

## Recreation Commission: January 18, 2022

Recreation Commission Minutes: 1/18/22

Meeting Minutes Approved: 3/14/22

Meeting began at 6:06pm by Zoom

Recreation Commission: Drew McMorrow, Amy Smack, Courtney Bittelari, Scott Jamison, Phil Gibson  
Minutes: Holly Mansfield

Mosquito:

### Agenda Topics:

1. Review of 12/6/21 Meeting Minutes
  - a. *Motion: Amy made the motion to accept the December 6, 2021, meeting minutes. Courtney seconded. All in favor: Yes*
2. Public Correspondence:
  - a. An email was received from Angela Smith on January 10, 2022, regarding the Pickleball facility.
    - i. In summary, Angela is concerned that the size of the proposed 2019 design of the Community Center will be diminished due to the addition of a pickleball facility. Angela would like to see the full plan from the 2019 plan be realized. Angela is also concerned about parking if both a Community Center and Pickleball facility are developed.
    - ii. Amy will reach out to Angela in the upcoming weeks to discuss her concerns regarding the pickleball facility.
  - b. Two Guests attended the meeting.
    - i. Deborah Bentley– Deborah is attending the meeting to listen to plans associated with the pickleball facility.
    - ii. Wanda Avril – No Comment
3. Tennis Courts: Review quotes for repairs
  - a. David Wiener is a Carlisle resident who volunteers his time to maintain the tennis courts. The tennis courts need repair and resurfacing. David solicited many companies for suggestions on how best to repair the courts.
  - b. Two companies submitted quotes. After reviewing the quotes, David suggested contracting with Sports Tek from Beverly, MA. The quote of \$19,900 includes 1) Pressure wash the entire court surface 2) Repair several small puddles 3) finish and install 100' of Riteway Crack Repair system to cracks 4) furnish and install three coat Novacrylic full acrylic playing surface to the entire court surface 5) paint two sets of tennis lines with white textured line paint per USTA standards 6) Paint pickleball lines.
  - c. Sports Tek would need access to both water and electricity. David will look into getting water to the courts as well as renting a generator for the day for electricity.
  - d. *Motion: Amy made the motion to accept the current bid from Sports Tek in the amount of \$19,900 for the resurfacing of the tennis courts. Scott seconded. All in favor: Yes*
4. Update on the Castle Playground
  - a. Brian Waterson joined the meeting to provide an update on the Castle Playground.
    - i. The project is moving quickly and the fundraising deadline to raise one million is set for March 1, 2022. The committee is waiting on approvals from both the School Committee as well as the Historic Commission. Once the approvals are in place, the equipment will be ordered, and the date will be set to build the new playground in summer 2022.
  - b. Some of the highlights of the project include a new space that will meet the needs for the next 30-40 years, a separate play area for younger children, better sight line during recess hours, meeting ADA

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guidelines, rubber pathways, a ramping system wide enough for two wheelchairs, a transfer station for slide access, and a turf field area near the plaza.

- c. The maintenance of the playground should be minimal as all of the equipment has warranties. The committee plans to develop a Friends of the Castle Playground committee to schedule clean up days and to set up a maintenance fund.
  - i. Drew suggested collaborating with the Recreation Commission for continued maintenance. Maintenance of the Castle Playground could be included in the overall field maintenance contract.
- d. The Castle Playground has currently raised \$625k of the one million goal. Some larger donors have come forward but have requested to stay anonymous. The committee has fundraising events scheduled in the upcoming months and feels confident that their fundraising goal will be met.

