

JOHNSON SKATEPARK & BIKE TRACK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING/REMOTE ATTENDANCE BY ZOOM
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2022

Present:

Committee Members: Casey Romero, James Whitehill, George Swanson, Rick Aupperlee, Greg Fatigate

Others: Dean Locke

Absent: Howard Romero

1. Call to Order

Casey called the meeting to order at 5:38. The meeting was conducted via Zoom. Casey suggested moving up item #6 (Meet Dean Locke) as the next item.

2. Recreation Coordinator: Meet Dean Locke

Dean didn't have a working microphone so he was unable to speak to the committee, but committee members introduced themselves to him. James said he initially got involved on the mountain bike side of the park after he reached out to Casey about making improvements. In the last year he has been more involved with the skate side. George said he is a land steward and math teacher at Laraway. He has been part of this committee for over 5 years. Rick said he is a school-to-work coordinator at Laraway. He has probably been on the committee at least as long as George. Greg said he has been involved with the skatepark for a long while. He works at Smugglers' Notch.

3. Draft Minutes of September 10, 2022 Meeting

Rick moved to approve the minutes of September 10, 2022 as presented and the motion was passed.

4. Financials: Current Expenses

Casey said directors' orders for the past month totaled about \$1500. We paid for September mowing, the sign and our final portolet bill. She has not heard about any grants. She has not gotten information about whether we ended the year with a deficit or have an amount we can put into the reserve fund.

5. Personnel Update

Casey said the promising NVU student who wanted to do part-time maintenance work is now working in the elementary school afterschool program so she is not available. David Ellerbee is still interested in doing an NVU/skatepark art themed student rider event.

Ashton has basically been doing all the park maintenance. He is keeping it clean and doing some painting. Ian says when he gets back from traveling he will try to come once or twice a month.

6. 'Crete Project: Update

Casey said we haven't heard anything about grants for the concrete project. We didn't end up doing the proposed fall event because there wasn't anyone available to supervise it. Casey still hopes there can be some kind of winter fundraiser event at Moog's. She will talk to Tom Moog about that at some point.

7. Employee Report(s)

Casey said Ashton has sent her updates about painting and sanding wood features in the bike terrain.

8. Laraway Report)

George said it has been a very active fall semester. They are working on new playground apparatus. They have had an excellent cider year. They have produced 33 gallons. The chickens are doing well. The kids are engaged in academics.

Rick said Laraway is going back to more hands-on community-based activities. There is a Laraway student working at Tractor Supply, another working at ReSource and one delivering Meals on Wheels. Today he wrapped up meetings with people at the United Church. They are going to bring back the community lunch. They are hoping to kick it off in November with a holiday meal, have another

holiday meal in December and then go back to twice a week meals in January. Laraway is also working in collaboration with Jenna's House. Jenna's House has been doing a community meal. Jenny Stancliff at Jenna's House is going to help support the community meals at the United Church and she is going to have meals at Jenna's House in the weeks there is no meal at the United Church. There is a donation jar at the meals; in the past Laraway has served over 5000 meals and raised close to \$3000 for the Johnson Food Shelf.

9. Site Work: Yard Hydrant; Other; Fall Wrap Up

Casey said the village turned off the yard hydrant because it was leaking a lot. Howard tried twice to work on it but it isn't fixed yet. He will try again when he has the time. We may need to hire a plumber to replace the interior mechanism. He is hoping he can bypass the problematic pump handle. We may need to replace the unit.

Casey asked if there is anything we need to do before winter, particularly with the bike tracks. Do we need to call out for volunteers to help? James said he thinks we just need to make sure there are tarps on the jumps before the first snow. He can take care of that.

Casey asked if anything came to Greg's attention when he was mowing. Greg said no; everything was in fairly decent shape. The mountain bike skills track could use work with a rototiller and a team of people to pick up clumps of sod, but that doesn't have to happen in the fall. Casey asked, so that is a spring chore? Greg said yes. Casey asked if Greg has access to a rototiller. He said he can rent one.

Greg said he thinks we could get more people to use the pump track if we put different features on the line closest to the skatepark. Casey said she thinks that will be spring work. We have a few thousand grant dollars left unspent for bike track work. Greg said the features he put on that section of the pump track are niche things. He probably should have put in things everyone will do, like rollers and jumps. Casey explained to Dean that we got input from a bike trail professional but the installation of the pump track was all done by Greg, so he is very familiar with it. She suggested that over the winter Greg can develop a specific plan and assign cost estimates and then the committee can take it up in the spring.

10. Other Business

Casey said once she is back in town she wants to have regular phone or in-person meetings with Dean. She asked him to let her know by email if he can meet with her on October 17.

11. Adjourn

Rick moved to adjourn at 6:01, Greg seconded and the motion was passed.