

Bennington College
May 19, 1941

The Recreation Council met on May 19, 1941

Those present were: Evelyn Glass, Annette Kolin, Jean Simpson, Janet Frey, Kip Humphries, Joan Bayne, Susan Bailey, Virginia Cordes, Patricia Newman, Audrey Schwenk, Phyllis Carton, Mary Carus, Miss Steven, Mrs. Truman, Mr. Park.

Those absent were: Rosamund Reed, Faith Colgan.

Athletic Committee

Hay Ride May 27, 1941: Miss Steven and Mrs. Truman reported that a flat rate of \$6 will be charged by the owner for the use of his swimming facilities by about forty college people.

Dance Committee

Formal Dance May 17, 1941: Jean Simpson reported that the dance was extremely well attended and financially successful as well.

Square Dance: The Dance Committee will decide whether or not there will be a square or informal dance early in June.

Recreation Council Investigation.

The Committee consists of Evelyn Glass, Faith Colgan, Phyllis Carton, Mary Carus and Patricia Newman. After some study of preceding Council's minutes a tentatively drafted report was made to the following effect:

Bulletin Board: The Council needs one on which to post such things as;

1. The map of picnic grounds in the vicinity being made by Mr. Park and a committee,
2. A master calendar of ALL the events scheduled for the community,
3. Information about the location of sport equipment, bus schedules and such things,

Bus: Possibly the college bus schedule can be broadened to include such activities as:

1. Movies on specific nights.
2. Transportation on weekend evenings to some such place as the 1896 House to make it easier for students to entertain guests who do not have cars.

Athletics

Hockey: Next Fall a sub-committee will be active as it was in former years. There will be a member in each house. The committee's purpose will be to arouse enthusiasm and promote the sport. It will publicize the Hockey Field Day which will take place at the College on October 25, 1941.

Skiing: Skiing is at least as popular as hockey but has no instructor assigned to it. It was suggested that a teacher be provided. The following points were made in the discussion.

1. Weather conditions make ski plans uncertain.
2. Mrs. Truman suggested that the college affiliate itself with the Green Mountain Outing Club of Bennington, so that advantage can be taken of its facilities and instructors.
3. Mr. Whittinghill felt that his position was a delicate one last year. People frequently failed to keep their ski instruction appointments with him. This reason is also largely responsible for the failure of the ski-beginners class held with instruction on a hill near college some years ago.
4. Mr. Park made the point that ski emphasis has changed in character. Weekend and long distance skiing have replaced the on-campus activity.
5. Good ski movies have aroused enthusiasm in the past. Recent movies have not been very good.
6. This discussion will be tabled until next Fall.

Dances

1. They have been too arbitrarily dated in relation to outstanding social events in other colleges. Schedules of events should be obtained from the larger colleges.
2. Our program should be planned and publicized well in advance so that it can be relied upon.

Discussion of the tentative report

The feeling was generally expressed that if people are irresponsible in keeping their engagements with college activities, and are leaving the campus for their social activities, the idea of community living is probably undergoing serious changes. The opinion of the group was that these changes are largely the result of too many worthwhile activities scheduled over short periods of time for the community's participation to be wholehearted and direct. Fewer things should be offered and they should be spaced further apart.

Mr. Park criticized the report as follows: The factual structure derived from the investigation or 'back minutes' which dictates present assumptions must be explained and included more fully in the report. For example, what facts of policy and change in it, indicate that more attention should be paid to hockey and skiing?

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Kolin
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