building. We talked about how the shed proposal was formed (by David Hooke and Pat Barnes and Mark McKee) and how it was presented to us as a potential project that would benefit all. It was decided that Reva would go to the select board meeting tomorrow night with all the information we have and offer to take on the project if the select board would like us to.

Ken brought up a grant that the Rec Committee is interested in applying for. A 'Letter of Interest' is due by August 27 and Kathy Hooke may already be working on it. Reva will talk to Kathy as she has some suggestions to help with grant writing.

There was some speculation about how the Rec Department will spend \$50,000, which is the minimum amount of the grant. Suggestions from Ken were soccer balls, baseball equipment, snow shoes, and everything needed for an ice rink. The VTCC's role would be storage.

Ken told us about the exciting Thursday Night Food Truck events that are coming up. So far three nights are filled: 4-8 Thursday August 12, and 19, and October 5. Another hoped for event would be a pizza and gelato night. They are working on 2 weekends of soccer drills and skills for youth. They have three high school kids signed up to help coach and are hoping to approach two experienced coaches. They are also trying to coordinate a Training for the Pizza Oven event.

We went over our to-do list and discussed what the select board agreed to do and what we need to do to get their approval on other things on the first priority list. We agreed to put off working on the Priority 2 and 3 lists.

The select board did agree to fix the drainage and Gene will fix the ramp. He also may have new signs for the bathrooms. Reva will follow up on the signs

Suzanne will make a comprehensive list of cleaning supplies we need and figure out a budget for said list. She will also experiment with some sticky material to fix the wall protector downstairs. She also volunteered to try some metal racks in the deep sink to see if they help.

Nick will go to the select board meeting, but I have no idea why. I didn't write it down. So, so sorry. Left this on to see if anyone actually reads the minutes. Prize if you catch it. :) Nick will work with Gene and the Selectmen to find out about the past budget and work on a future one that includes regular maintenance and capital planning.

We briefly discussed storage of the picnic tables. Either we stack them under the pizza oven roof or stack them under a tarp for the winter.

Next on the agenda was the rental agreements for use of the Town Center Building. Can we find a way to make the rental affordable? Can we up our insurance from Vermont Cities and Towns? Does Vershare pay insurance for the SnowShoe-a-thon? Is there some law about events that are open to the public that changes insurance costs? Could we have different types of rental agreements for different venues? What if a person who wants to rent the building does not own their own home? How do they access insurance? Nicole will research more on the subject.

Caro will talk to the Chelsea town clerk to find out how they handle the rental situation.

We talked about different uses for the building to benefit the community. Suggestions were:

Friday night potlucks. Meals with local business people doing presentations about their work, and winter game nights on the last Friday of each month.

Ken said that themed meals, such as soups, or salads with suggestions for what people can bring might be really helpful.

Reva will find out if the cook for Senior lunches is still willing to do it.

What events are being planned by Vershare? Pizza? A Fall festival? Kareen will be back soon to bridge that gap. Reva will follow up with VerShare.

Our next two meetings were planned and it was decided we will meet on the third Monday of each month starting in September. **August 23 and September 20** are on our calendars.

Last question before we adjourned: Who is going to cut and split the wood that was left by the pizza oven? Add to Reva's list for the Selectmen tomorrow night.

Suzanne proposed we adjourn the meeting and Nick seconded it. Caro Bick.

