

## SUDBURY SELECT BOARD

### SEWATARO ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021

Present: Select Board members Charles Russo, Bill Schineller. Park & Recreation Committee members Mara Huston, Bobby Beagan, Ben Carmel, Laurie Eliason, Dick Williamson. Park & Recreation Director Dennis Mannone.

Members Russo and Schineller joined an ongoing Park & Recreation Committee meeting. Member Russo motioned to open a joint meeting with the Park & Recreation Committee regarding Sewataro. Select Board roll call: Russo-aye, Schineller-aye.

The statutory requirements as to notice having been compiled with, the meeting was convened at approximately 8:00 PM via Zoom telecommunication mode.

Member Russo announced the recording of the meeting and other procedural aspects included in the meeting. Select Board roll call: Russo-present, Schineller-present.

#### **Discussion**

Park & Recreation Committee Chair Mara Huston opened the discussion with some questions and observations about how the Sewataro property will interact with Recreation in Sudbury. She noted the financial responsibilities and constraints Park & Rec has operating as an enterprise fund, and a perceived inconsistency between the financial responsibilities of Sewataro. She noted that many see Sewataro as a Recreational asset, despite differences in policies such as reservation of space at Sewataro, fees collected, use and public swimming at Sewataro. She raised operational questions, such as staffing, especially in light of planning toward public swimming at Sewataro.

Park & Recreation Committee member Dick Williamson spoke positively about programming at Sewataro separate from Park & Rec programs.

PRC Chair Huston asked for more information about the proposed Use Policy. Member Russo clarified that the only binding document in place at the time was the Camp Operator contract. PRC Chair Huston emphasized the importance of coordination between Sewataro programming and Park & Rec programming. Member Russo noted that a Use Policy for Sewataro was being drafted, and that aspects of that policy called for coordination with Park & Rec policies, such as fees for courts, and community events.

PRC Chair Huston raised concerns about the rental policy at Sewataro and whether the sites might be competitors if the pricing for assets such as basketball or tennis courts was different. PRC Chair Huston noted the financial framework Park & Rec operates under means it cannot provide free use or services the way Sewataro can.

Member Russo encouraged PRC members to review the draft Use Policy in an upcoming Select Board packet, provide input, and raise these concerns with the full Select Board.

Other questions were raised by PRC members, such as where money collected from Sewataro events was deposited, fees and reservations for courts, and public access. Camp Sewataro Community Liaison Kristen Drummey clarified that no money had been charged for any event to date.

Further discussion around the fees and reservations (first-come-first-served vs. paid reservation) for basketball and tennis courts occurred. The desire for additional data was discussed. Further discussion around advertising for events occurred.

**Adjourn**

Member Russo moved to end the joint meeting and adjourn.

It was on motion 2-0; Russo-aye, Schineller-aye

VOTED: To adjourn the Select Board Sewataro Subcommittee Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.