**Recreation Committee
April 29, 2019
4:00PM, Center Office Building/ 2nd Floor Conference Room**

**Members in attendance**: Erin Carson (EC), Mary Lou Volpe (MV), Dan Thompson (DT), Kadion Phillips (KP), Cindy Forgit (CF), Annie Roscioli (AR)

**Members Absent**:

**Others in Attendance:** Ian Dunnigan and Shawn Rich, Bay State Brewing

Kadion Philips arrived at 4:11 PM

Cindy Forgit arrived at 4:12 PM

 **OPENING OF MEETING**: EC made motion to open meeting at 4:01 PM. MV seconded. Vote 3-0.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

4/8/19- MV made a motion to accept minutes as amended. Seconded by DT Vote 3-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Welcome newly elected Committee Member Cynthia Sowa Forgit**
2. **Request by Bay State Brewering to partake in Concert on the Common Summer Series as a vendor. AR introduced Ian Dunnigan from Bay State Brewing**. Ian addressed the committee to request permission to sell their beer products on the common during the Concert on the Common Series. Ian explained they currently have permission to sell at the summer Farmer’s Market and just participated in the Town Bonfire. Baystate offered to donated money back to the program as the department does not have a vendor fee at this time. Baystate also woud like to bring lawn games such as cornhole and giant yahtzee for residents to use.

MV stated that she thoughtful it would benefited the community. DT asked if it would be cans or draft beers. MV suggested giving them both the option. Ian Dunnigan answered they can provide either and estimated selling 150 beers at the Bonfire. KP agreed this would be value added to an existing event, and it could increase the number of people attending the concerts.

**MV made a motion to allow Baystate Brewing to become a vendor during the Concert on the Common Series, pending BOS approval. KP seconded. Vote 5-0.**

1. **Open House for Summer Program. Recreation Director seeking opinions from Committee on hosting an Open House for the public interested in the Summer Program, to follow mandatory Staff Meeting for summer program employees on 6/15/19.** AR stated she would like to provide lunch and light games for children and their parents who may be interested in but not familiar with the program. “Meet the Staff”. AR would ask for majority of staff to stay after the scheduled meeting, but stated it is not necessary for all.
2. **Update from STA meeting on funding of two concerts for 2019 Summer Series.** AR stated that the STA approved funding for both concerts requested, LA’s Backstage Pass and Southern Voice Band. This was the final sponsorship pending approval and the concert flyers have gone to printing.

**5. AR brought to committee’s attention a residental complaint by M. Caron in regards to Tennis Courts.** Mr. Caron asks the committee to hold off on any plans to add a second pickleball court to the existing tennis courts as the lines can be confusing. Mr. Caron would like the committee to remove the existing/newly added pickleball lines. AR stated that she told Mr. Caron there are no plans currently to add a second court, as we are waiting for minor repairs to be done however the lines will not be removed as pickleball is a very active group with a high demand, and these discussions and votes took place Summer 2018. The committee does not see an issue with the existings courts and did not discuss further.

**6. AR brought to committee’s attention DPW Director Butch Jackson’s concerns regarding condition of the Town Common.** With several rough spots from over use, DPW Director asked to cancel usage of the common for a minmium of one month for seeding, and additionaly to remove all sport practices from the common. AR explained to Director that this would have needed to be scheduled in advanced, as we have our youngest age group scheduled and partaking in a soccer program weekly, in addition to approved community usage reservations. DT stated that there is no other options and our lack of fields is why we’re forced on to the common. MV stated that they wouldn’t be on the common if there was any other option.

**Old Business**

**1. Update on Proposal of Services received from CME for 60 Cedar St, supported by BOS to be on warrant for June 3, 2019 Annual Town Meeting**. The plans for Proposal of Services for 60 Cedar St, 1 Multipurpose field and parking for a cost of $43,300.00 were supported by both Board of Selectman and Finance Committee for the June 3, 2019 warrant article.

**2. Update on Combined Proposal with Senior Center Study Committee for 70 Cedar St. Plans to be postponed until next town meeting pending adequate proposals**. AR updated the committee on the decisions made at the BOS meeting on April 18th. This meeting was two days after a meeting with CME (engineers for proposals), Town Administrator, and Senior Center Study Committee memebers. At this meeting on Tuesday April 16, both parties discussed their needs with TA and Scott Young from CME to review the three proposals for 70 Cedar St. The meeting ended with the decisions to merge the three proposals into one final proposal for the warrant article, that would have three parts to it. This was decided to clarify the project and to save thousands per proposal. CME stated they would have the updated proposals in time for the BOS meeting, two days later. On Thursday April 18th at 1:00 PM, AR and EC attended the BOS meeting to discuss plans. Senior Center was also there. Although CME did send updated proposals over to Town Administator Jeff Bridges, the proposals did not reflect the meeting two days prior, while the scope of work changed and reflected in dramatic price increases.

Option 1 (Joint Rec and Senior) was updated to removed 60 Cedar St from the wording and reflect work to be done on 70 Cedar only. This removed 12 acres from the scope, but updated proposal cost increased by $300 with no explanation.

Option 2 (Rec Only)- Updated proposal removed water and sewer from proposal of services, yet cost increase by $17,000.00 with no explanation

At this meeting, Senior Center Study Committee chair Ken White brought up that even with the inaccurate and messy proposals, the proposals under discussion for the past several months did not meet their needs. As they are looking for a full feasibility study, and not a proposal of services that we have been working on, the BOS voted to hold off on all plans for 70 Cedar St until the plans we receive are accurate, clear, and meet everyones needs.

**PROPERTY USAGE REQUESTS**

**1. Town Common, August 6, 2019 3:00-8:00PM. Requested by Sturbridge Police Department for National Night Out (annual).**

**2. Town Common, August 14, 2019 12:30-3:30 PM. Requested by Joshua Hyde Library for Children’s Music Program (ToeJam Puppet Band).**

**ADJOURNMENT:** DT made motion to adjourn meeting at 5:32. Seconded by MV. Vote 3-0.

**Tentative Next Meeting:** Tuesday May 20th, 2019 4:00 PM.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Annie Roscioli**

**Recreation Director**