

# DRAFT

August 27, 2018

Commission Meeting

Commissioners: Bobby Beagan, Michael Ensley, Jim Marotta, Mara Huston, Dick Williamson  
Park and Recreation: Kayla Wright, Dir.

Guests: Art Reilly, LSRHS AD

Motion to accept the minutes from July 16, 2018 meeting with corrections. Motion received a second and approved 5-0.

**Public Comment:** None

**LS Fees/Community Turf** – Bobby said there was some confusion regarding the Community Field and the status of the plans for renovation. Art Reilly stated there is a plan to move forward with the renovation and ask for funds from Sudbury and Lincoln. He stated the plan is not to ask for funds at the fall Town meeting, possible the spring Town meeting.

The Commission discussed the funding for the renovation and that it should be proportional between Lincoln and Sudbury. The existing agreement for the Community field needs to be revisited as this was discussed when the LSRHS softball field was renovated. This is something that the Town Manager and the LSRHS school committee will need to discuss.

Mara clarified that youth user groups pay the Community Field fee through their user fees.

Bobby asked Art about the plan to increase fees for use of the Community Field and Turf 1 and Turf 2. Jim Marotta stated he felt the turf fields are underused and would like to see lights on them to get more usage. He felt this would also generate more revenue for the Field Enterprise Fund.

Art said he did not feel lights after hours benefits LS because the school does not play that many night games.

Jim Marotta said lights at LS would not affect neighbors. He said it needs to be understood the Town has a field shortage. He would like to see more willingness from LS to work together and be agreeable to light the lower turf fields.

Art's concern was additional usage would impact the longevity of the turf fields. Jim did not think that was a concern, but they agreed to check to see if more use would shorten the lifespan of turf fields.

Bobby stated he would also like to look into plowing the turf fields to get additional use on the fields during the winter. Art stated LS looked into that idea and said some companies require

certain equipment used so the warranty on the field is not violated. He also said it is expensive to plow the fields.

Bobby suggested Art talk to Bella Wong. He invited both of them to come to a Commission meeting to let the Commissioners know their plans for the future of the turf fields at the high school and the plan to increase fees associated with renting the fields.

Art did express concern that if outside groups pay for lights, his experience is that they then think they own them.

Bobby will email Pat Brown regarding the status of the Community Field agreement.

**Director Update** – Kayla gave her update regarding fall recreation programs, staffing and completion of summer camp and summer programs. The pool is in shutdown until the day after Labor Day. The pool is still in need of part time staff in all positions. Mara mentioned she might have access to some staff that worked at a pool during the summer and be interested in a job over the winter. The lap clock was fixed for a short period, but then broke again. Kayla will see if the Pool budget has available funds to purchase a new clock. Kayla said the reputation of the pool is suffering since we have cancelled many of our swim lessons.

Kayla reported Cutting Field is still off line and is unsure when it will be ready. It appears more fill is required. Michael suggested the Town Manager should contact the vendor and see what is causing the delay at Cutting. Quotes for fence repairs at Cutting have come in at \$27,000. The Commissioners felt that was high. Michael would like to investigate putting a net in front of the fence to see if that will help with increase the lifespan of the repaired fence.

**Featherland Tennis Courts** – Mara said work on the new tennis courts will begin on September 4. Bobby discussed installing basketball courts on the two courts at Featherland instead of pickle ball as initially planned and wanted to know if the Commission would be in favor of that idea. The Commission would be interested, so Bobby said he will check to see if that switch can be done without causing too many issues. LS Boosters and the Town were mentioned as sources to go for additional funds for other two tennis courts. Michael stated it might be difficult to go back to the Town, since the original request was for four courts and only two could be built with the funds requested. Mara stated she would reach out looking for funds.

**Misc.** – Commission discussed Broadacre Farms since it will be on the fall Town Warrant. Bobby stated the Commission did not have interest in purchasing the property on Barton Drive, but would like to see if Chris and Dan would investigate the land already owned by the Town and zoned as Recreation to see if they can get access to the property.

Bobby mentioned his concern about the fields in Sudbury and a memo received from youth baseball regarding an abundance of weeds in the infields. He stated he would like to have someone who really cares about the field involved in taking care of them. Bobby feels maintenance of the fields should be a priority. Kayla informed the Commissioners that a portion of the revenue generated by vendor camps using the fields is deposited in the Field Enterprise

Fund. Michael would like to see the fields in Sudbury maintained properly so everyone can be proud of them.

Mara asked about the status of the Fairbank Community Building. The Commission will reach out to Pat Brown to check on the status.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45pm