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Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices

Meeting Minutes

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Recreation Committee

August 28, 2026 – 10:00 AM at Shaftsbury Municipal Offices

Attending:

Deena Ruege

Marie Watson

Julie Hoar (by phone)

Liz Duffey (via zoom)

Carlyn Mickle (town administrator)

Jen Holley (operations coordinator)

1. Call to order/ review of minutes:

a) call to order at 10:00 by Deena Ruege

b) review of July 24, 2026 minutes , motion to accept minutes by Marie Watson, 2nd by Liz Duffey, minutes approved.

2. Conflict of interest: None

3. Announcements: None

4. Public Comments: See new business

5. Updates:

a. Dog Park:

August 4th @ 9am a small group met at future dog park site to measure outline for fencing. Corners were set and every 10 feet markings were made around the perimeter.

On 9/29/26 a Dog Park work day has been planned & advertised on social media and town newsletter. Deena R. plans to bring water & snacks for attendees. Jay Coonradt will bring locust posts & come with his mechanical auger on his tractor.

b. Tennis courts resurfacing:

We've received lots of positive feedback from tennis & pickle ball enthusiasts. They look great and are being used often.

c. Tilgner Trail:

Julie Hoar placed the repainted signs back up. The memorial bench along the trail has not been secured. Deena will ask Tim Gulley (interim DPW foreman) about securing the bench.

The story boards provided by Sarah Case at SES, will be placed next spring, due to the winter weather coming in the next few months.

d. The Kiosk at beginning of Tilgner Trail needs repair, the roof and the enclosures for the trail & plants map need new clear plastic inside frames. The post holding the East side has pulled away from framing. Julie H. states she & husband will help fix the post after end of September.

The external outlet at Cole Hall is on hold. Jen Holley mentioned she has outlet on her truck, if needed for town events on the Green.

e. Community Day & other activities:

Dog Parade at the Green is planned for October 17th from 4pm - 6pm. More detail will be discussed at September 25, 2026 Rec committee meeting.

A spring, possibly April of '27 "Community Day" event @ Howard Park, was discussed, to include a scavenger hunt to collect nature's items to build fairy house along the Tilgner Trail. Asking Home Depot to donate bird house kits or scrap wood to convert to fairy houses was mentioned.

Contacting with the director of the SES after school program was brought up, to involve the school age children to create fairy or gnome houses during the school year, before the event. Contacting local Boy/Girl scouts to see if they might earn a badge to participate in the event.

6. New business:

Deena R. will contact Jim Henderson about the crab apple tree in memory of Helen Howard Olney.

Carlyn Mickle shared some of the discussions going on during some of the town committee meetings.

We don't know the future of Cole Hall or the Green. It's been recommended to hold off any plans for a gazebo on the green.

The town has discussed the possibility of connecting the town offices with the cemetery next door, and also eventually the Cleveland Ave Park. The new town offices has an abundant green area for possible future community events.

Because of the recent town plan survey, there are many "moving parts" for our town's future. The planning commission, the Sewer Feasibility report, the CCDC, and Recreation committees will be part of A Multi Committee meeting being planned for October/November this year, to discuss some of the town's future plans.

7. Adjournment:

Marie W. motioned to adjourn, Deena R. seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:02

Next scheduled meeting : September 25 at 10 am at town office.