

February 28th, 2011  
Town of Sudbury  
Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Present: Commissioners - Jim Marotta, Paul Griffin, Dick Williamson, Bobby Beagan  
Guests: Peg Whittlemore, Marie Royea, Richard Vanderslice, Dean Holden - members of Sustainable Sudbury

Minutes from the last meeting were approved as is 3-0. (Bobby Beagan came after the minutes were approved)

**Haskell Parking Lot** – Nancy updated the Commissioners on the February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Selectmen’s meeting where the Haskell Field Parking Lot Expansion plan was presented and discussed. Nancy also handed out a follow up memo which addressed several items and questions that were asked at the hearing. Nancy reviewed the topics which include when the lot will be paved, the recommendation of a revised vehicular circulation pattern, pedestrian circulation and revisions to provide greater safety for pedestrians, and storm water drainage. Nancy plans to send the memo to the Selectmen within the next few days. Nancy informed the Commissioners that she will be at an MRPA (Mass. Recreation meeting) on March 15<sup>th</sup> which is when the Selectmen plan to review the Haskell Parking Lot Expansion plan again.

Nancy asked if one of the Commissioners would be able to attend the meeting and Paul Griffin volunteered. Bill Place will also be in attendance, and Nancy stated that Bill thought he might be able to pave the parking lot by the end of this Fiscal Year depending on how much money he has left in his budget. Nancy stated that Park and Recreation may also have money left in the Field Enterprise fund that could also be used at the end of the Fiscal Year.

It was stated that the selectmen would not deny the plan but would recommend any changes they saw fit and felt would benefit the town.

**Farmers Market Request** – Members from Sustainable Sudbury (previously Earth Decade Committee) requested permission to hold a Farmer’s Market on the field at Peter Noyes School. Dean Holden gave background on the committee and stated that they would like to hold the market on Sundays. It would bring a festive atmosphere to the community and support local farmers and allow residents to purchase locally grown food. They are requesting the Peter Noyes field because it is centrally located and would need the field from 10 to approximately 3:00pm. The Farmers Market would run for an 8 week period during July and August and would probably have between 10 and 20 vendors. They are hoping to use the Grange Hall/Town Hall or local church bathrooms. Vendors would use pop-up tents and carry in and out their goods. There would be no driving on the field. Sustainable Sudbury would be responsible for any damage to the field and making sure the field was clean after each use.

Nancy suggested that the exact location of the market should change just a little each week so a wear pattern does not occur on the field. It was also suggested that the parking lot be used on days that it may rain.

Little League does not use the field in the summer so that is not a concern. The Commission stated that Sustainable Sudbury should have an insurance binder in order to have the vendors on the field. Nancy said she would work with the group on any fee for the use of the field since they are not looking to make money on the event.

A motion was made and seconded to vote on the request.

The motion was to approve the use of the Noyes field by Sustainable Sudbury during July and August to hold a Farmer's Market.

**The motion was approve 4-0.**

**Davis Field** – Nancy reported that she met with Bill Place and Jody Kablack regarding improvements at Davis Field since it looks like the Melone property will not be developed in the near future. Nancy stated that if the Commission/Recreation knows what type of field they want at Davis Bill could start work on it. Nancy suggested the possibility of the 70ft diamond Babe Ruth was requesting. Bobby Beagan asked if we know what field would work best at Davis given its size and quality. Paul suggested thinking about putting lights at the field no matter what type of field is put on Davis. Nancy stated that once Bill is given the desired fields he will start the ball rolling and work up an engineering plan for the field.

**Melone Property** – Nancy stated that one of the issues with the Melone property was that due to its size the town may want to use the open space to show potential land to build affordable housing.

Nancy also reported that Bob Haarde asked, in a Selectmen's meeting, if there was any money left in the original study of the Melone property. Jody Kablack informed Nancy that there were funds left and Bob had sent along a field plan that resembled the field layout Babe Ruth submitted to the Park and Recreation Commission. Nancy asked the Commissioners if they wanted to pursue this course. The Commissioners were reticent to pursue this course because they still don't feel like they have the tools/resources to make the decision on what fields are needed which is why they petitioned for a feasibility study from the CPC. The concern is that they didn't want to be tied (committed) to the plan Bob Haarde submitted to Jody.

A suggestion was made to invite Bob Haarde to the next Park and Recreation Commission meeting, which Nancy will do.

It was mentioned that Todj Gosdeck was the only candidate running for the open Park and Recreation Commission position. He informed Nancy that he will be at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm. The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at 6:30pm.