

**MINUTES**  
**MILLIS FIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**FEBRUARY 27, 2014 7:30 PM**  
**900 MAIN ST. MILLIS MA 02054 ROOM 206**

Present:     Andrea Wagner, Chair  
              James McKay, Member  
              Richard Nichols, Member  
              Steven MacInnes, Member

              Charles Aspinwall, Ex-Officio  
              Chuck Adelsberger, CDM Smith  
              Eillish Corey, CD Smith

              David Warner  
              Mary Frances Gitto

Ms. Wagner called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and asked Mr. Adelsberger to address the status of the fields study.

Mr. Adelsberger reviewed the project status beginning with the survey responses. Over 400 survey responses have been submitted. Emails and letters have also been received. The plan is to continue to make sure that people are heard.

Mr. Adelsberger related a phone call the town had received from Ms. Gitto regarding the passive recreation benefits offered by the Oak Grove Farm. Mr. Adelsberger stated that CDM had attended a meeting with the Oak Grove Farm Commissioners and CDM planned to attend the next meeting as well. CDM also reported on a productive meeting with Chuck Grant and other School Department staff.

Mr. Adelsberger reported that they had explored a suggested idea of moving the High School Baseball field to the Youth Baseball field, provided that an alternative space and a facility could be provided for Youth Baseball. That would provide maneuvering room for an improved football field. He reported that field condition studies had been hampered by snow and that CDM needs to contact the Conservation Commission and the Historical Commission to schedule a meeting.

Mr. Adelsberger reported that school officials desire a synthetic field surface with lights, thereby creating the most opportunity for use of the field. School officials are open to other groups using the synthetic field provided school functions are prioritized. A life

cycle cost analysis of synthetic turf vs. grass turf will be provided at the next meeting. There was discussion about playing soccer and football on the same field noting that the pitch on the existing football field is detrimental to soccer play.

The committee discussed the scheduling issue and noted that it was beneficial to have scheduling done through one location. It was also noted that parking was a problem where overlapping games are scheduled.

Mr. Aspinwall suggested that it may be beneficial for CDM to meet with Edward Chisholm, a member of the Con Comm, prior to the actual Con Comm meeting and offered to arrange that meeting.

Mr. MacInnes also suggest that the committee look at the undeveloped area between the High School and the Clyde Brown School for either parking or a relocated basketball court or perhaps that is where the youth baseball field should be located. The Town should look at making the Clyde Brown field a turf field. Last Mr. MacInnes inquired as to whether other towns limit practice time for certain groups.

Mr. Aspinwall questioned Mr. MacInnes as to whether the Oak Grove Farm Commission could have a Millis youth first policy for use priority if they had a regular budget. Mr. MacInnes said it could work as part of a larger picture approach to fields improvement. He. Noted that now private groups get the fields two nights a week and all day Sunday.

Mr. Adelsberger reported that CDM is still on schedule for getting a draft report to the committee in mid April. Mr. Nichols suggested that the local newspapers be contacted to get the word out about the survey. All agreed the deadline for the survey should be April 1st.

The committee next discussed future meetings. It was agreed to conduct a working session meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup>, and to have the larger community meeting on March 27<sup>th</sup>.

At 8:45 PM Mr. Nichols made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. McKay, vote: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles J. Aspinwall