

North School Preservation Society
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2023

Attendance: Francine Provost, Ginny Ricker, Dave Hall, Richard Willard;
Erin Hoselton, Noah Tunkel

Francine called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

March meeting minutes were motioned and approved (*no meeting in April; March minutes brought forward*).

Treasurer's Report

Ginny distributed the latest treasurer's report to members. After income and expenses, which included the Geico insurance reimbursement for vehicular vandalism in November (\$5815.00), the treasury stands at \$21,430.32 and will stand for audit.

Old Business

-- Update on Grounds and Building Maintenance

A replacement U.S. flag is needed for the flagpole. A volunteer is needed to procure one from a charitable source.

Structural repairs for the damage to the stone wall bordering the driveway will be scheduled in the summer.

Dave has continued clearing brush around the upper field. He has disposed of or burned some of the brush and continues to remove dead trees, including the dead apple tree near the swing set at the top of the hill.

Francine has cut down the brush in the garden areas and Dave has removed the brush.

-- May Yard Sale

Volunteer staff for the sale May 13 include Dave, Francine, Ginny, Richard, Andrea and Margery. In addition, Noah will help out, and Dave's wife, Sheryl-Kay, has offered to help Ginny with inside operations. Keith Stern will help with setup on Friday, May 12, and Francine is in touch with a

possible student volunteer from the high school community service program. Dave will put up the signs around town in advance.

Dave recommended that volunteers working the sales should wear vests for easy identification in the crowd. Members allocated a budget of \$125 for Dave to purchase up to 10 vests before the sale.

Members have been advised that the food truck will be available for the sale on May 13.

A volunteer is needed to do publicity announcing the sales for the upcoming season.

The dumpster has been placed and will be available through mid-October.

-- School Building Development Proposal

The following suggestions were proposed for a potential mixed-use building including:

- A music recital hall

- A thrift shop

- A Café

- A “make factory” for individual artisans and food producers

- A home school venue

- Short-term apartments for itinerant professional workers

The proposals will be coordinated and, when refined, presented to the Springfield Regional Development Corporation for a feasibility study.

-- Alumni Day Rental Use of the Park

Paperwork has been signed and adopted for rental of the park and hut by the Springfield Class of '66 on June 17. Coordination and pickup of the key will be arranged.

New Business

-- 2023 Yard Sale Schedule

The following dates (subject to change with advance notice) were set for subsequent yard sales this year:

- June 10

- July 15

- August 12

- September 9

October 7

All yard sales will be held from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with setup on the Friday before each, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. A volunteer is needed for advance publicity to newspapers and media.

-- Recreation Department Maintenance of the Park

The ongoing maintenance of the park, playground and warming hut is indefinite. Francine, Ginny and Dave met with Town Manager Jeff Mobus on Monday, May 1, to discuss possible alternative maintenance in the event that the recreation department abandons the park. Jeff will research possible town options for use and maintenance of the park and will keep in touch with the NSPS board. NSPS board to follow up.

Miscellaneous Business

Vests for NSPS volunteers (see above).

Dave reminded members of the need for formal volunteer papers to be procured for those assisting NSPS for activities.

The meeting was motioned and adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Next Meeting, Tuesday, June 6, 6:30 p.m. in the warming hut.