

August 7, 2017

Commission Minutes

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

Guests: Kevin Matthews, LSRHS School Committee, Sherry Kersey, Dir. Finance-LSRHS, Art Riley, LSRHS Athletic Director, Pat Brown, Selectman, Paul Griffin

Minutes from the July Commission Meeting approved 3-0.

Public Comment: None

Pickleball – Kayla reported the cost estimate for lining one Feeley tennis court for two Pickleball courts is \$350 per court. The storage shed for the nets would be an added cost. As agreed in the previous Commission meeting, one tennis net will be funded by Park and Recreation and the other by the Pickleball tennis players. Kayla will work the Parks and Grounds department to get this project completed.

Turf Fields/Community Field - Michael Ensley began the discussion by stating that Cutting Field is older and in worse shape than the Community Field. It has been on the Park and Recreation capital plan for a number of years for possible renovation in 2018. The Park and Recreation Commission was surprised to see that LSRHS was putting an article on the agenda for the fall Town Meeting asking for funds to renovate the LSRHS Community Field.

Dick Williamson gave some history on the Community Field agreement and the new LSRHS softball field agreement that was never completed.

He stated renovation of the Community Field has been on the Park and Recreation capital plan for 2018. Cutting Field is showing significant wear. He also stated the current Community Field Agreement is silent on who maintains the field and who is responsible for the costs to maintain the field.

Kevin stated that renovation of the Community field has to be between the Town and LSRHS because CPA money was used to install the turf field. The field is viewed as co-owned by the Town and LSRHS.

Mara stated she did research on the Community Field and reviewed the softball agreement. Mara asked about the fund that LSRHS set up to capture revenue from renting the Community Field. The Community Field was constructed between 2006/2008. Cutting Field was built in 2005.

Sherry stated there is a Revolving fund for the Community Field. She only researched 3 years back and found the total to be \$22,000.

Discussion centered on how to move forward with renovations for both Cutting and the Community Field. Kevin stated that LSRHS would be happy to do all the scheduling for the Community Field. Kayla stated that if that occurs youth groups would have to break up the payments by field used.

Michael Ensley stated he felt it was important to have a meeting with all groups involved with the turf fields in town to discuss the status of the fields and the renovation plans.

The Inter-Municipal Agreement was discussed including why Lincoln was not part of the original agreement. Kevin stated he has heard many different versions and would need to do some research as to why they were not included.

The Commissioners felt it was important to get all relevant parties back to the table to talk about renovations at Cutting and the Community Field, the IMA and how it needs to be updated.

The Park and Recreation Commissioners expressed concern that LSRHS plans to submit an article at the fall Town Meeting requesting funds to renovate the Community Field. The concern is that the LSRHS request will affect the Park and Recreation Commissions request for funds to renovate Cutting field in the spring of 2018, which is older and in worse shape. The Commission does not want to have competing articles for turf field renovations.

Pat Brown, Selectman, stated she became aware of the LSRHS capital request for the Community Field during the presentation by Jim Kelly at the last Selectmen's meeting.

Mara asked if it makes sense to hire a third party to get an objective view on which field is in worse shape and showing the most wear. Mara suggested waiting until the spring Town Meeting to request funds for the turf fields, so a combined plan could be prepared and presented

Kevin stated LSRHS Committee is still planning to submit an article on the fall Town Meeting. He said they could not have the field repaired during the school year, so putting the article on the fall Town Meeting works much better. If the article is approved the work can be done over the summer. He also stated LSRHS has had this item on its capital plan and had discussions with Chuck Woodward on renovating this turf field.

Mike raised the concern about both the Park and Recreation Commission and the LSRHS submitting articles for the fall warrant requesting funds for renovation turf fields. The articles are competing for the same funds and the chance is neither would be approved. He felt there was a better chance for approval if the two worked together and developed a plan for turf renovation.

The Commission discussed contacting someone to examine both fields to determine the actual condition. Mara stated that the past meeting notes show that LSRHS has always planned to submit an article at the spring 2018 Town Meeting. Kevin stated that now with the opportunity of a fall Town Meeting the procurement process works better for LSRHS if the article is approved. Fall approval allows the bidding cycle and approval process to be completed in time for work to be done over the summer when the school is closed.

Commission also discussed Lincoln's involvement in the IMA and what their involvement in the future should be regarding the turf renovations and the LSRHS softball field, which was renovated using CPA funds.

Mike, Mara, and Dick will work with the LSRHS Committee to get a better understanding on the article and plans for the IMA. Mike asked if the Selectmen needed to be involved. Selectmen from both Lincoln and Sudbury should be involved.

Mara asked if one of the Park and Recreation Commissioners should bring up the topic at the Selectmen's meeting on August 8, 2017. Pat Brown stated she would be able to discuss the issues at the Selectmen's meeting.

Kevin stated that he would bring back the concerns discussed at the Commission Meeting to the LSRHS Committee for further discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

