

**TOWN FIELDS COMMITTEE
ROOM 206, VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING
900 MAIN STREET
MILLIS, MA 02054
OCTOBER 9, 2013
MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Steve Cassidy, Sue Vara, Steve MacInnes, Jim McKay, Kris Fogarty, Sean Doherty, Doug Riley, and Brutus Cantoreggi arrived at 7:21.

Absent: Andrea Wagner

Meeting Called to Order: 6:35 pm

Old Business:

Oak Grove Farm Update~

Steve MacInnes updated the Town Fields Committee that Oak Grove Farm Commission met and feels that at this time they are holding off on building the new fields that were planned. There are a couple of reasons, one being it is late in the season to start this project and another was the Historical Commission is concerned about the placement of this new field since it is closer to the Oak Grove Farmhouse than originally thought. When these fields are built, it was stated that it would be approximately two to three years before they will be able to be used.

There was also discussion that the Town Fields Committee should remove themselves from the Citizen's Petition that has been placed on the fall Town Meeting warrant articles.

Priority of use of Field Space~

There was also discussion of outside entities, who do generate revenue for the various fields, possibly not being able to utilize Town Fields until the residents of Millis have first use.

Alternative Field Spaces~

There was discussion of potentially utilizing space down on Island Road next to the "uncapped" landfill space—on the right-hand side of the road, towards the back of the property. Part of this discussion entailed the cost of upgrading Island Road to accommodate this. It was approximated that just the upgrade to the road would cost between \$80,000 - \$100,000.

Both Verderber Farm and Cassidy Farm fields were discussed as possible field use. Verderber Farm cannot be used since it is considered conservation land. There is a part

of Cassidy Farm that has drawings that were made a number of years ago which could host both baseball and soccer.

Kris Fogarty, the Recreation Director updated the Committee that part of the field behind the Clyde Brown has been shut down in order to rejuvenate it.

Other Business:

Request to present a powerpoint presentation of Citizen's Petition~

Dave Baker sent the Chairperson an email requesting time to come to one of the upcoming Town Fields Committee meetings to do a powerpoint presentation of his citizen's petition. In order to accommodate this request, the Town Fields Committee will post a meeting for October 16, 2013 at 6:30 pm. The Chairperson will let Mr. Baker know.

Upcoming Charges of this Committee:

There was discussion of how the Town needs to create monies to fund maintenance of fields.

Vote of Field Space

Jim McKay made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that we do need more fields in Millis. This motion was seconded by Kris Fogarty and passed unanimously.

Vote of Money Appropriation

Brutus Cantoreggi made a motion that the Field Committee agrees that a sum of money be appropriated at Town Meeting for a feasibility study on Field Use, with conditions and funding sources. Jim McKay seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Definintions of "Outside Groups"

There was some discussion of what an "outside group" would be. The Committee feels that any group that doesn't have a majority of Millis residents could be considered an outside group. The priority of field use should be schools first, recreation/town second, and outside use third.

Also, discussed was to limit outside use of fields in order for Millis residents to use fields in town.

More discussion included the lack of field space makes it difficult to recommend new sports such as field hockey, lacrosse, etc. being brought in to town.

Adjournment:

At 7:45 pm, Kris Fogarty made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Brutus Cantoreggi and the motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be held on October 16, 2013 at 6:30 pm in the Veterans Memorial Building.

Respectfully Submitted:

Susan K. Vara