

APPROVED

04/25/2023

**Town of Norridgewock
TIF Advisory Committee Minutes
March 28, 2023**

Co-Chair Becky Ketchum called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM at the Town Office. Committee members Jessie Everett, Becky Ketchum, and Drew Ketterer were present. Members Brandi Ireland and Sallie Wilder participated through Zoom. Also, in attendance for all or part of the meeting were Town Manager Richard LaBelle, Todd Pineo, Dave Savage and Jeff Jones.

Jessie made a motion to approve the last meeting's minutes and Becky seconded, all were in favor.

Todd handed out some items related to the Fire Department request. He provided the history on the last Fire-related item the TIF Committee approved (automated hose dryer) and gave us an update on that. They have not moved forward with this purchase because the manufacturer and vendor seem to have some conflicts and the Department didn't feel comfortable moving forward with the purchase. They will still want to revisit this, but they would like all their questions answered before doing so. The Fire Department is requesting money for new portable radios. They have 6 old radios that need replacing. The older versions are not as safe as some of the new ones they have. There was much discussion about reallocating the funds from the previous request to this one but Becky thought it should be its own request. I asked the question about the Fire Department annual budget, but the cost of these is way outside of their own budget. Where John could not attend, he wanted Becky to relay that he was supportive of this new request. Drew made a motion to approve the new request for \$10,000. Becky seconded and all were in favor.

Richard presented the Build ME event and that we could sponsor for \$600. This is a good economic development opportunity by promoting our town. Becky was wondering if the funds could come out of another budget and the answer was yes, but it ties into TIF. John was in agreement with this as well. Becky made motion to approve. Drew seconded and all were in favor.

We tabled consideration of revising the Façade Improvement Program Guidelines until next meeting when all members are there.

We have attached a letter from Janice Malek concerning the Ashley Wing Memorial Park project.

Canoe/kayak rack money is still available and will hopefully come to life this year.

Becky adjourned meeting at 4:45.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for April, 2023 at 4:00PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessie Everett
Secretary, TIF Committee

March 24, 2023

To: TIF

Town of Norridgewock

Re: Ashley Wing Memorial Park

To Whom It may Concern ,

In light of the fact that Spring is here, it is time to get the Ashley Wing Memorial Park ready for the Summer season. The Norridgewock Sportsmen Association has sent updated news that the new rail trail, going past the park, will be open this summer. With the new rail trail parking lot located adjacent to the Ashley Wing Memorial Park, there is some urgency to protecting the area from ATVs and 4wheelers, especially in the fragile area around the Big Tree (one of the largest white pines in the state, according to the Champion Tree measurements taken in 2020 by the Maine Forestry Service). Any motorized traffic to the park area would easily cause erosion and destroy fragile terrain. It is important to preserve this area for the future.

As a concerned citizen, environmentalist, and trail user, I would like to make some recommendations; and also offer my time and energy to lead and organize the park preservation and improvements.

I see the two most urgent needs as:

1. Create a barrier to prevent motorized vehicles from going on the trail or into the park, possibly using granite blocks (some are there on the property ?), or boulders, or other natural barriers.
2. Placement of the Sportsmen's maintenance building and any portapotties on the side of the parking area AWAY from the trail (trail is on the left, so buildings on the right or the back).

Future recommendations would be for new signage, and reserved parking spaces for trail users.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Janice Malek
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