

TOWN OF NORTHFIELD, VERMONT
DOG RIVER PARK COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 15, 2026

1. Roll Call

- a. Committee Members Present: Kim Adams, Russ Barrett, Marv Lutnesky, Bonnie Donahue.
- b. Public Present: None
- c. Meeting began at 4:00pm

2. Set/Adjust Agenda

- a. No changes

3. Approval of Minutes (July 2026)

- a. No changes. Minutes approved.
 - i. Motion by Russ, second by Kim. 3-0-0.
 - 1. Marv did not vote as he was not officially on the board at the time these minutes were taken.

4. Approval of Minutes (August 2026)

- a. No changes. Minutes approved.
 - i. Motion by Marv, second by Russ. 4-0-0.

5. Turtle surveys

- a. Discussed the potential for turtle surveys/research to be potentially done in the Dog River Park area. The committee is supportive of this endeavor.
- b. We can check out VT Fish & Wildlife guidelines to support turtle habitat and consider how to accommodate this in the Dog River Park.

6. Maintenance

- a. Swing chain
 - i. Tabled for next meeting
- b. Willow bench
 - i. Tabled for next meeting

c. Tree protection

- i. Discussed testing out several tree protection methods next year to see which is best, including tree rings, and bagged mulch. Goal is to keep mowing equipment away from the base of trees.**

d. Fall mowing

- i. Bonnie will ask Simon which third needs to be mowed this year and will reach out to the Town Manager to coordinate mowing after October 15th.**

e. Morning Glory (actually bindweed) /NU Planting

- i. Discussed the idea of having NU students help clean up and replant the riparian buffer between the path and beach area. Currently the area is overtaken by bindweed. Discuss a plan with Simon Pearish. Coordinated brush hogging in advance potentially and investigate grants for conservation plant material.**

7. Sculpture/Art Item for Park

- a. There is a locally made cornhole board that could be made for under \$3,000 and paid for using donated Dog River Park funds. Discussed ways to keep the boards secured to the ground.**
- b. Bonnie/Kim will reach out to the Town Manager to see what she thinks about this idea, and whether the Town could install concrete pads and the boards for us.**

8. Open Meeting Overview

- a. Discussed open meeting rules and how to business should be conducted in public meetings. Bonnie will send the group a resource from Ken McCann as a refresher.**

9. Member updates

- a.**

10.Public Participation (unscheduled)

- a. None**

11.Adjourned at 4:49pm

- a. Motion by Russ, second by Kim. 4-0-0**