

North School Preservation Society
Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2025

Attendance: Richard Willard, Francine Provost, Ginny Ricker, Moe Gilchrist, Dave Hall, Fred and Linda Kingsbury.

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

Minutes of the August 5 meeting were motioned and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Ginny distributed the treasurer's report for August to members. August income included a donation from Shaw's Supermarket which named NSPS the recipient of its monthly community award. Other income included proceeds from the August yard sale; ebay and online sales, as well as rental income from the Grout Family Reunion; the nominal lease from the Town of Springfield for the dog park; and a membership fee. Expenses included the annual fire extinguisher replacement and the GMP power bill. The report stands for audit.

Old Business

Dog park – Ginny has been informed by Mike Martin that the Lions Club estimates that the dog park will be completed by the end of September. An opening ceremony has been suggested. To date, Springfield Fence has erected the fenceposts.

Building and grounds – Dave has cleared the trail around the upper field.

Insurance – Ginny initiated a discussion about the upcoming insurance cost, which is usually due by November. It is anticipated that the liability portion of the insurance will be somewhat offset by the Town of Springfield's acceptance of liability for the park and grounds in order to insure the forthcoming dog park. The current building insurance portion remains to be decided when the Insurance company contacts us. Members agreed that the cost of insurance for the physical building outweighs the benefits, hence a decision regarding that portion of the insurance will be made when the insurance payment is at hand.

Yard sale – The September yard sale will be Saturday, Sept. 6, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; setup is Friday, Sept. 5, noon-2 p.m. The signs were set up on Monday,

Sept. 1. Setup plans are pending upcoming weather conditions. In the event of rain, a minimal outdoor setup will be done.

New Business

Hut rental – Fred and Linda Kingsbury requested rental of the hut for 3 hours on Sept. 13 to hold a family reunion. Members will empty the hut after the forthcoming yard sale in order to make it available for the event.

Handicap ramp – Dave proposed that handicap access ramp be constructed for the warming hut and presented suggestions about its construction. Members agreed that a ramp would be a good addition. A motion was made, seconded and approved to allow Dave up to \$500 to procure the materials and construct the ramp with his labor and equipment. It was understood that the current hedge in front of the building would have to be removed to allow for the ramp. Members also requested that handicap-access grab bars be installed in each of the hut bathrooms, and Dave agreed to procure and install them.

Miscellaneous Business

Future plans for the school building – While the meeting was in progress, guests Heather Frahm, a Springfield Selectboard member, and Walter Martone, a member of the Springfield Planning Commission, arrived. They attended the meeting to explore with our members possible development plans for the school building. A discussion ensued in which members reviewed the history of the North School Preservation Society and its progress and goals for the building and the park. Heather and Walter offered to advise and refer our members of architectural and other resources available from their respective positions. NSPS members thanked them and agreed to contact them if further plans develop. Richard agreed to escort them to tour the building after the meeting.

The business being concluded, the meeting was motioned and adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 7, 2025, in the hut.