

Weathersfield Parks & Recreation Commission
Wednesday March 1st , 2023
1879 Schoolhouse, 1862 Route 106

Board members present: Mark Richardson, Ray Stapleton, Julia Gumbart

Board members absent: Olivia Savage

Public present: Cash Gagnon, Nichole Gagnon, Rick Bates, Claudio Veliz, Amy Beth Main, Jackie Lindamood

At 6:00 PM, only Mark and Julia were present so there was no quorum. It was decided that we could go ahead with a general discussion with the public.

Hoisington Field

Rick Bates, with support from Claudio Veliz, provided a presentation about putting a pre-owned observatory somewhere on the Hoisington Field property, potentially down near the swamp. SoVerA (Southern Vermont Astronomy Group) is currently in possession of the small observatory and an accompanying 10" telescope. There was discussion about if it would be possible/okay to move/remove the observatory when/if a park design happens. SoVerA would also be inclined to host "star parties" to garner interest from the public in astronomy. This project would be in collaboration with the Weathersfield Proctor Library as well.

Ray arrived and called the meeting to order at 6:47 PM. There was now a quorum, but it was decided to table the approval of last meeting's minutes until the next meeting.

July 8th Festival

There was discussion around what the appropriate timing would be for the festival. It was decided that 2-8 PM may be most appropriate for both families and vendors. Nichole asked if there would be an issue with getting vendors permits. Ray had already talked to Brandon Gulnick and it seems to not be an issue. Ray suggested that a theme for the festival be "Outdoor Recreation". The next step in planning the festival will be determining how much space we have for vendors/booths/activities/music. Julia volunteered Ryan Gumbart to create a dot grid on GIS to assist with this task.

1879 Schoolhouse Spigot

The group determined that a spigot outside of the schoolhouse would be very useful for events and for gardening activities. We need to inquire with Brandon what the process would be to make this happen.

Center Grove

No discussion.

Julia motioned to adjourn at 7:22 PM.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday April 5th at 6 PM at the 1879 Schoolhouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Julia Gumbart

Approved on: _____ by: _____