

Minutes of the Charlemont Selectboard

08/01/2023

Present: Valentine Reid, Bill Harker

Public Present: Cheryl Handsaker, Bob Handsaker, Ken Hall, Bonnie Joe Radash, Tom Shields, Sara Dorcey and Sarah Reynolds.

Meeting opened at 6:06 pm

Valentine Reid explained that the Recreation money the town received needs to be spent by June of 2026 and the pursuit of the Willis property was not going in a direction that made it seem like it would be able to be purchased.

An Email from Marguerite Willis was read about her hope that a project was picked and completed, instead of doing to many little projects and not gaining anything from the funds.

The town would like to have projects together because if they were larger projects there would need to be time to complete them.

Discussion ensued about projects at the Fairgrounds and at Hawlemont School including:

Exhibit Hall upgrade to year-Round

Pool

Outdoor Game area/Outdoor Movie Area

Splash Pad

Grandstands

Walking Path to Fairgrounds

Access to area at bottom of Park Street for a water area (wading pool)

Fairground track improvements

Recreation Signage

Sidewalk From Route 2 to Tennis Courts

EV Chargers

Resurface of Tennis Court/Change into park/dual use with pickleball

Benches

Work to Riverbank Area behind School

Work To the Ballfield Area, additional sporting facility soccer baseball shuffleboard

School St Parking Improvements

Community Board

Walking paths connecting tennis courts to river, comprehensive walking path

It was also discussed that the money could be used to do projects that offset other grant funding to extend the use of the money and add to the items that could be completed.

Also doing projects in a way that preserves the character of the spaces and allows for community participation. As well as being able to upkeep the projects that are picked and make it so that they are not costing the town money.

Next steps are for a comprehensive list to be made and address the difficulty/feasibility of each project as well as its importance, so that a path forward is created.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm on a motion by Bill Harker and second by Valentine Reid.