

Unapproved Minutes

Huntington Recreation Committee

September 6, 2016

6:30 pm

Town Clerk's Office

Present: Shirley Stephens, Paul Stephens, Brett Lindemuth, Heidi Racht

Absent: Donna Lewis, Tim Tinker, Jon Meachem

- The primary purpose of the meeting was to discuss the stormwater run-off system now being planned for the Town Garage, which will run through the town's Recreation Field/Park. The Committee was on the agenda for the Selectboard meeting later that night at 7:20 pm.
- Background: Brett Lindemuth had met with the Selectboard to discuss the project and the other members of the Rec Committee wanted to know about the discussion before meeting with the Selectboard as a group.
- A plan has been drafted by an engineer to move the water along the driveway for the recreation area toward the river.
- The plan includes a water garden to filter the water before it hits the river.

The Committee studied the map of the plan. The plan showed a drainage ditch along the town sand shed (newly constructed) with water dispersing on the picnic area next to the horseshoe pits. The map also depicted the FEMA 100-year flood zone and the Vermont mapped river corridor. The horseshoe pits, existing pavilion, and part of the soccer field are in the former; the latter covers all of the above, plus the baseball backstop, all of the parking lot near the horseshoe/picnic area, part the highway yard up to the southwest corner of the sand shed. The discussion was lively with people talking in loud voices simultaneously and, therefore, it was hard to take minutes. The Committee wanted to have a change in the fence along the south side of the sandshed, moving it closer to the garage to allow more parking, increasing access to the Rec Field and pavilion, and enhancing the picnic area that was not a swamp from water being dumped on it.

Comments included needing an installation timeline, Yogi's (Alger, Road Foreman) opinion is important (Lindemuth) and to invite him to meet with the Rec Committee; make sure it is doable (P. Stephens); our committee sucks because we never meet and don't have a plan (Lindemuth); we had no report from Brett [Lindemuth] about this project (P Stephens) and why didn't we know about this before last week; we don't want the picnic area ruined by being flooded and we can't lose it since we have limited space (S Stephens); Jim Christiansen has agreed to be appointed to the Committee to work on this project (Lindemuth). People are

making decisions that drive the future (location of sandshed) and therefore limit use of property; a plan needs to be implemented to keep options open for the future. More concerns expressed about turning the picnic area into a swamp and why didn't anyone hear about this before last week. Also, what's the rush to do this right now.

Motion: After several minutes, Brett Lindemuth made a motion, seconded by Shirley Stephens, and approved unanimously by the Committee, to take to the Selectboard meeting:

The Huntington Recreation Committee agrees unanimously that, as caretakers of this property, it needs more time to develop a plan to maximize the beneficial use of the property and the town's recreation needs as affected by the groundwater runoff plan and the Selectboard should not make any decisions regarding any changes of use for the Recreation Park.

Next meeting: Following up on the discussion about the lack of regularity for meetings, the Committee decided to schedule a meeting for Thursday, October 17.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned when the Committee left the room to attend the Selectboard meeting in the Community Church of Huntington hall, approximately 7:20 pm.

Minutes: Heidi Racht

Draft on website: September 13, 2016

Unapproved to Committee: September 13, 2016

Approved:

Approved minutes to Town Clerk: