

Minutes of the Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting  
October 22, 2018, 9:30 a.m.

Present: Rita Farrell, BZ Reilly, Christine Robinson, Christine Marglin  
Absent: Elizabeth Fernandez O'Brien

Meeting minutes approved from October 4, 2018

It was decided that Christine M will take notes for the foreseeable future.

Rita gave an update on trail mapping activities:

The three trails currently being mapped are:

Houston/Gage (named in part for Polly Gage and the Gage family; some of the Houston/Gage Trail is on land that includes the Amherst water shed)  
Fisk Pond  
Ames Pond

Gary Donnelly sent the map for Houston/Gage Trail with links embedded in the document that can be clicked on to see photographs of the trail as you are reading. It would be wonderful to have all trail maps include such links.

Michael said he would do this for Fisk pond walk. That walk is confusing, with many twists and turns. Rita can put up red tape as markers along that trail. This morning she went through the trail description written by Bert Fernandez and elaborated on it, based upon the walk sponsored by the committee yesterday. The walk needs to be done again to confirm all details. The question was raised about whether dogs are permitted on this trail, with the decision to take no action on the issue at this time. People do walk dogs there currently. The Ames Pond Trail includes postings that no dogs are permitted.

Two of the three Trails, Houston/Gage and Fisk Pond, will be ready for posting on the town website soon, perhaps by the end of this week.

Rita has been trying to get in touch with Sue Essig about the Ames Pond Trail. It is partially on private land but there is some type of easement, and the Kestrel Trust will be managing some of the land in future. The town's right to post the trail is unclear, as are questions of when the trail crosses private land and what parking will be allowed. Marty Wells created some parking spaces on land owned by Julian Janowitz, and Rita is trying to meet with Julian, Sue Essig, and Sue and Marty Wells, who also own abutting land, about the trail and our ability to post a map of it.

Rita will send completed trail maps for the two trails to Fred Steinberg to post on town website and when they are up, will notify town residents on Nextdoor Shutesbury.

The committee is considering whether we will ultimately print and publish a paper map of the trails, as was done in Leverett. We will discuss this and other next steps with the larger trail subcommittee, and also ask those involved in Leverett how they funded and organized their efforts.

The next meeting of the Recreation Committee on Wednesday, November 7 at 7 pm will be devoted to discussing the trails, with the participation of the trail subcommittee. Christine R will ask Gary Donnelly to present the work he did on the Houston/Gage Trail. The map will be

projected from Rita's laptop, and BZ will provide a borrowed projector. Participants will have the opportunity to provide feedback, and changes can be made to existing map. Christine R has the keys to the building. The committee members will plan to arrive at 6:45 pm. Rita will email all those who have attended two earlier trail meetings to invite them, and Christine M will post the meeting on Nextdoor Shutesbury. Christine R will include the meeting in Roadtown News. All invitations and notices to read:

#### Recreation Committee Meeting on Shutesbury Hiking Trails

The Shutesbury Recreation Committee will hold a meeting downstairs in town hall on Wednesday, November 7 at 7 pm dedicated to a discussion of hiking trails in Shutesbury, presenting ongoing work on the mapping of trails, and sharing ideas about how to move forward with the mapping and publicizing of trails. All welcome.

BZ suggested the committee host a snow shoe trail walk during the winter months.

The continuation of yoga and strength training classes: Rita and BZ will follow up with teachers Kathy and Sasha, and sign up sheets will be brought to classes asking participants if they are interested in continuing the classes through the winter months, and willing to commit to paying ahead for a series of 10-12 classes at \$5 per class. Participants will be asked for contact information. The Committee can supplement fees for classes from committee budget. There is currently a large turn-out for classes.

Christine R reported that Jessica at SES has asked the Committee for our help with Shutesbury Day next year, and she would like to attend one our meetings to discuss this possibility with us.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28.