

Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

June 30, 2014 at 6:30pm

Attendees: Rick Amodei, Dave Moreau, Mark Spears, Noreen Ma, Holly Mansfield

Mosquito:

Meeting began at 6:05pm

Approval of Minutes:

Dave Moreau made the motion to approve the minutes of May 27, 2014 meeting. Noreen Ma seconded the motion. All in favor-Yes.

Survey Feedback: There is no feedback yet. Gale Associates is still running the survey. As of two weeks ago, we had 200 responses. The survey will not run past July 4th so Rick asked the board to encourage everyone they know to participate in the survey.

Volleyball Court: Rick proposed that recreation put in a beach volleyball court at Banta Davis. A volleyball court is a minimal expense. The sand is the most expensive portion of the court. The sand will cost approximately \$4500. It would cost a total of \$6000 to complete the project. The court would be 30 x 60 but built out for 50 x 80.

Gary Davis is willing to dig out the court. The base of the court would be sand and gravel. This layer would allow water to drain so you do not lose sand and have to replenish the sand each year. All that is needed to complete the project is sand, posts and a net. The court would be at the end of the parking lot at Banta Davis.

The volleyball court could be rented and volleyball programs could be planned for the community.

Rick made the motion to allocate up to \$7,000 out of the gift account for building a volleyball court at Banta Davis. Dave Moreau seconded the motion. All in favor-Yes.

Tennis Courts: A resident came to the Recreation Office to complain about the condition of the tennis courts. ML Fence did repair the top rails and chain link fence. The cost for these repairs was \$900.

Rick spoke with a company from Westford Tennis to get a price to repair the tennis courts and also what it would cost to install 4 tennis courts at Banta Davis. There is a grant from Regional Directors for USTA to match funds for new tennis courts. The grant is up to \$40k for new courts and \$20k to repair existing courts.

CPA funds can not be used to repair tennis courts but CPA funds can be used to build new courts. Mark recalls the expense for four new tennis courts to be \$75k-\$100k.

If new courts are built then we can open up the discussion for use of the current courts. The current tennis courts could be used for basketball or street hockey.

Mark mention that if we do not use the \$25k awarded to us for Benfield then we will lose the money. Recreation will need to decide how to spend this money by the next CPA meeting in September. Mark mentioned using the \$25k to design tennis courts at Benfield. This design could also be used at Banta Davis for future courts. Recreation would have to contract a design company asap.

Field Status: Jared Davis completed the overseed and aeration of the fields. The water will be turned on twice per day. The final organic treatment was applied on June 30th and the fields will be closed for a month.

Bridge Bid Update: The lowest bidder for the bridge project is Solid Earth Technologies. The bid came in \$200 over budget. However, money for bid ads was taken out of the bridge account so Solid Earth Technologies is over budget by approximately \$150. Rick will still negotiate with Solid Earth Technologies to put in a dumpster at the towns expense and possibly remove the existing boardwalk. If the town provides the dumpster and removes the existing boardwalk than the fees can be adjusted. Rick will ask for a two year warranty to get through two freezes.

Rick has a meeting with the Trails Committee on July 11th. The Trails Committee can give an oversight of the project.

Stamski and McNary put together a proposal of \$2500 for six inspections to manage the boardwalk project.

Rick made the motion to recommend to the Board of Selectman to accept the bid from Solid Earth Technologies. Mark seconded the motion. All in favor-Yes

Bid Package for Organic Treatment: Recreation will need to bid for a new contract for organic treatment. Rick is hoping to get a report back from Gale Associates. A vote can be made at the next meeting for a new contract for organic maintenance.

Report on Summer Fun: Summer Fun began on June 30th. We have a great start to the summer with a great new staff. The numbers are growing and counselors may need to be added if numbers continue to increase. Three pools have been generously donated by the Model Family, Colbert Family and Yelle Family. Next year we may need additional pools to accommodate swim lesson participants which are separate from Summer Fun participants.

All other summer programs are getting lots of interest. We are starting a new kindergarten enrichment program in the fall. Also, the use of the Brick Building on school campus should help to increase participation. Having access to this building will allow for instructors to meet the children immediately after school and walk them to a program. This helps families as they do not need to transport their child to the program.

Repairs Report: Many repairs have been completed and are in progress. 1) Repairs have been made to the tennis courts. 2) New portable benches have been purchased for Spalding Field. Gary Davis will assemble the benches and place them on the softball field at Spalding. 3) Benches on the picnic tables have been replaced. 4) Jared Davis was planning to trim trees at Banta Davis. However, this project could not be completed due to conservation concerns. Rick plans to walk the field with Sylvia Willard of Conservation. This project will be put in the budget for next year. 5) The gazebo at Diment park is in need of new stairs. A contractor is needed to complete this project so the stairs are up to code. John Luther is aware of the project and flyers have been placed in his office for any contractor that may be interested in the project.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm