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# Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices

## Meeting Minutes

PO Box 409  
677 Vermont RTE 7A  
Shaftsbury, VT  
05262-0409  
(802) 442-4038

### Recreation Committee

**Date of Meeting:** Friday, **May 22, 2026**, at 10:00 AM

**Location:** The Town Offices and remotely via Zoom.

**In attendance:**

- Deena Ruege
- Kate Oklein
- Marie Watson

**1) Call to Order / Review of Minutes:**

- a) The minutes of the May 1, 2026 meeting were reviewed.
- b) Ms. Ruege called for a motion to approve
  - Marie Watson moved; Kate Oklein seconded. Minutes were approved.

**2) Conflict of Interest Statement:**

- a) None

**3) Announcements:**

- a) None

**4) Public Comments:**

- a) None

**5) Updates:**

- a) Dog Park:
  - Former Recreation Committee member Sarah Costin **volunteered to continue to spearhead the dog park project**. She had the **footprints of the dog park** laid out for the small/large dog areas, a **materials list** that was cost adjusted for 2026, and has the contact list of vendors that can supply what we need when we are ready to build.
  - **Information flow:** Sarah—Deena--Recreation.Committee--Jen Holley--Front Page Forum and other outlets to spread information.
  - **Locust wood, AKA iron wood**, should be used for **posts**. **5' fencing** would be a good height to use for both small and large dog areas. We will need a tractor with an auger to sink the fence posts in addition to volunteers to get the fence installed
  - **Mike Y.** will brush hog the area once a month during the summer to allow the grass to grow.
  - **Sarah** suggested a **volunteer Dog Park** group to check on dog park cleanliness. She will work on **wording for communication** this week and will send Deena a **Dog Park Rules plaque** to look at.
  - **Fund raising** can be done at any time. **Ideas: listing sponsors** of park like bricks,



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donate money for **10ft.** of fencing to **commemorate your dog**, donate **X** amount of **money** towards the dog park.

- **Art Gallery** has areas that need **repainting**. Sarah has the **red paint** for the Gallery and the **green paint** for the **Howard Park sign**.
  - b) **Memorial plaque** for Barb Marino is up on the Art Gallery.
  - c) **Cameras and the 2 solar lights** are working well. The cameras will hold recordings until they are deleted. Update **for resurfacing** of tennis and pickleball courts is still scheduled for July. Paula needs more information on the **thickness of the tennis nets** before she can place an order. Deena will meet with her to get this accomplished
  - d) **Memorial for Helen Olney:** Deena has been in contact with **Jim Henderson** for information on the kind of tree that would be good in a natural setting to accommodate wildlife. He suggested an apple or crab apple tree. The committee agreed on the **apple tree**. **Jim** should be able to help pick out a suitable location for planting it. We are favoring **behind the ballfield** and behind the bleachers. Deena will contact Jim with our decision. Jim said that he would like to **donate the tree**. **Marie** checked with Helen's sister, Harriet, regarding a memorial plaque. Due to a family crisis, Harriet cannot help at this time. Harriet said that **Helen was passionate** about **Green Up Day** and the town of Shaftsbury. We will work on wording for a plaque incorporating GUD as a legacy to Helen. Working towards obtaining a **trex memorial bench** will be **postponed** at this time. The **Bulletin Board** is **installed** at HP and Marie has two keys to pass along to Deena.
  - e) **Electricity for the Green** would cost **\$3000** to install. Mike suggested we use **extension cords**. Deena will check with Mike about **installing a covered external outlet on Cole Hall**.
  - f) **New Fee Schedule** for **the Green** and **Howard Park** will be posted this week by Jen Holley.
  - g) **Liz** has **new artwork** from Emily Umphlett to put up on the Art Gallery. **Kate** has a **staple gun** that she can bring to see if it will work on the old, dense wood.
  - h) **Addressed at** (e.
  - i) **Addressed previously**
- 6) **New Business:**
- a) **Kiosk** near Tilgner Trail needs **repair**. Deena will contact Mike Y.
- 7) **Adjournment:**
- a) Marie Motioned to Adjourn, Kate seconded.
  - b) Meeting Adjourned at **10:58 a.m.**
  - c) Next scheduled meeting: **June 26, 2026 at 10 a.m. at Town Office**

Respectfully Submitted by: Deena Ruege