

JOHNSON SKATEPARK & BIKE TRACK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JOHNSON MUNICIPAL BUILDING / REMOTE ATTENDANCE BY ZOOM
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

Present:

Committee Members: Casey Romero, Howard Romero, Alexis Daniels, Greg Fatigate

Absent: George Swanson

Note: All votes taken are unanimous unless otherwise noted.

1. Call to Order

Casey called the meeting to order at 5:34.

2. Minutes of June 11 and August 13, 2025

The minutes of June 11 and August 13, 2025 were approved by consensus.

3. Directors' Orders

Casey said we spent about \$1025, of which \$684 will be covered by a grant. Our only active grant is the recovery grant from the Vermont Community Fund. It is focused on shed contents, shed structure and equipment. We have been told that we should ideally spend it all by the end of this year. We have about \$1100 left. She realized we could use it to buy supplies for a maintenance project she just did. She had Seamus and Chante clear out weeds on the trailer side of the fence and add mulch to reduce the need for weeding in the future. It cost a little under \$200 for the mulch and about \$125 for labor. The older section of the fence has a lot of broken connections, etc. Maybe we can address that next spring. Seamus is back in school now. Chante can't bill us at the moment but is willing to do work in exchange for Mobil gas cards.

4. FEMA: Updates

Casey emailed Tom Galinat early last week asking about progress on FEMA approval but did not get a response. Geoff Hall told her that he and Tom had connected and that he thinks Tom got what he needed.

5. Grant Work: Manny Pad & Security Cameras

Casey said one part of the grant work is building the frame for the manny pad and one part is doing carpentry to install security cameras. Andrew D'Aversa suggested it would be great if we could go ahead and build the manny pad frame and plywood deck soon so people could use it. Casey checked with Geoff Hall to see if that would be okay and he said it is no problem. Casey asked Andrew if he would be interested in working on it if we ordered the supplies and got them delivered. He said he might be. He suggested maybe he could be paid \$75/hour, which is what Geoff charges. Greg suggested getting an estimate for a flat amount.

Casey said she got Ring cameras, as recommended by the sheriff's department, but it turns out that they won't work because the park doesn't have true wi-fi. She returned them. We will use game cameras instead. Newer game cameras have limited storage capacity and the companies sell storage space via subscription. She left a message with the sheriff's department asking to talk about our options. We have some older cameras they gave us that may not require a subscription. Maybe we could use them.

6. Laraway Report

Casey said George couldn't be here but he said things are good overall at Laraway. They started the new semester and they plan to do cidering soon.

7. Site Maintenance Work, Water Line & Recent Issues

Casey said the park has maintained itself well this year. Seamus was a great worker but he has gone back to school.

Casey asked if Greg is available to dig the trench for the new water line in October. Greg said yes. Casey said it will be a longer line because another yard hydrant will be added for the garden. We may put in another yard hydrant for the skatepark, this time with a really sturdy post attached to it, or we may use a simple faucet fixture that Howard will research a source for. Nate Brigham figured out a double check valve that can be used at the pump house to ensure that there is no contamination at the pump house from our hydrant.

Greg asked who will install and connect the new line. Casey said probably us. Greg said if we have a village water supply and the village is concerned about contamination, it seems like we need a professional who is insured. Casey said water is provided by the village but once the water leaves the pump house it is up to the town and/or customer to deal with it. The public works employees aren't available to dig the trench but maybe we could see if they can do the installation. Casey and Howard discussed with Greg the depth and distance of the trench. Greg said there is a power conduit we will need to go underneath. We need to call DigSafe before Greg starts work. It was agreed that Greg will plan to dig the trench on October 2. He said he doesn't care if it is raining, but if the weather looks terrible it would be possible for him to do the work on October 1 instead. Casey said we will see if a town employee can do the installation.

Greg said it would be hard for him to find time to brush hog the field at the park a third time. With the weather as dry as it has been, the vegetation is not out of control. The committee agreed he does not need to brush hog another time this year.

8. Other Business

Casey said the Lamoille County Planning Commission, some planning engineers and the Johnson Planning Commission are working on a townwide planning process. They are having a first meeting tomorrow night. She thinks a broad representation of groups and committees will be involved. They had a questionnaire she filled out. They want to identify and prioritize town projects. For the question about what our projects are, she said there will be a construction project if we get FEMA approval and we also need more municipal support – help with maintenance and administration and a full-time rec coordinator. Committee members agreed with that answer.

9. Adjourn

Alexis moved to adjourn at 6:10, Howard seconded and the motion was passed.

Minutes submitted by Donna Griffiths