

May 22, 2017

Commission Minutes

Bobby Beagan, Dick Williamson, Michael Ensley, Jim Marotta, Mara Huston; Kayla McNamara, Aquatics, Park and Recreation Director

Guests: David Spielman, Louis Arnold, John Epling, Dan Nason-Public Works Dir.

Minutes from April 17, 2017 meeting reviewed and approved with corrections 5-0.

Public Comment: None

Field Permit Policy – Kayla had asked Commissioners to review the policy. Mara commented on the requirement for insurance for the users. Kayla stated residents renting the fields for small, not organized groups, just rent the field and sign off on the waivers. Mara stated her concern about limiting the access to the fields for residents. Kayla stated she would post the field permit policy.

Pickle ball – Michael E. informed that the representatives from Pickle ball would not be attending.

LS Softball – Michael E. stated this item has been moved to a future meeting. Kayla stated LSRHS feels that Sudbury Girls Softball is the only other user allowed to play on the high school softball field. LSRHS does not want to rent to third party users. The Commission stated that since CPC funds were used to renovate the softball field, similar to the LSRHS football field, a similar arrangement should be in effect where Park and Recreation can rent to third party users when the field is available.

Commissioners decided to review previous minutes and agreement that was in place when the softball field was renovated. The previous Park and Recreation Director and Park and Recreation Commission were involved with the renovation and agreement. LSRHS representatives along with a Selectman will be invited to a Commission meeting to discuss further.

Radio Flyers – David Spielman and Louis Arnold discussed fees and scheduling with the Commission. David explained that the Radio Flyers have approximately 38 users, but are charged for peak usage, which is usually 15 to 16 people. Flying conditions control the actual amount of usage. The permit is from 8:00am to 11:30-12pm in the afternoon on Saturday and Sunday. The regular season is March to November. They usually have four events during the season and find it difficult to plan when they can't get confirmation until after June. Radio Flyers would like to secure space for an August event in the spring. To increase attendance it is important to get publicity out and that needs to happen about three months before the event. David said it makes it difficult to plan without confirmation before June.

Michael E. asked how many members are Sudbury residents. David stated 10% are from Sudbury. Mara H. asked if there was a way to let events that occur every year get early permission and felt that annual Sudbury events have priority.

Jim M. suggested a special event category on the Field Permit policy along with special event fees.

Michael felt the Commission should take some time to think about a special event policy and see how it would work with the current field permit policy.

Dog Policy – Does the Town need a new dog policy? It was suggested that Town Counsel should be consulted to get the real intent of the town by laws on dogs in town. Once the policy is clear, signage at the fields could reflect the town policy.

Capital Plan/Income Fund – Michael stated that the first \$250,000 from the new development at the Raytheon site will be available in the new fiscal year. He suggested redoing the Gale Study; he would like to see a new study on field needs in the town. Jim M. said he did not think we needed a new study because it is clear there is a field shortage and the CPC funds could be used for planning surveys in the future. Bobby B. stated he would like to see the money used for something Park and Recreation/Fields really needs.

Dan Nason – Public Works Director, attended the meeting after conversations with Michael E. to get a better idea of the concerns on the fields. Michael stated he would work with Dan on the capital plans for Park and Recreation/Fields. Dan mentioned he would like t DPW is responsible for fields. Discussion took place on field issues and the concern that the Field Enterprise Fund pays for half of the Park and Grounds salaries and benefits. Dan stated he is new to the position in Sudbury and still learning about the specific needs of Park and Recreation and Park and Grounds. He will continue to come to some Park and Recreation Commission meetings to understand the concerns of the users.

Park @29 Sudbury – discussion on the land between Grinnell Park and the new stores on Hudson Road. Some ideas would be to put benches, etc for the area. The area will need to have irrigation. Discussion will continue at future meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm

