

Town of Sudbury
Park and Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2013

Present: Commissioners- Todj Gozdeck, Dick Williamson, Bobby Beagan, Paul Griffin (arrived 7pm) absent: Jim Marotta

Guests: Bill Place, DPW Director, Jacob Fisher, Eagle Scout, Nancy Kimble, Girls Softball

Meeting started at 6:45pm.

Eagle Scout Project – Jacob Fisher presented his Eagle Scout Project idea for picnic tables and Benches at Feeley Field. He would like to put 3 benches near the field and 2 picnic tables near the flag pole area. He expects the total cost to be around \$1,000. He will be fundraising to purchase materials in addition to looking for some donations. If his proposal is approved, he plans to have it completed in the spring (mid softball season). Nancy requested that he add arms to the benches. Nancy Kimball attended in support of the proposal. She said these additions would be great for the girls' softball program. Nancy was in favor of the project, but asked that Jacob contact her before putting the tables and benches at Feeley.

Bobby Beagan made a motion to approve Jacob's Eagle Scout project of benches and picnic tables at Feeley. Todj seconded the motion. Approve 3-0.

Bill Place, DPW Director – The Commission invited Bill Place to the Commission meeting to discuss the status of the fields. Bill explained that 2 of his employees have been out for quite a while. One has been out for almost 2 years, and the other has only worked a few days this fiscal year. Bill stated the work on the large field is difficult since the large cutter is broken and they are cutting Haskell with 2 small cutters. He has had some complaints from Little League. Bobby asked if the field have suffered due to overuse. Bill's response was yes the fields were showing wear in the goal mouths and because of the use on the field it is difficult to get on and slice seed and aerate it. He stated that the small lacrosse fields did damage to the fields. He stated it was very important to rotate the goals. He said that the continued over use of the fields and the lack of him having a full staff will continue to adversely impact the long term effects on the field. His ultimate goal is to get his staff back to 4 full time and adequate summer help.

Bill also mentioned that Gale Associates never contacted him or his staff for any input on the master field update. He said the final report never mentioned how the additional fields would impact his staff and workload.

Dick Williamson discussed the Conservation Committee's interest in what can be done at Ti-Sales and Davis Fields in exchange for rights at Mahoney. The Commission felt that the meeting with Conservation was very positive for increased recreational use at Davis and Ti-Sales and no

recreational use at Mahoney. The Conservation Commission voted in favor of working together with Recreation.

Todj asked Bill what the delay was in preparing Ti-Sales field for use by men's softball. Bill stated he would draft up a plan for a softball diamond at Ti-Sales. Nancy suggested asking men's softball to a Recreation Commission meeting to discuss relocating men's softball. It was suggested that Nancy ask the head of men's softball to the next Commission meeting. It was stated that Little League had offered \$100k to assist in moving men's softball to a new location.

Bobby Beagan asked Bill Place about the status of ice skating at Featherland. Bill responded that the weather hasn't really been cooperating this winter. The basketball court at Fairbank was discussed as a possible site, but it would have to be resurfaced and leveled. Bill's staff is currently exploring the plan to paint the hardtop at Featherland white so the ice might last longer once it is established.

Annual Report - Final copy is due to the Selectmen next Friday. Nancy sent the Commissioner the copy and asked for comments to be emailed back to her before Friday.

CPC - Nancy McShea stated that Gerald Quirk's numbers regarding the LSRHS use of recreation fields was different than the numbers reported by the LSRHS Athletic Director.

Paul stated that he ran into Chris Morley and it was made clear to him that Recreation needed to be clear on the 3 projects and funding sources they were presenting to the CPC. Recreation needs to be prepared to have the facts behind the numbers that will be presented in the proposal. The presentation is scheduled for next Wednesday, January 16th at 7:30pm in the Flynn Building. Paul stated he wanted to make sure the Commission made a unified front in presenting to the CPC. He felt there was some confusion the last time in regard to comments on use and development of Davis field.

Todj stated that the Commissioners need to make it clear when they are speaking as a resident of Sudbury and as a Park and Recreation Commissioner.

Elections - 4 Park and Recreation Commissioners terms expire in this Fiscal Year. Usually the Park and Recreation Commissioner term is 3 years. It was decided that 2 terms will be for 2 years and 2 terms will be for 3 years, so that 4 member's terms will not expire at the same time again. Jim, Bobby, Paul and Dick's terms are up this year. It was decided that Dick will run for a 3 year term, Paul a 2 year term and Bobby and Jim will decide which one of them will run for the 2 or 3 year term.

Nancy and Dick needed to leave the meeting around 8:00pm to attend a meeting on renovating the Fairbank Community Center.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 11, 2013 at 6:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

