

Town of Sudbury
Park and Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 25, 2011

Present: Commissioners- Paul Griffin, Jim Marotta, Bobby Beagan, Dick Williamson, Tobj Gozdeck
Nancy McShea-P&R Director

Scott Milley Memorial Idea - Nancy discussed a memorial idea, perhaps a bench or naming the boat ramp down by the Pine Lakes Beach, for Scott Milley. The idea was presented to Nancy because the Park and Rec Dept. is responsible for the beach area by Willis Pond. Before the idea is presented to Milley family, the Park and Recreation Commission and Park and Recreation Department would have to okay the idea. The Commissioners were in favor of any plan. They did not see any issues with the idea and suggested that the Milley family should decide what would be the most appropriate.

Board of Selectmen's Goals – The Commission discussed their request to be placed on the Selectmen's agenda to discuss the Town's plans for the Melone property. The Park and Rec Commission is on the agenda for August 16th. The goal is to get a decision on the Melone property to become one of the goals for the Selectmen.

The Commission would like the Selectmen to have the development of the Melone property on their goals for FY 12. The Park and Recreation's need for additional fields will be in the presentation to the Selectmen. The Park and Recreation Commission will request that the Selectmen move forward with the planning process of deciding what the Town should do with the Melone property by June 30, 2012.

The Commissioners discussed and stated they would like to invite Selectmen Bob Haarde to the next Park and Recreation Commission.

Jim Marotta stated he is interested in the process the Park and Recreation Commission needs to follow in order "to get things done".

He feels the Commission must be able to quantify the demand for actual field needs. Paul offered that the Sports Council met and is moving forward with discussions on field requirements. Paul suggested that the Master Field Plan completed over 5 years ago be updated by Gale or some other vendor. He stated that perhaps the money in the "old" Friends of Park and Rec account, which will now be governed by the Sports Council, be used to cover the expenses of the study. Paul stated he felt the Friends of Park and Recreation would be able to do business as the Sports Council using the same tax id information. The Feasibility Study's cost is estimated at \$30,000. Paul stated he would like to present the request to the Sports Council and if it received a unanimous vote they would proceed with the study.

Jim suggested not waiting for the Sports Council and suggested having the current Board of the Friends of Park and Recreation vote on approving the money be spent on the Field study. The current "Friends" are Paul Griffin, Greg Hunt and Bill Keller.

Park and Recreation Goals: The Commissioners discussed their goals for the upcoming year and beyond. The goals presented were as follows;

1. Ask the Board of Selectmen to determine the best use of the Melone Property as one of their goals this year. Request that they determine the best and highest use for the Melone Property by June 30, 2012.

2. Hire a vendor to update the Master Field Plan with current user group requirements to determine the real need for additional fields. Pay for this with the money currently in the "Friends of Park and Rec" account.
3. Establish a vehicle to hold funds for the eventual replacement of large items such as turf fields, lights, dugouts, etc.

Jim Marotta expressed concern that the Field Enterprise Fund does not have a line item for depreciation or some account to house money for future repairs or replacement of large items. It is felt that it would be very difficult for the Town of Sudbury to come up with the money to replace the turf fields, etc.

Nancy or Pat will speak with the Town Accountant to see what type of fund for the fields could be set up to handle money to be put aside to be used when a need for a capital request comes up in the future.

It was felt that someone would have to tell the Commission or the Park and Recreation Director how much money should be put away yearly to cover replacement of the turf fields and other depreciating items.

The Commissioners briefly discussed the current status of the Rail Trail and decided to add the Rail Trail to the agenda for the next Park and Recreation Commission meeting.

The next Park and Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for August 15th, 2011 at 6:30pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.