

North School Preservation Society Meeting Minutes, October 1, 2024

Attendance: Ginny Ricker, Dave Hall, Richard Willard, Margery Burbank, Moe Gilchrist, Francine Provost

Richard called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Dog Park Update

There was a preliminary discussion regarding the dog park. Dave reported that he delivered the amended lease agreement to NSPS legal counsel Ethan MacNaughton, whereupon it was presented to Springfield Town Manager Jeff Mobus. Dave reported that after consideration of the NSPS amendments, the Town has agreed to assume leasing liability and maintenance for all services for the North School Recreation Park grounds (including the playground), except for maintenance of the warming hut. It is understood that the town will provide yearly mowing, plowing and grooming services for the entire park grounds as well as liability for the use thereof, as it had done when the Town Recreation Department had use of the premises and fields. In establishing and maintaining the planned dog park, the Town also agreed to provide insurance services for the complete park grounds, excluding the school building and the warming hut.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to move forward with the dog park. If and when available, Dave and Moe will ascertain the extent of the proposed dog park.

September Minutes

Minutes of the Sept. 3 meeting were motioned and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Ginny distributed the September report to the members. She made an amendment to the previously distributed report in order to include expense for trash removal for the month. Including income from the September yard sale and expenses, the report stands for audit.

Old Business

Insurance Renewal – Renewal of the NSPS insurance policy is pending Town coverage of insurance for the park and dog park. As such, NSPS insurance coverage may be revised and will be determined prior to the renewal in November.

Building and Grounds – The Town has resumed maintenance of the park grounds.

Warming Hut – In view of the forthcoming need for NSPS to take over maintenance of the hut, Dave suggested that the hut be closed for the winter except for occasional use when the wood stove will be used for heat. Otherwise, the water will be turned off and pipes winterized; the propane heater will not be used. When the weather permits in the spring, the water will be turned back on and the bathrooms will again be available. If conditions permit and the skating rink can be frozen, water will be provided from the hydrant on the property.

Yard Sale – The next sale is Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; setup Friday, Oct. 4, noon-2 p.m.

New Business

Donations – Richard brought in donations from friends who are moving.

Dumpster – A decision needs to be made to establish the date of the final dumpster pickup.

November Yard Sale – A November yard sale is tentatively set for Saturday, Nov. 2, pending weather conditions and availability of members to manage it. The sale will be in the school building and the warming hut only, and the hut will be devoted to Christmas items. Since the sale is tentatively set for the Saturday before the next monthly meeting, members agreed to notify each other to definitely set the date and conduct the sale.

The business being concluded, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.