

Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2013 at 5:00pm

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

Mosquito: Sara Hart

Guests: Tim Goddard, Deb Belanger, Vanessa Moroney, Samantha Rottenberg

Meeting began at 6:10pm

Gale Field Survey:

Rick spoke with the Finance Committee regarding the contract with Gale Associates. Hiring Gale will cause the operating budget to be in a deficit of \$15,000. The Finance Committee is aware of this if we hire Gale Associates.

Kevin made the motion to authorize the recreation chairman to enter into a contract with Gale Associates to perform a field survey condition upon the language fulfilling the purpose of what needs to be done. Dave Moreau seconded the motion. All in favor. Yes.

ADA Upgrades:

All decided to wait and see what comes out of the Gale Associates survey and then review all ADA issues.

Banta Davis Playground:

The playground at Banta Davis is still not complete. A lot still needs to happen and Rick Sibley has been working on the project and has spent some of his own money to try and complete the project.

Rick would like to ask the board to authorize another \$500 out of the Gift Fund to reimburse Rick and also in the event that we need obtain a tractor to move things around. Kevin questions the condition of the equipment and if this was an idea that looked good at the time but is not working out well.

At this point, Rick would like to complete the project and make it right. The equipment is in good shape and it is worth completing. We just need a plan to get it done before the snow. Rick needs help to complete the project.

Kevin made the motion to authorize the spending of up to \$500 from the Gift Fund for the Banta Davis playground. Dave seconded the motion. All in favor. Yes.

Banta Davis Bridge:

The preliminary plan on the bridge is due this week. Rick will send the plan to the Trails Committee. This is a CPA funded project so we may not need a vote on the final plan. Rick is going in front of the Conservation Commission with the anticipation that issues may arise. He keeps hearing about alternate fields in the development of 40B housing. Rick hopes to obtain more information.

Benfield "soccer" field cannot be used. Kevin states that due to the location of the proposed soccer field it cannot be built due to wetlands and conservation issues. From a regulatory view, it is impossible to put a field on the property and parking is an issue.

Diment Park:

Up until this past year, there was no money in the Recreation Department's budget for repairs at Diment Park. As of July 1, 2013 we now have money allotted specifically for repairs on the park.

We do have quotes on the fence but a few issues with ADA have stalled us from moving forward on the project. Vanessa asked if all play areas have to be ADA compliant or can certain parks be "grandfathered" in. Rick has received two different perspectives on this issue but plans to get more information from Town Counsel and/or the Town Insurance Company.

Vanessa asked if there were any state regulations for playground safety. She has tried to find some official language pertaining to playground safety but has not been successful. Is the town liable if an accident should occur due to the condition of Diment Park?

Rick has asked Gale Associated to include playgrounds in their survey. We will also inquire if the current playground equipment needs to satisfy ADA or if we are expected to add equipment that meets the ADA guidelines.

Tim Goddard mentioned that we have a new firm for town counsel and any questions from department boards will be covered under the new contract with town counsel. Tim can bring the questions to town counsel or the recreation commission can set up a time to meet with town counsel if needed. A Gale representative could also determine issues and go to town counsel with specific questions. Kevin will put together a list of questions for town counsel.

Deb Belanger suggested that we may need to first get architectural guidance on the project before we meet with town counsel. Deb suggested that we call Concord Planning Board since they just did work on playgrounds in Concord.

We have two quotes on the fence. A cedar fence with removal of existing fence is \$5400. A chain link fence with removal of existing fence is \$4100. Vanessa suggested we install a chain link fence because older kids are constantly climbing over the fence.

Kevin stated that the cost is a factor in deciding what type of fence to install. Dave made a motion to spend \$4100 to purchase and install a chain link fence from ML Fence. Rick seconded the motion. All in favor. Yes.

Rick discussed ordering the mulch now or in the spring. We have been delayed on ordering the mulch due to the playground structure not yet installed at Banta Davis. It is more cost effective to have one delivery.

Vanessa asked if we should speak with town counsel regarding waiting to put in the mulch until spring. This could be a safety hazard and the town may not want to wait until spring. Holly will talk with the mulch company to see when the mulch could be delivered.

Contract Extension for Jared Davis:

Kevin made the motion to extend the field maintenance contract of Jared Davis through June 30, 2014. Dave seconded the motion. All in favor. Yes.

Ice Rink:

The ice rink needs money to be revamped. Rick has been trying to keep the ice rink up. However, in past years we have had to cut the liner due to holes making the rink much smaller. The issue is that we need someone on board to plow/shovel the rink after each snow storm.

Dave feels the rink is rarely used. The ice rink is a lot of work and effort for not a lot of use. Unless we received a huge request for the ice rink, we will not put the rink up this year.

Other:

David Klein, the COA Director introduced himself to the board and want to discuss the idea of formulating a plan for a future recreation/senior center in Carlisle. It has been mentioned that COA will not get a senior center on their own but would have a better chance if they collaborated with another department. Collaborating with the recreation department makes the most sense. David is looking at the Benfield design and thinking that this would be a perfect time to speak up about the needs for a community building.

Rick commented that there are a lot of things going on right now with recreation and he can't imagine going in front of boards and saying we now want a building. There are just no extra funds in the town for a project of this kind. David suggested that perhaps the project could be funded privately and with fundraisers. It is a project that could take years to obtain the funds but also a project that is needed in town.

David asked if he could speak with the representative from Gale Associates to discuss the need for a community building. Rick stated that the Gale survey is mainly geared toward field use but we can certainly look to a broader scope such as a community building. Rick will forward David the contact information for Gale Associates.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm