

Vershire Town Center Committee Meeting
November 15, 2021

In Attendance: Reva Seybolt, Nicole White-Fogarty, Suzanne Gaithier, Ken Bushey, Nick Bennett, Kareen Obydol-Alexandre, and Caro Bick

The meeting started with a motion by Reva to accept the minutes from the meeting on September 20, 2021. It was seconded by Caro.

Updates from the recent Select Board meeting were given by Nicole. There were discussions at the BoS meetings about the open house at the Town Garage, and the need for help at the recycling center. The supplies were ordered for the skating rink. There were also conversations about the paving of Ayers Road and Goose Green Road, what to do about Al's Affordables and his junk in the road. Nicole brought up that some towns have no board or committee meetings in December.

We had a discussion about David Hooke's plans for the shed and/or pavilion given his two emails. Suzanne wondered if the select board wants to move forward with this idea, but we decided that before we approach the select board that we should meet with the Rec Committee and create a process for moving forward including figuring out what our needs actually are and make a process plan at the January 17 meeting. In the meantime, Reva would respond to David's email, running it by everyone first.

Rec Committee report was given by Ken Bushey who was happy to tell us that everything needed for the skating rink was ordered and delivered. Bethel Mills paid for 40% of the materials. He double dipped and asked for a donation from Home Depot too, but has not heard back yet. They are hoping to have a group of volunteers set up the rink on either November 28th or on December 4th and plan on opening the rink on January 11th! We will have the volunteers stack the picnic tables somewhere out of the way while they are at the town center.

It was reported that Gary Goodrich is not able to set up Christmas lights or do any decorating this year. Caro volunteered to put a wreath on the front door.

Kareen reported about VerShare. VerShare is donating money they made to Rivendell and Orr house. There will be a memorial service for Ethel on May 14th in Vershire. The coffee event on Saturday mornings is still going strong and has so far continued to be outdoors.

We then went down the list of things that "need to be assessed and dealt with in the town center building".

Suzanne is continuing to do her inventory

Suzanne has tried to make contact with Dede Melvin, the cleaning person, to see if she has any suggestions or needs, but has had trouble getting in touch. After

searching for homes for unwanted items Reva is finally ready to take the stuff to recycling.

The ditch needs to be dealt with in the Spring after the mud has come and gone. Reva will follow up then.

Nick hasn't had a chance to work on the bench.

Andi at the Library is planning to have a book club and writer's group at the Vershire Library

Reva discussed how well the Vermont Food Shelf is going.

Caro will put the plea in the Vershire Listserve after it has been approved by all.

Nick gave us his first draft of the Budget for the Vershire Town Center We reviewed budgets from previous years and decided it might be a good idea to seek bids on the mowing. \$750 a month is quite high and we might be able to save some money there. And perhaps we could go every two weeks for some of the months at the beginning and end of the season. We talked about perhaps putting in for more money overall since we are hoping to use the building more and also because propane is going up in price. Nick volunteered to write a job description for a very part-time person to be in charge of maintenance, scheduling and keeping track of all the systems that make the building run. For example: furnace cleaning and maintenance, water heater maintenance, spreading salt on pathways and shoveling pathways, draining hoses (Caro volunteered to drain the dreaded hoses this year before the skating rink event).

Discussed the latest proposed DRAFT Use Of The Town Center presented by Reva which still needs a run through by Gene. Reva will reorganize it so it reads easier and get Gene's final OK. It would then be approved by the BoS and go on our page on the town website which is yet to be formatted.

Reva proposed a shorter meeting for December 20 only on the budget and Nick seconded it Nick moved to end the meeting and Caro seconded it.

Minutes by Caro Bick