

Parks and Recreation
Hildreth House
September 30th, 2019

Present: Doug Thornton, Michelle Lauria, Joe Reynolds, Steve Victorson

Meeting Minutes Approval

Steve - Late arrived after Tim's presentation.

Ann Lee's field update - Tim Bragen. Audience questions. Dan Daley had some contract questions for the Ann Lee's field contract. Joe questioned who is in charge of the DPW and maintenance. Steve asked about maintenance plans that pre-dated both Tim and the other members of this board. Michelle will meet with Tim at DPW to work out a maintenance plan. Linda Dwight. confirmed that Dave B went out to the field to do measurements 200' on first and third and 190' in center field. Also looking at purchasing a temporary fence and covers over the dugouts, but will do so after the project is finished. According to Scott Hoffman with a little bit of extra clearing the centerfield could be an additional 10 feet. Min. Distance 185. Bob O'Shea asked about the land's requirements from conservation. Suggested that cons com needs to be contacted for any work done on the field. Tim stated that permission was not needed and cons com would generally say yes to the basic needs. Bob asked Tim about parking along Mass. avenue. Linda said that teams have played there, in the past and did not have any problems. Bob asked about drainage and Tim confirmed that in left field that would be taken care of with the leveling of the field. Dan Daley asked about the efforts of the sub-committee and how they would be addressed. Tim asked for more data.

Program Updates

Beach Operations - Allie presented her year end report. Overall, lessons were down this Summer. Will work to get the lesson plan out earlier for next Summer. Emergency event went well, but discovered the potential for a gap in coverage. Thus, will drop down to 22 people in the water per guard versus the state requirement of 25 people in the water per guard. This will make sure that we are abiding by the state law.

Needs 3 new sailboats and 3 new Kayaks. Sailing is the most popular program. Steve asked Bob about remaining Kiosk money to be used for Kayaks. Bob thinks that by asking the town to volunteer their boats that we may even get enough boats given to the Kiosk project.

Steve - Action meet with Allie for buying new boats and coming up with a plan.

Allie requests that the town create a new waiver for boat rental. Allie will work on this project.

Doug stated that he was impressed by the fire chief coming by and complimenting her on the staffs efforts.

Fields and commons

CPC Tennis court requests - Linda Dwight: Writing CPC grant for tennis courts and basketball court. Requesting money for immediate repairs and engineering scope of project document. Noted that for the past 8 years, the courts have not received any work. Requesting 110,00.00 dollars and is asking for parks and recreation for its endorsement. Doug questioned whether or not CPC would cover the repairs. Doug stated that the law may or may not allow for such money to be used for repairs.

Steve motioned that the board endorse the school CPC request for funding. Michelle seconded the request. 2-2. Did not pass.

The board then voted to endorse the school plan if it passed CPC funding. Michelle made this motion and Steve seconded the motion. Passed 4-0.

Public Communication

Anne McWaters - Outdoor basketball court. Suggests court resurfacing and backboard replacement. The backboards are potentially in danger of failing. Offered a quote of 2800.00 per hoop and pole and 200 to remove the old structures. Hoops will be removable. Joe asked what she is thinking as far as a split. Anne responded with whatever we could provide.

Sub-committee recommendations - Preliminary report.

Dan Daley - Presented Sub-Committee Report. See the Sub-committee minutes for a full-version of the report. Key Findings - Maintenance is the top priority. Steve asked about our role and how far that role should go under our jurisdiction. Sharlene asked about school control of their properties.

Ken Hoggins - This board should propose to the town a process. The town has proven that they cannot keep the fields in good shape.

Dan Daley - Recommendation 11 suggests there be a part-time position for 2 years and then a full-time person thereafter.

Virtually every action requires collaboration with other boards.

Discussed possible options that the board can take. Given that the town charter, says that the town is fully in charge, but the town is not fulfilling this obligation what are our options? Should we ask for a change to the charter and ask the town for full control and the hiring of a designated person for parks and recreation.

Michelle suggests that we come up with a plan for the town.

Discussed the purpose of the committees plan.

Ken Hoggins - proposed that we close all fields during Spring Break.

Doug - What can be done to a field if it is closed for just one week?

Dan suggested that according to the report, we should pick one field every week to close for an additional day.

Joe suggested in actuality one field should be closed every year.

Doug - Asked if the final report would include numbers.

Ken Hoggins asked whether or not the proposed maintenance CPC grant was going to include looking at McCurdy drainage.

Discussed other towns and what are their field costs.

Steve, yes while we need a big picture maintenance plan, we also just had a no vote to support a viable tennis court plan proposed by the school. It was voted down for a proposed fields study report that had no immediate plan for action. Next, the school

plan was called a competitive plan. We should be for all plans that support better fields in the town. We cannot forget about the short term while in pursuit of a much needed long term plan. The kids may not have tennis courts in two seasons. Steve questioned why should we pay for DPW maintenance equipment as presented by Michelle?

Dan - To our committee what do we want from the committee? Doug would like usage numbers.

Bob asked whether or not the members of the sub-committee would agree to the data found from the data base for the new software program. Bob suggests that we should use the program for our data base.

Sharlene asked about fee structures. Doug confirmed that they were in place.

Action Plan - write up an enforcement policy for the fields. Next have a discussion of the existing fee structures.

Bob suggested that we get the school's money back from DPW and put that into fields maintenance. Gathering the data will not happen over night.

Sharlene asked about money for rectangle fields. That was discussed at the last meeting.

Michelle, the CPC grant request should have been discussed.

Discussed how to spend the remainder of our money.

Doug noted that he had CPC funding on previous board agendas.

Steve noted that until the School committee took over the tennis court project and that he had provided each board member with 3 proposals for hiring and landscape architect firm to develop a scope of project plan for rebuilding the tennis courts.

Bob commented that as a board, in comparison to previous boards we have less time to spend hands on timer to do the job.

Michelle motioned to put forth a CPC grant for a fields maintenance usage plan. Seconded by Joe. 4-0.

Next meeting on October 7th.

3-0-1 For approving 2016/17 minutes.

Adjourn - 23:17.