

Shutesbury Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 12, 2023
4:00, Zoom
Meeting begun: 4:02

Present: Barbara Bigelow, chair, Ann Brigham, Christine Marglin (taking minutes), BZ Reily, Elaine Puleo, Christine Robinson
Guests: Graeme Sephton; Joan Green joined midway, 4:40

Minutes from last meeting approved.

Agenda:

1. Review and vote on proposed activities for FY 2023
2. CPC grant proposal for trail maintenance
3. Discussion of Shutesbury Studio Tour

1. Events we've talked about, and people willing to take responsibility
2. Mushroom foraging, mushroom growing, tree bark identification, night sky walk, bird identification walk, fern identification walk. Christine R has asked Mary Ann at library for names of people, who could lead these events, other than night sky, which Christine can follow up on herself. Would any be cosponsored with library? Good for prompt events.

Mushroom foraging on hold; mushroom growing workshop will be initiated by BZ and Barbara; tree bark walk Christine M and Barbara; for bird identification Elaine will call Helen Anne and someone she knows, and coordinate that event with them; Christine R and Ann will work on night sky.

We will make a schedule next month for when these things will happen.

Graeme: trail maintenance. Town Farm Road trail (NE Trail); a second trail runs up private property and DCR land and a third, proposed trail beginning at Town Hall would be on town land, across town lot 48 and across DCR land. Wetlands and other sensitive areas would have to be avoided, and the proposed trail could likely be approved. Three feet wide, about a half mile in length. The trail crosses a small stream. A small bridge could be built over it. Graeme has applied to the community preservation committee for \$6000 to cover materials (CPC approves feasibility, Town Meeting votes to approve) and the process of creating the trail. Volunteers would do some of the work. Students would be hired for other aspects for a few weeks in summer. The last piece is the DCR form for trails that needs to be filled out. The NET is on DCR land. Three people are in Graeme's group. Would the Recreation Committee sponsor this trail project and the two applications? Unanimously approved to sponsor.

Guided walks: Graeme is willing to lead a walk. Julian's Bower will be another led walk. The walkway there is supposed to be rebuilt.

Graeme left meeting at 4:35

Joan arrived 4:40 to describe her proposed open studio day, Sunday, June 30, 2024. Applied for a cultural council grant. She would like publicity help from the rec committee. Signs being posted, letting people know by word of mouth, if there are other artists known to us who might want to participate, etc.

Would this be an annual event? Yes, ideally.

We can help with marketing within Shutesbury. All studios will be in Shutesbury. Artists can invite other artists from outside town to share their space if they choose. Unanimously approved to help with promoting the studio tour.

Meeting adjourned: 4:57

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 4.