

Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2014 at 5:00pm

Attendees: Rick Amodei, Dave Moreau, Kevin Smith, Noreen Ma, Holly Mansfield

Mosquito: Sara Hart

Guests: Samantha Rottenberg, Nancy DiRomualdo (CC Soccer), Laura France (CC Soccer), Mark Hamor, Priscilla Stevens, John Ballantine, Scott Harvey (Pres, CC Lax)

Meeting began at 5:10pm

Allocation of spring field space for Lacrosse:

CCYS was asked by the Lacrosse League to share field space for the growing Lacrosse program. Nancy DiRomulado has safety concerns including fencing that would be needed to protect the soccer players from lacrosse balls, parking and overall space on the fields. Soccer wishes to avoid play on the clay areas of the baseball fields due to wear/tear on cleats and the ability to hold soccer games with breaks in field areas.

CC Youth Lacrosse is requesting field space for 4-5 Saturdays between the hours of 10am-4:00pm. Lacrosse realizes that this may not be feasible for the upcoming 2014 season but is hoping to resolve this issue for 2015. Due to lack of field space, lacrosse is renting field space at the Edge in Bedford. Rental of this space will cost between \$3000-\$4000. If lacrosse has to continue to rent space in future years, the fee cost of the lacrosse program will need to be increased.

Parking is a concern with planning for both soccer and lacrosse on the same field. Adding lacrosse to Spalding Field would bring in an additional 75 cars (approx.). Rick talked with the Police Department and it was suggested that a sign be placed on Church Street to encourage parents of players to park at the school parking lot and walk to the field. The police department to date has not indicated any concern as to the traffic increase.

Possible resolutions to this issue could include starting soccer at an earlier time during the day and extending the lacrosse games to later in the day. Another possible solution may be to move the soccer games that currently take place on Banta Davis to Spalding which would allow lacrosse the use of the entire field at Banta Davis.

Due to the snow, we are unable to see how large the grass area is between baseball fields on Spalding. Once we have the true dimensions of this area, we can then determine if soccer can realistically use Spalding to meet all their needs.

Due to the time constraints and inability to get a true measurement of the grass area on the field at this time, lacrosse will go forward and rent space for the upcoming 2014 season. However, the hope and expectation is to develop a new plan/schedule for 2015 allowing for both soccer and lacrosse to use fields at Spalding and/or Banta Davis.

Carlisle Parent's Connection:

Samantha Rottenberg represents the Carlisle Parent's Connection (CPC). CPC is currently operating as a volunteer organization for children age 5 and under. CPC organizes events and play groups for children by age.

Previously, the CPC has been affiliated with First Connection which served parent groups in the surrounding areas. First Connection helped parent groups connect to share information regarding program offerings for children. CPC was also able to obtain liability insurance from this organization. However, liability insurance is no longer available to CPC which caused CPC to discuss alternatives. CPC discussed the idea of coming under the town's program to not only resolve the liability issue but to work together in program offerings. The idea of offering CPC programs as a recreation program is an option. CPC programs will fall under the recreation department and funds will be collected through recreation 53D revolving account. CPC could still promote their programs through their own website which would be linked to the town recreation site.

Highland:

John Ballantine, Priscilla Stevens and Matt Hamor made a presentation of possible use of the Highland Building. The Highland Committee has been in existence for two years and set out to determine what it is that residents see as a need in town and also to see if the town would support efforts to revitalize the building. A survey was distributed to 367 residents with 109 responses to the survey. The result of the survey shows that, yes, the town is interested in saving the Highland building as a Community Cultural Center to include education programs, fitness, meeting space, arts and crafts, space for residents to rent for various activities, etc.

The cost of design, development and engineering of the project is approximately \$85,000. The project involves removing the current front staircase to add a downward ramp which would create one entrance for all participants. This also meets ADA requirements for a building entrance.

The current design, also allows for 27 parking spaces which is comparable to the parking spaces at the library. The use of Highland would primarily operate after school hours which would allow for overflow of parking at the school. The church may also be agreeable for overflow parking if needed.

The Highland Committee researched many of the surrounding towns that currently have Community Cultural Centers. It is also possible to apply for various grants and CPA funds to help offset the cost of the project.

The Highland Committee is looking to recreation to see what, if any, our interest might be in obtaining space in this building. Ideally, community space could increase interest in programming resulting in increased income to the town. As a result, recreation does have an interest in the program, as it could be valuable to future programming.

Field Mowing Contract:

The current field mowing contract with Jared Davis is extended through June 2014. The contract could now be extended through the fall of 2015. The work provided by Jared Davis on fields has been consistent with no maintenance issues to date.

Dave Moreau made the motion to extend the field mowing contract with Jared Davis to the fall of 2015. Kevin Smith seconded the motion. All in favor, yes.

Organic Maintenance Contract:

The organic maintenance contract with Mahoney's Safe Lawn is currently expired. Prior to our next meeting we need 3 bids for organic field maintenance, then a vote can be made to contract with a company.

Field Survey:

The results of the field survey will not be ready for town meeting. The snow on the fields has halted the field survey process. We are also still waiting for the school and various sport groups to gather information needed for the field survey.

Bridge Update:

Tim Goddard will prepare the bid package for this project. Rick is expecting the bid to come in higher than expected which would exceed the available funds for the project. Three different railing designs will be considered and bid on in the bid package.

Prior to the preparation of the bid package, Rick will meet with the Conservation Commission. Recreation has two years to spend the allotted CPA funds for the project. After that, recreation would need to apply for an extension from CPA.

Town Report:

Kevin Smith made the motion to accept and submit the 2013 Town Report as drafted. Dave Moreau seconded the motion. All in favor, yes.

Old Home Day Movie:

The Old Home Day Committee would like recreation to once again be involved in the festivities with the movie on Friday night, June 27. Two years ago, we held the movie at Spalding Field but the area was not ideal due to the mosquitos. Last year, due to weather, the movie was moved indoors in the school auditorium and the outdoor screen was not needed. The only expense last year for this event was the rental of the movie for \$350 from the movie company SWANK. This year, we are considering holding the event on the green after the ice cream social. Once again, weather conditions will ultimately determine the location of the event.

The cost to rent both an outdoor screen and movie would be approximately \$1000 depending on screen size and movie choice.

Dave Moreau made the motion to approve the Old Home Day Movie event, not to exceed the amount of \$1000 paid from the gift account. Rick Amodei seconded the motion. All in favor, yes.

Approval of Minutes for 12/4/13 Meeting:

Noreen Ma made the motion to approve the minutes of the 12/4/13 meeting. Dave Moreau seconded the motion. All in favor, yes.

Other:

Rick went to the Conservation Commission to propose the idea of building fields on conservation land. The Conservation Commission wrote a response letter stating that Recreation would need to go through multiple layers of land protection departments to get approval of such a project. Due to this response, Conservation has also stated that they are in agreement with Recreation to keep playing fields in a centralized location.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm