

Town of Sudbury
Park and Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2013

Present: Commissioners- Tobj Gozdeck, Dick Williamson, Bobby Beagan, Paul Griffin (arrived 6:45pm), Jim Marotta

Guests: Mike Ensley, Lynn Puorro – Sudbury TV, Carlo Lepordo and Pete Soule – Men's Softball

Meeting started at 6:35pm.

Minutes from the January 9th, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections. 3-0.

Commissioners discussed the CPC proposal. Nancy gave Jim Marotta an update on the plan and that the goal is to have two 70ft diamonds at Featherland. One field will be able to be used by the girl's high school softball team. TI-Sales field is being looked at as a possible home for men's softball. The big issue is what type of accommodation needs to be made to make access to the field easier.

Sudbury TV – Tobj invited Lynn Puorro to present information on Sudbury TV and filming Commission meetings. Lynn stated their charter is to tape town meetings. She stated they have the right to tape all the meetings, but don't demand to do it. Some Boards and Commissions are more open to it than others. Sudbury TV currently films the Selectmen, Fin-Com, and School Board meetings on a regular basis and other meetings as requested.

Sudbury TV would use a single camera/microphone to cover the entire room. She suggested the meeting table be set up in a more open format so that back of heads would not be in view. The meeting would then be posted on their on demand system. She said the required set up time would be about 15 minutes.

Nancy commented that the Commission meetings in Wayland are filmed and they find it helpful if someone can't attend a meeting to see what occurred.

Men's Softball – Carlo Lepordo and Pete Soule presented background information on Men's Softball to the Commissioners. Men's Softball started over 40 years ago. It is a manager run league. Carlo and Pete are the Commissioners. They have between 18-20 teams in the league and 12 to 15 men on a team. The league has 3 divisions, one more competitive than the other, and they play a modified fast pitch. They start in April and end in August. The month of August is for playoff games. They play 2 games a night at Featherland 6:45/8:15pm.

In the summer, the league will pick up some games at Feeley. (In general, it is too wet to play on the field before that time) Rain dates and some extra games are played at Feeley. Last year the league also used Curtis. Curtis needed some work, which they did, and then it was playable.

Requirements to play are you have to be a resident, grew up/went to school in Sudbury, or work full-time in Sudbury. Each team is allowed 3 outsiders. Teams have to submit a roster to the Commissioners.

Carlo stated the men are happy with the way the league is running. 16 game schedule seems to work well, and they want to keep the 3 divisions. He said mens' softball is open to changing location. They have heard it before and their concern regarding Ti-Sales field is that it may not be big enough. Don had concern about lights at Ti-Sales and the need for a fence at the field. Another concern was the heavy concentration of ticks and mosquitos found at Ti-Sales.

Carlo asked if this move was a possibility in 2013. The Commissioners responded that a change in location would not occur this year.

CPC - Commissioners discussed the fact that the Town has spent \$100k per year out of the CPC on sidewalks and this expense falls under the category of total recreation expense. Nancy and the Commissioners expressed concern about this expense being really a recreation expense rather than a town expense and the fact that it will count against recreation for total CPC funds given to recreation.

The CPC voted in favor of the Recreation request for funds for the LSRHS field, Featherland and Davis fields. Nancy and Commissioners discussed sending the information out to the user groups to generate support. After much discussion, the Commissioners decided to invite the user groups to the next Commission meeting in March. The decision was to meet as a Commission on March 18th at 6:30pm and invite the groups to the meeting at 7:30pm. At that time, the Commissioners will present the CPA request and the plan for recreation fields.

Fairbank Building Plan – Dick Williamson stated that the task force will be presenting their findings to the Selectmen. It is thought that an article for the entire roof or patchwork to the existing roof will be put on the Town warrant to hold a space

Town Ice Skating – Nancy reported that the ice skating was difficult to maintain this year. The Park and Grounds staff did their best to try and keep ice ready at Featherland, but the weather didn't cooperate. She stated they will look at a new location for the ice next year and see what possibilities there are for putting in the Haskell field area or closer to the Fairbank Community Center.

A motion was made to allow Sudbury TV to film certain Park and Recreation meetings. It received a second. The motion passed 4-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

