

Shelburne Recreation Committee
Monday, March 16, 2026, 5:30 PM
Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Peggy Coutu, Kelli Magnier, Kathie Pudvar, Ellie Johnson, Andy McClellan, Bill Barber, Renee Davitt

Staff Present: Betsy Cieplicki, Bryce Turner, Linda Barker

Public Present: Dorthea Penar, Historical Society

Meeting called to order by Peggy at 5:30 pm.

Minutes from Jan. 12 Meeting: The minutes were approved as submitted.

Public Comment: None

Director's Report and Update: *See written report at bottom of minutes. Additional discussion held:*

Parks Update – Discussion regarding pickleball and tennis court and the potential for conflicts during the CVU tennis season. Current plan is to allow pickleball during practice times, but the court will be closed during match play. Also discussion regarding the Eagle Scout project proposal for the Bee hotel at Laplatte nature park. Concerns were voiced about location and maintenance. Questions came up about who approved it and what will be implemented in the structure. Betsy did not have answers at this time but has a meeting next week to find out more.

Event Update – Overview of Dance and Winter Carnival budgets and attendance were given. Both events got great feedback from attendees. Volunteers at the dance specifically heard how much the event meant personally to some kids who were in their final year. Good parent and kid interaction at the dance with dancing and socializing, less “running around”.

Special Event Planning:

Back to the Beach – Initial discussion held about the date and tentatively settled on Wed. June 17. Members and staff to double check calendars and commitments before confirming. Dorthea Penar from the Shelburne Historical Society was there to share how they hope to collaborate with us on the event to help celebrate the nation's 250th anniversary. They inquired about how the event format normally goes, and how they might fit in best. Betsy explained about the bounce house, potluck picnic and atmosphere. Dorthea suggested running some “old-time” games for kids, such as 3 legged race and others, and they hope to recruit the Boy Scouts to help. They would also provide some prizes such as flags and possibly bring a sheet cake to help celebrate. They are planning to commemorate the Battle at Shelburne as well, sometime in the near future, which will likely be at the beach. They have other celebrations planned for the Declaration of Independence at Town Hall on July 2nd.

Music was another discussion for the Back to the Beach event as we have some college students whose families live in Shelburne who are interested in playing at the event. The Committee agreed that the local connection is welcome and we'd like to offer music if they volunteer, as we don't have it in the budget. The Committee brainstormed some other possibilities, including a suggestion for a fire pit and roasting marshmallows.

Summer Concert Events – All of the concerts are booked, including 3 at Shelburne Farms on July 8, 15, 22. Concerts will be similar format as past years with our responsibility mainly on parking and providing water, as well as the band. Teddy Bear will host final concert on July 28 (rain date July 29) and will work collaboratively with us. They will have free tours and the Teddy Bear Mascot available, as well as sponsor face painting. Renee suggested they offer a raffle for a Teddy Bear, and Betsy agreed that would be a great way to entice people in the store to get a raffle ticket. The event time will be shorter this year, from 5-8pm, with the concert from 6-8pm. The band is booked and Quadra will be playing this year. We are planning many activities for kids during concert, such as a bounce house, mini golf, disc golf, and cornhole.

Park Volunteer Project Planning:

Shelburne Beach project will be May 20 in the AM and will be spearheaded by Peggy and Renee, with help from Susan McClellan. They will be taking care of garden beds around the gazebo and beach house. Volunteers will need garden tools and gloves. Davis Park project will be May 9 at 10am, if we determine there is no CVU tennis match that day. Andy and Kelli will spearhead that project with more details to come. They want to review the check list of suggested projects that Bill came up with and Kyle sorted for volunteer projects. Betsy will advertise for volunteers and help get supplies and materials needed.

Other Business: None

Meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Director's Report

Office Update: As we plan and prepare for CVLL and youth lacrosse programs, Betsy has been focusing on ordering equipment and supplies, volunteer recruitment, and completing background checks. She is also assisting CVLL and Youth Lacrosse with managing sponsorships, and working with the Recreation Committee for summer event sponsors. Summer concerts and entertainment have been booked and finer details are now being planned.

Bryce has helped research new Beach sticker vendors, assisting with background checks and US Lacrosse membership organization, and marketing emails to our email distribution list. He also continues to assist with hands on activities such as chaperoning

the After School Ski program, assembling first aid kits and equipment bags for teams, and creating and distributing signs.

Sue continues to handle daily operations in the office surrounding registration (including uploading all spring and summer program information into our registration software), deposits and recording for all revenue, and working out issues with the new Oracle software and how it interacts with our registration software. She also manages facility reservations and billing with residents and private groups, which is a daily occurrence.

Parks Update: As spring approaches we look forward to opening up Davis Park Tennis Courts. We plan to have nets up by March 30 when CVU Tennis team begins practice. In anticipation of rising lake water level, we have raised the south stairs at the beach and closed them off until later this spring. An Eagle Scout project has been proposed in Laplatte Nature Center to build a Bee Hotel. We are following up with the Natural Resource Committee and the Eagle Scout candidate to offer input on the location and size.

Program Update: *Winter wrap up...* Youth Basketball finished up the season Feb. 14th. The 5th/6th grade teams competed in the CVRA Tournament and one of the Shelburne Boys teams won the tournament! In early Feb. we hosted a CPR class instructed by Shelburne Rescue. The class was at the max of 16 participants and with good reviews we hope to run it again in the fall. Bolton Valley After School Ski & Ride program completed session 1 with a bus full of happy participants! Session 2 is at the midway point after one cancellation, so we are hoping the snow will hold on for 2 more weeks on the mountain!

Upcoming spring programs: Youth Lacrosse registration for 3rd-8th grade is complete and we are now organizing teams and coaches while collaborating with Williston, Hinesburg and Charlotte. Registration is still underway for the K-2nd grade program which won't start until after April break. Champlain Valley Little League Registration wrapped up on March 15 and they will now organize teams. They have a Volunteer Field Clean up Day scheduled for April 11 and families of all participants are highly encouraged to get involved! A Women's Empowerment Self Defense class is coming up in early April with national award winning instructors, The Safety Team.

Event Update: Winter Carnival was a great success! We had approximately 250 attendees and over 30 volunteers! We had 10 different community organizations join Shelburne Parks and Recreation to create a fun and interactive afternoon for families! The net cost of the event was \$241. We brought in \$635 in sponsorships, bake sale and donations, and our expenses totaled \$876 (Music, supplies, mini golf, bounce house).

The Valentine's Dance was also a fabulous night for participants who came to dance and socialize. We sold 163 tickets for \$1,940 in revenue. Our expenses for food, décor and the DJ were \$770 for a profit of \$1170. We are happy that we made our goal of \$1,000 minimum profit, which helps support other special events (such as covering the cost Winter Carnival).