

Recreation Commission Minutes: 6/1/20

Meeting began at 6:04PM

Recreation Commission: Drew McMorrow, Courtney Bittelari, Mark Spears, Amy Smack, Lynette Kelleher, Holly Mansfield

Mosquito: Sarah Hart

Agenda Topics:

1. Review of Meeting Minutes from 5/4/20
  - a. *Motion: Mark made the motion to accept the May 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes, Lynette seconded. All in favor: Yes*
2. Public Correspondence
  - a. Two letters were received in support of Pickleball courts. This topic will be addressed under the Tennis Courts agenda item.
3. Spalding Field Public Art Proposal by Kathleen Redman
  - a. Kathleen Redman is proposing an art project for Spalding Field. Kathleen was inspired after a request from the Carlisle Cheer Committee to create signs with uplifting thoughts during the COVID-19 crisis.
  - a. The idea would be to give Spalding Field a sense of renewal through visual art. Kathleen is focusing on painting Dandelions on plywood panels that would be attached to the Pitchback, Sheds and Trash Cans.
  - b. The total cost of the project would be approximately \$1000 for the plywood and acrylic paint. Kathleen would need 12 4x8 plywood panels which would need to be primed prior to the design being painted with acrylic paints.
  - c. Drew requested that Kathleen create a timeline of the project and what may be needed to complete the project.
    - i. Kathleen will attend a future meeting and the Recreation Commission will take a vote on the project at that time.
4. Tennis Courts
  - a. Holly received letters of support from both Barney Arnold and Sandy Nash for the addition of Pickleball lines on the existing tennis courts.
  - b. The original quote to paint lines for 4 pickleball courts was \$1700. The cost to paint 2 pickleball courts is \$900.
  - c. Drew suggested starting with painting just two courts and then if needed, two additional pickleball courts can be painted at a later date.
  - d. *Motion: Amy made the motion to move forward with the bid for \$900 to paint two pickleball courts on the existing tennis courts. Mark seconded. All in favor: Yes*
5. Liaison Reports
  - a. Finance Committee: Drew met with the Finance Committee to present the 5% reduction in the budget. During this meeting, it was confirmed that the funds for the Spalding Study are available for 3 years. Drew will revisit the Spalding Field project in the fall.
  - b. Master Plan: Amy stated that the Master Plan is moving forward and that there have been no community meetings since March.
  - c. Open Space: Amy submitted Drew's 7-year Plan for the Recreation Department. The School Committee has submitted their plan and the Youth Commission is currently working on their section of the plan.
  - d. The ADA section seems to be the most difficult part of the plan. No improvements or changes have been made with regard to accessibility since the 2013 study. However, it is required that this section be refreshed and updated.

- i. Holly and Amy will meet with Tim Goddard who is the ADA Coordinator for the Town to inquire about how to move forward with gathering the necessary information to complete the ADA section of the plan.
- ii. In 2013, Rick met with a Task Force of 16 members to evaluate the accessibility of various town venues to include water access, trails, parking, fields, playgrounds, etc.
- iii. Mark mentioned that Spalding Field is not in compliance as the accessible access to the field is on the opposite side of the designated handicap spaces. Creating accessibility would require either moving the handicap parking spaces or building a ramp to get on the field near the current parking spaces.
  - 1. Diment Park is also not accessible. Ramp access is needed but there was no solution due to the location of the park.
  - 2. The Little League field at Banta Davis is accessible, however, the Softball field by the upper parking lot has issues with accessibility. A ramp would need to be built to create accessibility to the field.
- iv. There is not a good solution to creating accessibility to these areas as ramps and paved walkways are expensive.
- e. Dog Park: Courtney and Drew will meet with the Planning Board on June 8<sup>th</sup> to present the Dog Park plan and inquire about abutters.

#### 6. Summer Fun

- a. The Massachusetts guidelines were released today with regard to the opening of summer recreational programs.
- b. Amy and Holly joined the Board of Health meeting last week looking for guidance but they did not yet have all of the answers at that time.
  - i. They did have concerns about the risks outweighing the benefits, at what point do you shut down the program if there is a positive case, and that there is no way to guarantee that there would not be exposure to COVID-19.
  - ii. Holly and Amy have drafted a letter to send to families that are currently registered for the program to explain what the program will look like this year and to gauge their interest in having their children participate with the new guidelines.
    - 1. Children will be assigned to “Pods” of up to 10 children and two counselors. The Pods will then move from one activity to another as a group.
    - 2. There will be no swimming since it is not possible to safely social distance the children in the van when transporting to the pool.
    - 3. The program will be held outdoors on Spalding Field under tents. The cost to rent the tents is approximately \$4000.
    - 4. Holly is working with the school to confirm if the restrooms in the school can be used and if the school can serve as emergency shelter in the event of a thunderstorm.
- c. Amy, Drew and Holly will continue to work with the Board of Health to develop a program that successfully and safely meets the guidelines of the State and Local Government.
- d. The Recreation Commission is suggesting moving forward with the program as it is a need for families in town to have outdoor activities for children during the summer.

#### 7. Other:

- a. The Historical Commission reached out to the School Committee with regard to the replacement of the windows in the Brick Building.
  - i. The Brick Building is not in the Historic District but the Historical Society would like to be involved with the project and look into having the windows restored vs. being replaced.
  - ii. Holly and Jon Metievier met with Kathleen Keller from the Historic Commission to evaluate the windows in the Brick Building. Kathleen also invited Larry Sorli, a local architect to the meeting to gain his expertise on the restoration of the windows.

- iii. Kathleen Keller from the Historical Commission is meeting with the School Committee to discuss the windows. Holly will also attend the meeting to answer any questions that may come up with regard to the use of the space.
- b. Volleyball Court: Frank Gardner with Gators Volleyball had offered to replace the sand on the Volleyball Court at the beginning of the year. However, due to the COVID crisis he is no longer able to financially afford replacing the sand this year.
  - i. Drew thought that replacing the sand could be paid for out of the recreation budget.
  - ii. Holly will ask Frank to get a quote to replace the sand. This topic will be discussed at the next Recreation Meeting.

Meeting adjourned approximately 7:35PM