



Richmond Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2022, 6:00 PM

via Zoom

Present: Jeff Konowitch, Chair; Doug Bruce; Mike Harke. Adeline Ellis, Brad Havill, Susan Sabo.

Jeff opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

- Minutes from the March 8, 2022 meeting were approved unanimously.

Tennis/pickleball court repair and alteration:

Jeff had nothing new to report.

Adeline Ellis wrote an article for the *Richmond Record* regarding the project. Adeline said Jeff Caligari is the liaison with the contractor; she has not had an update recently. RCS has a pickleball clinic scheduled for students.

Susan Sabo asked how to ensure that money given to the Town could be used only for the pickleball project. Jeff explained that the Town created an account for that purpose; it is his understanding that so long as checks are labelled for pickleball, the Town will keep the funds separate. Jeff encouraged Susan to check with Danielle for details.

The Community Preservation Act was discussed as a possible source of funding for pickleball-related project going forward. Jeff explained the Town's earlier, failed attempts to pass the CPA. Doug stated the Recreation Committee was not the right group to push for CPA.

Jeff said that the Committee had voted to spend \$500 on equipment for the courts. Nets are available for \$150/each from Dick's Sporting Goods. Susan said the net that she uses cost about that much and was adequate.

Jeff explained that at one time there was a Richmond tennis association. When it lost vigor, the Committee absorbed the little money left in their account and took on oversight of

the tennis court and equipment. An awning and cork board are in the equipment room; a bench is on the court.

Gym scheduling:

Various volleyball programs are using the gym.

Richmond youth basketball is done for the season.

A high school-aged basketball group is using the gym on Sunday evenings and is interested in using it on a weekday as well.

Financials:

\$3,750 from FY '21 (allocated to tennis court repairs)

\$3,658.33 from FY '22 (\$500 of this is allocated to pickleball equipment purchase)

\$4,807.38 in the revolving account

A deposit of receipts from the basketball program should occur this month.

New members:

Susan Sabo is considering joining the Committee. She and Jeff will speak about the Committee later. Jeff explained to Susan that she needed to submit a letter of interest to the Board of Selectmen; the BoS could then appoint her.

Adeline Ellis said she will not seek appointment.

Website:

No update.

Youth basketball:

The season is now over; the banquet was on Saturday the 2nd.

Erika Dubis is interested in coaching the junior group again next year and intends to start the season earlier.

Table tennis tournament:

The evening of April 8. Set up for the event will be at 3:30 pm. Registration at 5 and games begin at 6. Jeff has spoken to previous years' attendees and asked them to spread the word. Tammy will prepare pizza and snacks for purchase.

Three categories: "pro", recreational, and youth. The pros take care of themselves and will probably play round robin.

Richmond running race:

The event is proposed for Saturday June 4 at Colonial Acres. Registration may begin at 8:30 with events starting at 9.

Doug will draft a proposal to use as a permit application to the Selectboard. Concurrent with an application, Doug will reach out to the neighborhood. Doug will also talk to Chief Traver about having an ambulance crew on-site that day.

New business:

Joint event with PTA:

The idea of holding a joint fundraiser with the PTA was discussed. The event might be a way to honor John Reynolds and to raise money for the Berkshire Humane Society. Jeff will float the idea with Berkshire Humane.

Installation of “mutt-mitt” dispensers:

Doug will find out how much dispensers cost. The consensus was that at least one could be installed (possibly at the top of Osceola Road, on the way to the Lenox fire tower); three should be purchased if there is a benefit to buying in bulk.

Recreational use of open space bylaw amendment:

The Richmond Land Trust asked the Committee to endorse the Planning Board’s suggested zoning bylaw amendment related to the public’s use of privately owned land. The Committee did not reach a consensus on the endorsement and decided that any endorsement should be unanimous – no action was taken.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 pm.

Minutes prepared by Doug Bruce, 4/7/2022