

September 23, 2019

Attendees: Bobby Beagan, Mara Huston, Jim Marotta, Dick Williamson

Guests: Bill Schineller, BOS, Ben Carmel

**Public Comment:** Bobby introduced Ben Carmel, a resident interested in the open Park and Recreation Commission position. Mr. Carmel stated he has lived in Sudbury for 1 1/2 years and is interested in becoming more involved in the community.

**Director Update:** The Assistant Director is leaving on September 27. Currently recruiting for a Program/Aquatics Coordinator and Aquatics Coordinator. Kayla is currently cleaning up pool rentals and swim team contract issues that occurred while she was out on maternity. She is trying to get back lost pool revenue from swim teams. She is also reviewing budgets to determine where accounts stand financially since this was not done during her absence. In addition, she is evaluating current programs to determine what the department can offer in the winter brochure.

**EEE Update and Field Status:** The perimeter of fields sprayed and user groups are following Public Health Department advisory that activities conclude by dusk. Woman's Softball decided to cancel their fall season. Their \$810 field permit fee has been refunded. No other user group has cancelled their seasons or requested any kind of refund or change in their permit fee. SYSA moved some of their younger participants from Davis to Haskell due to the EEE threat. Bobby stated Haskell field is looking better due the work of the Parks and Grounds Staff and the vendor they bought in to work on the field.

**Davis Field/Medow Walk Fund:** Bobby has been in communication with the Town Manager regarding the \$250,000. He stated there is some confusion on when the payment will be made based on the certificate of occupancy or actual occupancy of the last tenant.

No update on Davis Field. Mara asked if a discussion on this topic might happen before the next Commission meeting. Bobby will contact Dan Nason, DPW Director, to get the discussions going again.

**Fairbanks Update:** Mara reported the working group is meeting weekly. Mara has met with Kayla to discuss program schedules. Seniors run programs throughout the year, while Recreation runs programs each season, at night, and camp during the summer. The summer overlap would be addressed by the 2 indoor spaces in the new building the fitness studio for the seniors and gym for the summer camp. Mara encouraged the Commission to watch the Fairbank presentation to the Board of Selectman which took place during the July meeting. Mara stated the Fairbank Working Group is still planning on a presentation at the spring Town meeting.

Mara stated the Fairbank Group is working on the phasing in schedule of the new facility and how it will impact the current operations. There is also a need to discuss sharing of space and budgeting expense of the new facility.

Mara stated she is working with Bill Barletta, Facilities Director, to get information on installing a new saltwater filtration system at the Atkinson Pool. Mara stated this is the new way to go and saline pools are nicer to swim in.

Bill Schineller asked if SPS gave their needs for the new facility. Mara said yes, they did.

**Featherland (Multisport)/Feeley Softball Update:** The second set of tennis courts with Basketball will be ready at the end of October. Bobby commented that the basketball courts at Haskell are in need of resurfacing.

Mara stated representatives of youth softball are in contact with Bill Barletta, Facilities Director, to discuss capital funds for field improvements at Feeley field

**Sewataro Update:** Bill Schineller stated an agreement has been signed with an operator. The operator will run a camp, similar to Camp Sewataro, during the summer and will be responsible for maintenance of the property. It is a 3-year agreement with an option for 5-year renewals. Bill stated the Town will have access to the property from 5pm to dusk during the year and 9am to 6pm on weekends. It was still unclear what the actual access is, but Bill stated it included the front section of the property and the boating pond. The revenue to the Town is a fixed amount of \$120,000 a year with a percent of the revenue received from summer camp registrations. The total revenue to the Town is estimated at \$300,000 to \$400,000. The closing on the property will be in October. A community relations person will be hired by the operator to interact with the Town.

The new camp operator is planning a number of community days on the property and offering a number of reduced camp scholarships to Sudbury residents. Mara expressed concern that the scholarship offerings may impact the registrations for summer camp programs offered by the Park and Recreation Department and impact their summer revenue.

**Masterplan Update:** Dick stated the Planning office has scheduled a number of Community Conversations regarding the Sudbury Master Plan Update. He felt the one specific to Recreation was the October 29 meeting on Natural Environment, Open Space and Recreation. Mara suggested promoting this to the user groups and discussing it further at the next Commission meeting. Bill Schineller mentioned a Town Forum regarding Broadacres and hearing from the community on what residents would like to see happen with the property. Bobby stated the Commission had expressed interest in the horse farm site and he will work the Town Manager to arrange a tour.

**CPC Submission Deadline 9/30:** The deadline for applications has been extended to October 10, 2019. Commission did not think they had anything to submit. Bobby stated he would speak with Kayla. Mara questioned if a new pool filtration system might qualify.

**Review and approve minutes:** Minutes from the last meeting were approved with corrections 4-0.

**Discuss Open Seat on Commission:** Bobby will speak with the Town Manager regarding the process to fill the open Park and Recreation Commission position. In the past, a joint meeting took place and the candidates were interviewed. At this time, there is only one interested applicant.

**Discuss and Possibly Vote for a New Chairperson:** Bobby expressed interest in stepping down as the Chairperson. A short discussion followed and it was decided to continue the discussion at future meetings.

**Misc.:** Mara mentioned a call she received from Bill O'Rourke, DPW, regarding a maintenance contract for Cutting turf. Bobby read an email from Bill regarding the maintenance contract and questioned how the yearly fee of \$5,000 would be paid. It was unclear where the funds would come from, perhaps from the Field maintenance funds from the Town Manager's budget that Chris Felt has received the past few years. Bobby will discuss this further with Kayla.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 21, 2019.