### 5. Update on the Banta Davis Softball Field Renovations

- a. Peter Gambino from Concord Carlisle Youth Baseball & Softball (CCYBS) joined the meeting to provide an update on the renovations of the softball field at Banta Davis.
  - i. The goal of the project is to bring the softball field up to a regulation size. Peter met with Michael Hightower to discuss various options to meet this goal. One suggestion was to move the softball diamond, however, due to the current irrigation set up, it is best to leave the diamond in the current setting.
  - ii. The best plan currently is to move the fence. Peter met with Reliable Fence about moving the fence in to bring the field to regulation size. The approximate cost to move the fence is \$34k.
  - iii. New covered dugouts will be installed, along with padding on the fence.
- b. The cost of this renovation will be absorbed by CCYBS.
- c. CCYBS is looking to get approval from the Recreation Commission in order to begin renovations in spring 2022.
  - i. Drew will follow up with Town Counsel to determine if any steps need to be taken to accept the donation from CCYBS for the field renovation.
  - ii. Drew will also follow up with the School Committee to inform them of the plan and confirm their support of the project.
- d. Peter will update the plan and a vote will be taken on the project at the next recreation meeting.

### 6. Town Report

- a. The Town Report is due on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Amy offered to update the report. The town report allows each department to summarize what has happened during the past year as well as what the goals might be for the upcoming year.
  - i. Recreation has had a busy year and many projects will be included in this report. The report will include how COVID impacted programming, the proposed pickleball facility, tennis court renovation and the Dog Park.

### 7. Dog Park

- a. The design committee is planning to meet on Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the vision and requirements for the dog park. The committee is discussing downsizing the overall scope of the dog park to bring costs down.
- b. RecCom will be applying for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds from the Community Preservation Committee. The CPA applications are due on February 11, 2022.

### 8. Pickleball Facility

- a. Drew attended the January 11<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectman meeting to provide an update on the pickleball facility.
- b. The Board of Selectman plan to take a vote at their next meeting to authorize the grant agreement.

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### 9. Liaison Reports

- a. Master Plan: Amy participated in the Master Plan Advisory Committee, but only the Master Plan Steering Committee has been meeting to finalize the plan.
  - i. On January 13<sup>th</sup>, Tim Goddard emailed the Carlisle Master Plan Implementation Table with recommendations and future priorities for Carlisle. It seems that many of the recreation plans were not addressed. For example, the plan did not specify the need for a community center. It did not identify any facility needs for sports or recreation programming. Recreation was absent from the list of priorities for retaining or enhancing Carlisle Character.
  - ii. The Master Plan Steering committee is looking for feedback from the Recreation Commission. RecCom should review the plan and provide comments via the survey link by January 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.
- b. Community Preservation Committee
  - i. Lynette Kelleher was the former liaison to the CPC. Lynette has resigned from RecCom and a new liaison needs to be appointed. The CPC involves reviewing applications submitted for CPC funds. The committee holds meetings from January-May or as needed depending on the number of applications that are submitted.
  - ii. Courtney agreed to be the liaison to the Community Preservation Committee
- c. Spalding Study
  - i. Spalding field is a valuable piece of property in Carlisle due to its proximity to both the school and the Banta Davis playing fields.
  - ii. The Spalding Study will assist with rethinking the space for current priorities and will help develop a plan for the field.
    1. Currently the field has sink holes and is not usable for sports due to safety concerns.
    2. Drew and Phil will meet to review the scope of the field study and prepare the bid.
    3. Drew will meet with the School Committee to provide an update on the study. The school has been in support of this study as it will greatly improve the overall usability of the field.
    4. The study will also address the feasibility of an artificial turf field on a portion of the field.
- d. Finance Committee
  - i. Drew met with the finance committee to discuss the FY23 budget. The Field Maintenance bids may be inflated due to the increased costs to maintain the fields.
    1. All agree that Michael Hightower with Golf Course Management has been remarkably good with the overall field care as well as his response to various field needs.
    2. Amy is working on updating the field maintenance bids as a new contract will need to be awarded by July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- e. Council on Aging
  - i. Scott is just starting to connect with the COA and will provide a report at the next meeting.

### 10. Other Business

- a. None

Next meeting: TBD

Meeting adjourned approximately 7:40PM