

**TOWN OF WEYMOUTH
WEYMOUTH RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
December 6, 2017
Minutes**

PRESENT:

Mark Kilban, Chairman
Steve Reilly
Janelle Quinn
Nick Quaglia
Keith Ricci

ALSO PRESENT:

Christine Malloy, Recording Secretary

Chairman Kilban called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

PROJECT UPDATE

Lovell Field

Mr. Reilly reported that everything other than the building is complete. Lovell Field has hosted two weekends of tournaments already. The facilities were well received and the local area received traffic as well. There are plans to meet with the engineering firm and the MBTA people to build a bridge to the MBTA parking lot and create 300+ parking spaces (and quick access to Dunkin Donuts). Many more tournaments are already booked.

The General Manager of FCBoston called Nick Quaglia to say how great the field was last week and that college coaches were at the games. That was nice; it's not every day you get those phone calls.

Libby Field

Mr. Reilly reported the turf is in, fence is up, landscape is in, light poles are up; this project is close to completion. There is lots of interest from various groups wanting to play on this new field. The Weymouth Wildcat logo will be on the large blank portion of the wall in center field and a scoreboard in right field.

Weston Field

Mr. Reilly reported this project is near completion. There were struggles with the contractor. The field is coming out great.

Also, they have irrigated 5 fields.

SKATE PARK

No update.

WEYMOUTH STREET HOCKEY LEAGUE

Stella Tirrell Rink 2; this item is not on Town Council agenda as of yet.

Memo:

*TO: Recreation Department
FROM: Stephen Reilly
DATE: December 6, 2017
RE: Stella Rink 2*

Today, December 6, 2017, I did a site walk through the proposed work with Brian Bishop of 84 Central Street who is a direct abutter of Stella Tirrell Park. Brian had some concerns regarding the parking lot, the condition of the Town owned fence along his property and the siting of the proposed playground. His concerns and requests were reasonable and should be achievable within the scope of the proposed work.

While on site, I was approached by Mr. Thomas Hannaford of 75 Central Street, directly across the street from the park. This was my first interaction with Mr. Hannaford, despite previous attempts to contact him. He was quite agitated and was initially opposed to the project. His biggest concern was the addition of parking/paving and taking away “park space”. He has been upset in the past regarding on street parking but failed to recognize the addition of parking within the park as a means by which to address this problem. Mr. Hannaford is a longtime resident (1950’s) but hasn’t voiced any concerns or objections until today. Some of his concerns carry some merit and should be considered in planning.

To be clear, Mr. Hannaford, by his own admission, has never contacted the Town or raised his concerns to anyone “out of fear of repercussions”. Some kids broke his picture window many years ago (1970’s) and he doesn’t want trouble.

Parking remains the primary concern and scheduling “buffer times” appears to be a necessity. The addition of a second rink will certainly limit the number of days that impact the neighborhood. Staggering start times on each rink would help as well.

RULES OF PARKS/ORDINANCES

Chairman Kilban announced a new ordinance to ask to be pushed forward to Town Council by this committee.

Dogs on Playing Fields 6-705-R

Definitions for this ordinance:

Playing surface – Any property owned by the Town of Weymouth where sports are played such as football, soccer, baseball, tennis, basketball, rugby, field hockey, lacrosse etc. The playing surface is the area in which the sports are played not the spectator areas.

Synthetic turf- Any turf surface which is manmade, including spectator areas.

No dogs shall be allowed on any playing surface or synthetic turf whether leashed or unleashed.

Ms. Quinn made a MOTION to APPROVE and move forward to Town Council. Mr. Ricci SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

GREAT ESKER PARK – Back River TRAIL

Mr. Reilly reported that Andrew Hultin is applying for grant monies to tie into trails at Great Esker Park and Back River; trails will be ADA Compliant. They will be eligible for 20% matching.

More updates to come.

LEAGUE FEES

Mr. Reilly stated attached is the new 2018 Grass Athletic Field Permit Fee Schedule and Turf Field Permit Fee Schedule. Please try to keep in mind turf lasts ten years; costs include maintenance fees and new field every ten years.

Ms. Quinn suggested the chart show how field permit fees are paying to maintain the fields for the future.

Ms. Quinn made a MOTION that the FUNDS GENERATED FROM FIELD PERMITTING AND FEES IS PLACED INTO A SECURE ACCOUNT FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE FOR THESE FIELDS. Mr. Ricci SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Mr. Reilly stated Libby Field is the only synthetic turf baseball field around; another field like this one just doesn't exist. All baseball fields have been vastly improved within the past year, the town needs a better fee structure.

Most fields are grass only, Libby Field is turf. Each team can get a game or two at Libby Field per season as a treat.

Basketball –need to review opportunities.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Ricci made a MOTION to ADJOURN at 8:16PM. Ms. Quinn SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Approved by:

Mark Kilban, Chairman

Dated:
