

Living Well in North Yarmouth Committee

Minutes

09/16/2020

Attendance: Steve Palmer (Chair), Donna Palmer, Jay Fulton, Gay Peterson, Peter Lindsay, Peg Leonard, Ginny Van Dyke

Minutes: Motion was moved and seconded to approve minutes from 08/19/2020 meeting. Motion was approved.

Old Business:

1. Recycling Project: Committee members unanimously agreed to participate in a recycling education program. Rosemary will be informed of our agreement and we will await Rosemary's indication that the town is behind the project. We will engage Rob Wood's assistance and expertise when we get the go ahead from Rosemary.

2. Traffic calming: A) Two 10'x4' banners were erected, one on Mountfort Road and one on 231. A kite was placed beside the banners to reinforce the kite message. Another kite was installed at the intersection of North/Mill/231. Steve has 3 kites remaining. Jay requested one of them. Gay suggested we look at mounting kites or banners on some of the private fences in town. This could be a project for next Spring. Donna mentioned that some Facebook postings indicate townspeople know the answer to "What are the kites all about?". There was discussion over whether or not lawn signs might be a feasible alternative to the kites themselves. They are easier to install and may weather better. Members agreed that the lawn signs, in conjunction with kites, would be a good addition. Donna will investigate the cost. Additionally, we agreed to purchase 2 more banners (expensive but dramatic) as well as pursuing the use of The Bike Coalition of Maine's Slow Down signage. The committee agreed to the weekend following Halloween for removal of kites and signs for the Winter. New kites for next year will need to be purchased due to fading of current supply. The 30" diamond shape appear to be the best. The new crosswalks are in.

There was some discussion about purchasing a radar gun to help with documentation of speeding vehicles, especially trucks. Ginny had witnessed a number of speeding buses and wrote a letter to the school superintendent and our NY board members. All replied in a timely manner. Kevin Desmond indicated he had witnessed the same thing and the superintendent said he would pass the complaint on to Scott Poulin. It appears there is a way to track the movements of the buses.

Donna indicated that next week's print newsletter will have an article on traffic calming.

New Business:

A) **Yoga:** The October Yoga class has been cancelled. It will be rescheduled for Spring.

B) **Dog matters:** Donna, Steve and Ginny have been walking the North Yarmouth parks since Spring and have noted a great number of offensive dog and owner behaviors. Dogs off leash and not under control, dog poop left behind, both au naturel and in bags, and aggressive dogs whose owners seem to be oblivious or unconcerned. Parks and Rec are working on devising a system of leash free and leashed dog ordinances. One suggestion is to have one park designated for off leash roaming. Westcustogo was discussed as such a park although there was some concern voiced over nesting Bobolinks. The committee agreed we could support a dog park and ordinance. Peter will write a letter to Parks and Rec indicating our support and it suggested we could show further support by showing up at meetings where dog matters are discussed.

C) **Community playground project:** There has been discussion in North Yarmouth around the desire for a community playground but to date nothing has materialized. There were questions about who should take the lead. LWNy could be the impetus to get started but we will need community effort. It was agreed that the first step will be to talk with Rosemary (Jay and Ginny will do so) to get her help with gaining Select Board buy in. The Board is currently working on its goals and this could be a worthy goal. It was further determined that we should get Lisa involved.

Other Business:

1) **Transportation:** Donna had read a Facebook query from Ashli Hein regarding transportation for her mother. The requests were for 8 appointments to South Portland and Scarborough for Dr's visits. The committee felt that this was out of our comfort zone and it was decided that Donna would get back to Ashli with the suggestion that she look into RTP since they serve residents of Cumberland County.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on 10/21/2020 via Zoom at 7:00PM

Meeting Adjourned: 6:47PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Van Dyke

September 21, 2020