

## Recreation Committee

May 20, 2020

4:00PM, Center Office Building/ 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

**Members in attendance:** MaryLou Volpe (MV), Kadion Phillips (KP), Erin Carson (EC), Annie Roscioli (AR)

**Members Absent:** Cindy Forgit, Dan Thompson

**Others in Attendance:** Jeff Bridges Town Administrator, Robyn Chrabascz Facilities

**OPENING OF MEETING:** EC made motion to open meeting at 4:05 PM. MV seconded. Vote 3-0

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

4/16/20- EC made a motion to approve as written, seconded by MV. Vote 3-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Concept Plans for 60 Cedar St.** AR welcomed Robyn Chrabascz, Facilities Coordinator, and gave a brief introduction to conceptual plans received by McClure Engineering. RC reviewed the plans individually, starting with the topography of the existing site.
  - a. The first multipurpose field layout is presented as 200 x 320, with 48 parking spaces. This layout features three retaining walls, adjacent to 70 Cedar St. AR stated she supports this first layout as the Recreation Committee's priority as it meets the overall project goals. This field size carries through high school regulation sizes, but does not support adult regulation size. AR also shared that she spoke with the Concervation agent very briefly to identiy any major concerns on the first layout, the 200 x 320 field, and received positive feedback on the visual. RC shared that this field is oriented as East to West, which may be counter initiative, however the field has the ability to be divided into two North/South fields which is most ideal for the younger playing leagues. KP verified the 200 x 320 is represent in feet. RC confirmed.
  - b. RC reviewed the second concept plan, a smaller field that is most similar to original CME design from prior years. This field is 160 x 280 and features 16 parking spaces parrallel to the street, stays within the 60 Cedar St boundary line, and features one large retaining wall.
  - c. The next concept layout features again a smaller field, 180 x 320, and 23 parking spots to the left of the field across from the Tennis Courts. This design features no road side parking or East parking with a retaining wall to the North.
  - d. RC reviewed the final concept plan, which features of multipurpose field with a Little League field shared on the west side. The Little League field shows a 225' outfield and the multipurpose field is 160 x 240, with 23 parking spots on the east side of the field, retaining wall infront of LL Field.
  - e. RC circled back to the first conceptual plan, the 200 x 320 field as it appeared to be most desired and showed where an off shoot to access 70 Cedar St could be placed. RC asked McClure to show a modification of the plan, which shows the same field and parking layout, however shows a wider road with an added rotary with the idea of future road way expansion. This reflects a two way road with a yellow stripe, 30 ft wide right of way. The rotary would re direct traffic to parking, 70 Cedar, and to the residential roads. RC asked the Committee if they would consider moving the site up a bit onto 70 Cedar St, under the idea of planning for the future. MV stated that crossing the boundary line must first be approved the Board of Selectmen. AR stated that the Committee will have to make two decisions this evening, one being what conceptual plan to move forward with, and a second request to the Sturbridge BOS to cross the 70 Cedar St boundary line. AR advised the committee to keep these motions/requests separate.

**MV made a motion to move forward with conceptual plan #1, Multi-purpose field 200 x 320' with 48 parking spots, Seconded by EC. Vote 3-0.**

**MV made a motion to request to the Sturbridge Board of Selectmen to alter our plans for 60 Cedar St and cross the boundary line to 70 Cedar St, Seconded by KP. Vote 3-0.**

- 2. Review of Governor's Updates.** AR reviewed the draft memo sent to the Recreation Committee which addresses each of the Recreation's aspects under new guidance. Athletic fields, courts, playgrounds. AR stated she has sent the draft memo to Sturbridge Board of Health for comment but has not received feedback yet. AR provided a brief summary on use; tennis and pickleball may open under new guidelines 5/25/20. The basketball court is still considered a contact court and may be allowed to open in future phases. The guidelines review athletic fields and that leagues are not permitted for play in any official capacity at this time. In terms of youth programming, there is none permitted at this time and may be allowed in future phases. Town usage remains closed at this time as well. The status of the Summer Rec Program remains unknown at this time. Beach areas may now open with new restrictions, AR stated that enforcement and regulation at this time is the biggest concern through phase 1 and potentially phase 2. AR stated that the Committee will need to vote in order to release the Tennis Courts and to approve the Recreation Memo as written. MV stated that based on the current environment she does not believe the beach should be open until we have staff at that location. The Committee discussed ideas to bring the Summer Staff on earlier this year and what funding may be possible. JB reiterated the importance of staff and guards enforcing the State Regulations and the responsibility that comes with the position. AR asked the Committee to consider opening up the non contact courts, Tennis/Pickleball, and read the required State Guidelines. MV asked to add guidance that failure to comply may result in closure of the courts.
- MV made a motion to open the non contact courts, Pickleball and Tennis Courts, on Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Seconded by KP. Vote 3-0.**
  - MV made a motion to accept the Recreation Committee Memo with the amended guidelines, Seconded by EC. Vote 3-0.**
- 3. Sport League Funding Allocation.** AR reviewed the 2020 funding allocations, with update registration numbers for all leagues except for Soccer due to COVID-19 impacts. AR stated that she used the 2019 registration information submitted by Soccer to complete the 2020 worksheet, which is a reimbursement for prior year purchases. AR shared that Tantasqua Football and Cheer declined any funding request, bringing the allotment per player up to \$8.16 for a total of \$7,500 divided amongst the leagues.
- KP made a motion to approve the 2020 Sport Funding Allocation, Seconded by MV. Vote 3-0.**

### **Old Business**

- 1. Little League Lighting Project.** AR provided an update that CPC has scheduled their next meeting for Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM and Recreation will be making the request for additional funding for the Lighting Project at that time.

### **PROPERTY USAGE REQUESTS**

**ADJOURNMENT:** EC made motion to adjourn meeting at 4:49 PM. Seconded by MV. Vote 3-0.

**Tentative Next Meeting:** TBD pending Government Updates during COVID-19.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Roscioli

Recreation Director