

May 30, 2018

Commission Meeting

Commissioners: Michael Ensley, Jim Marotta, Dick Williamson, and Mara Huston

Recreation Staff: Kayla Wright, Dir Park and Rec/Aquatics, Julie Harrington, Asst. Park and Rec/Aquatics Director, Kevin Sugermeyer, Youth Coordinator,

Guests: Dan Nason (DPW Director), Mary Ellen Clark, Zap Diving, Pat Brown, BOS, Tom Lopez, LSRHS Football, Kelley Deveny, Water Stations, Paul Griffin, Girls Lacrosse

Minutes from April meeting reviewed and approved with corrections 4-0.

Public Comment: Mary Ellen Clark expressed gratitude to the Town and Atkinson Pool for the rental of the dive well for her program, which she took over a few years ago. She spoke to the Commission about her concern that she can no longer rent half the dive well for her program, but now must rent the entire dive well. She said she was always very careful and had no problem with the members using the other half. The new pool policy requires rental of the entire dive well for safety and concerns for any potential injuries.

Football - Tom Lopez, LSRHS football coach, stated he has been using the high school field for over 17 years on Sunday evenings to run a football camp. He usually has 7-8 teams with two games played at the same time. It is player coached and he never know exactly how many kids are going to show up. He does not make money on the camp, but has expenses for insurance, EMT, Refs and the field permit fee. He is also in a bind because there is only one football field in town. He came to the Commission because he does not feel he should be paying the same price as a camp that makes a profit. He used to pay by the hour and now has to pay per person. Last year he said he had to pay more than expected and did not have much notice to the price increase. He is frustrated with the process and does not think it is fair that he as to pay the same as for profit camps.

Mara questioned the field permit fees and asked why Tom's fees went up. Dick stated other groups have also been impacted by the rate increase and the change from hourly to per person. Paul Griffin commented that it might be easier to go back to hourly to simplify the process. Kayla stated the hourly and per person fee has always been on the field permit application. The permit fees were not charged correctly in the past.

Mara suggested that when the Commission is discussing any type of fee increase that could affect the user groups, the groups should be invited to the Commission meeting.

Michael E. apologized to Tom for the confusion and the short notice on the fee increase last year. He asked Kevin to work with Tom on payment this year while the Commission reviews the issues the various groups have brought to their attention over the past months.

Water Refilling Stations – Kelly Deveny is working to install water stations on Town fields and in Town buildings. She worked with Jim Kelly to put a water station at the Goodnow Library. She asked to speak with the Park and Recreation Commission to get their support for the program. The Commissioners asked about the startup and ongoing costs for the project and who would be responsible for the program expenses.

Mara stated she felt this program would be good for Sudbury. Jim Marotta stated his issues were location and costs. Ms. Devany did not have all the cost at this time. She stated she was speaking to

different groups in Town to inform them and generate interest. She also stated that water stations inside buildings have replaced existing water fountains, so they have not been as expensive as the stations will be outside.

The Commission supported the idea of the water stations, but asked that they be kept informed and updated on the status of the project.

Cutting Field Lights - Paul discussed the idea of putting lights at Cutting field. His idea would be to raise the money for the lights privately. Lights would help with the field shortage. He wanted to know if the Commission supported the idea of lights on Cutting.

Jim Marotta asked if Paul had any conversation with LSRHS about putting lights on the lower turf fields. Paul has spoken with the Athletic Director and said there is some interest, but said there are security issues and concern about increasing activity at the high school at night.

Michael said he did not have any issues with moving forward with attempting to privately fund lights at Cutting. Jim Marotta stated it was a gross underutilization of valuable assets not to light the turf fields in Town.

Mara questioned the approval process of using private funds. The Board of Selectmen would have to approve and accept the money.

Motion made that the Park and Recreation Commission support the effort to fund the plan privately to add lights to Cutting Field. The motion received a second and was approved 4-0.

Cutting Field Plan – Dan Nason reported that he has interviewed turf vendors. He stated that anyone can monitor the bids and results on line. The renovation will occur over the summer with a completion of August 17.

Featherland Tennis Court Update – Dan handed out the bid results for the Featherland Tennis courts. The bid from Sunshine Paving Corporation was \$170,000 for two courts and \$145,000 for the additional two courts. The bid from LEI Corp. was \$202,836 and \$222,716. Mara asked if both vendors have experience building tennis courts. Dan said that both vendors have experience. Dan asked if the Commission would like to move forward with building just two courts now and two later.

Motion to approve the bid from Sunshine Paving Corporation and move forward with construction of two tennis courts with pickleball lines. The motion received a second and was approved 4-0.

Director Update – Kayla reported summer camp staff is set with the exception of a camp nurse. Summer Concerts are all set. A postcard will be sent out by the end of June. Kayla reported that she is still looking at the pool financials. She was on maternity leave when the Town Manager made changes to the budget and proposed a new rate increase at the pool. She needs to review the proposed increases before she can report on them. She would want to give the members at least 2 to 3 months advance notice of a price increase. Mara suggested LSRHS and SST should be invited to a meeting where increased pool fees are on the agenda.

Kayla reported that staffing at the Pool is becoming an issue, for example no lifeguards have signed up to work this weekend. She may have to look at reducing the hours at the Pool if staffing does not improve.

Kayla will send the Commission the Field Permit for review.

Michael said he would like to see where the Enterprise Funds stand at the end of the fiscal year.

Fairbanks Taskforce – Jim stated the task force was dissolved as of May 15. The Town is trying to get an informal group to the community outreach for the project over the summer. Mara asked if the plan is to bring the Fairbank Plan back to the Town as an article at the fall meeting. Pat Brown responded that she thought both the Park and Recreation Commission and the Council on Aging would want to move forward and generate interest among the residents about the Fairbank project . Jim M. stated anyone speaking about the new Fairbank building should understand why it is going to cost an estimate of 30 million dollars to build.

Misc. - Dick reported that he received the okay to walk the Barton property.

Meeting adjourned 8:45pm.