

**Recreation Strategic Planning Committee Minutes**  
**Sept. 27, 2007 Work Session - Recreation Building**

---

**Present:** John Mc, Chris, Larry, Laurie, Lisa, Tom, Suzanne, John F., Brian, Karen, Kay, 5 citizens

---

**Chair Report -** Chairman McRae opened the meeting at 6:46 PM with a review of the abutters meeting held at the Lions Club the prior evening. He reported abutters had no real problem with field lighting, as long as lights were turned off when not being used. There were some minor traffic concerns. Currently 275 vehicles enter and exit the Lions Club on the busiest days; our impact study says the community/senior center could generate double that number, but it would be spread out over the course of the day. John had discussed the traffic with Chief Kinmond who didn't see a problem with the traffic volume.

Revised plans for playground drive will be forthcoming. John reviewed a summary of Master Plan comments relative to recreation. He also reviewed the plans for the van/storage/concession building.

**Committee Reports:** Laurie reported that the marketing committee wrote an intro paragraph, which was approved by the selectmen. The group will have approximately one hour for the presentation of the strategic plan and our recommendations to the selectmen at their meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup>. They plan to provide the selectmen with the strategic plan document in advance of the meeting.

Kay reported that the financial group met and prioritized community/senior center items. "Do now" items were listed as "A" and included the community/senior center, one softball field, soccer field, trenching for the future field, and nature walk. "B" items - the do later items - include the second ball field, shelter, concession/van/storage building, pool, van, and path from school. Estimated cost of the community/senior center is about 5 million; the fields would be about another half-million. Recommendation is for a 10-year loan/bond. An estimated operating budget for the first year was also developed. Using these estimates, the current (2006) tax rate, and

the fact that the town is retiring \$477,993 in financing in 2009, the group projected that the tax impact on a \$150,000 home would be \$22.34 annually; a \$300,000 home would be \$44.69, a \$500,000 home would be \$74.48, a \$1,000,000 home would be \$148.96, and a \$2,000,000 home would be @297.93. The group also reviewed projected tax impact with the pool, which would range from \$40.05 to \$533.99 for the homes above.

Lisa introduced Al Rossi, the aquatics director for the Laconia Athletic and Swim Club. Al provided the committee with a wealth of valuable information on pool construction options, potential revenue sources, and pool programming. Al very generously offered to act as a resource for the committee, an offer we plan to take him up on.

Citizen Input: Comments included putting the van as an "A" priority based on the fact that in order to participate in the programs at the community/senior center, seniors need to have a method of getting there. Two citizens expressed their strong support for including the pool as an "A" item, building it now rather than waiting until later.

Vote on "A" and "B" priorities: Moved by Chris and seconded by Tom that the recommended "A" items go forward and that the pool remain as a "B" item. Vote was 9 in favor, 2 opposed. Discussion followed on fiscal responsibility to the town and the danger of asking for so much that everything gets voted down; the overall plan needs to be structured in a way that would allow it to be voted on in the affirmative.

Adjournment - In accordance with McRae's Rules, the group adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kay - Scribe pro tem