

Town of Northfield, Vermont

Dog River Park Committee

Minutes of July 8, 2026

1. Roll Call

- a. Committee Members Present: Kim Adams, Russ Barrett, Bonnie Donahue.
- b. Public Present: Kim and Marv Lutnesky
- c. Meeting began at 5:41pm

2. Set/Adjust Agenda

- a. No changes

3. Approval of Minutes (June 2026)

- a. No changes. Minutes approved.
 - i. Motion by Russ, second by Kim. 3-0-0.

4. Art in the park event

- a. We will try for a paint & sip event in the morning of Saturday, September 12th from 10:00-12:00pm. We will provide coffee or cider. A rain date may be the following weekend. Kim will confirm the dates with our teacher.
- b. The Town Manager shared that if we plan to serve alcohol, we will need to hire a bartender. We are moving toward a morning, non-alcoholic event now.
- c. The library has a few paint sets/easels we can use, but we will need to ask people to bring their own materials.
- d. We will discuss how to advertise the event at our next DRPC meeting.

5. Sculpture for the park

- a. Discussed the idea of using the rest of the DRPC funds to commission a small, boulder-sized, interactive stone sculpture in the park.
- b. Kim will find out more information from a local sculptor. Depending on the cost of the sculpture, we may be able to ask for material donations from local stone suppliers to help defray the costs.

- c. Bonnie will reach out to the Town Manager to see if she supports the idea.
- d. Bonnie will find the RFP for a sculpture that we used for a past sculpture grant on the Common for us to use as a base for an RFP for the Dog River Park.

6. Member updates

- a. Russ shared that the Cross Brothers Dam will be removed soon. The committee is curious if we will notice any water level impact upstream at the Dog River Park.
- b. The swing company sent us replacement chains for free. At our next meeting, we will replace the chain with the discoloration. We will need to bring a socket wrench or two.
- c. Simon is okay with us removing the willow stems from the bench area. We will clip them back at our next meeting if they're not already cut back.
- d. Michele Braun said that she would schedule the knotweed treatment for the park. Bonnie will follow up.
- e. The knotweed pile is still in the parcel across from the park. Bonnie will ask the Town Manager about its relocation again.

7. Public Participation (unscheduled)

- a. Marv has submitted a letter to the Town Manager to become a Dog River Park Committee member. This should be in effect by our next meeting in August.
- b. Discussed using mulch rings as a deterrent for mowers getting too close to tree bases. Bonnie will reach out to Jim Russo to discuss mowing around the trees. Currently, it looks like the mowers are avoiding the tree trunks well.

8. Adjourned at 6:10pm

- a. Motion by Russ, second by Kim. 3-0-0