

TOWN OF WAYLAND – RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Posted in accordance with the provisions of the Open Meeting Law

WEDNESDAY, November 6, 2017 AT 8:45PM

Wayland Town Building | 41 Cochituate Road | Wayland MA 01778

Held in Planning Board Room, broadcast on [WayCam](#).

Present Commission: Asa Foster, Chair; Brud Wright, Chris Fay present until 10:20pm; Frank Krasin; Heidi Seaborg
Recreation: Katherine Brenna

Absent

Guests None.

9:09 PM MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Asa Foster called the meeting to order at 9:09.

9:10 PM PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

9:10 PM APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Brud Wright makes a motion to approve the previous minutes of Recreation Commission Meeting held on October 11, 2017.

Seconded by Chris Fay.

Discussion: None. Vote: 4-0-1. FK Abstained hadn't had a chance to review.

8:50 PM APPROVAL OF BILLS & PAYROLL:

Frank Krasin makes a motion to approve the bills & payroll for the Recreation Department for October 2017. Seconded by Heidi Seaborg.

Discussion:

Frank asks JV Baseball Field Renovation bill – why Rec pays for it?

Asa- Rec was willing to pay the bill for renovation if it were to be paid out of Capital Maintenance Account. And issue brought up with TA and Facilities Dept.

Brud – MOU created, and we decided to split the bill, schools said no money for it, and then Ben Keefe pointed out that we could use the Cap Maint account.

Brud – argument that Field account can be used for that, but doesn't require us to use it for that purpose.

Asa- will be addressed soon. Need to address Capital Maintenance account.

Vote: 5-0-0.

9:17 PM WAYLAND LITTLE LEAGUE

Steve Curtin, introduces reps

Current Status of WLL and program – need improvements to B&S field in town

Created a subcommittee – but together some numbers

Ward Russell –

Baseball numbers increasing (include packet) 29% increase in 2017 – 115 in instructional league. 450 total kids – WHS Baseball MIAA reports that Baseball & Softball increasing at high school level.

Field Capacity – squeeze on fields, baseball programs playing on softball fields, not ideal.

Future – marketing plan, begin accepting 5 year olds, who may not have attended kindergarten.

Currently seek out of town facilities to run in-town programs

Cochituate Fields are work hours – played softball right after rain, highly used and able to handle it

115 kids on two fields – can't continue to abuse that site.

Plan to possible use Burchard complex in Weston, 6 or 8 fields on Glezen.

We have had to cap registration – last resort.

WHS Softball is used by WHS athletics, and 2 softball teams, taking it offline will cause a squeeze.

In Fall just Wayland vs. Wayland, in Summer and Spring play other towns.

Have only 2 baseball fields usable for Little League. (Art King/Riverview)

The only town that cannot host a game in the Little League tournament.

Fencing, mounds, bathrooms, etc. Need upgrade to host a tournament game.

The two fields don't meet Little League tournament play safety compliance.

- 8 Teams in softball league – play in Wellesley's league.
Spring – softball is a mix of home/away games, with Baseball all in-town, can control the schedule but too many participants.

Little League 60' – (Art King and Riverview)

Majors 90' (MS and WHS)

Softball – 60' same field

Convert Claypit to a baseball field, from a softball field

Loker school has 2 small fields, best spot for instructional league

Happy Hollow softball field, complete disrepair – infield filled in, home plate missing.

Could fix it, need clay, DPW crew to assess before Spring.

Asa- none are properly constructed, especially at schools built in the 60s

Going into Spring 2018 – need to get all fields up to safe playing conditions

Put 4 diamonds back into circulation, need 2 more baseball, no training areas, batting cages, need 1 more 60' softball. No flagship softball field.

Wayland falls short of conditions of other town fields.

4 softball fields, no field is fenced in....

Brud – hosting tournaments different from day to day needs. How many softball fields are needed?

Ward - Softball fields being used by baseball teams, because the demand it in need.

Mike Forman – lose some fields to soccer overlaps – Middle School and Claypit

Asa- if you convert softball to baseball, cant overlap with soccer

Brud – 1 at HH, 2 at Loker School, make 1 at Claypit a real baseball field, and upgrade AK and Riverview. Does that solve the problem?

Ward – helps, less of a bad situation

Curtin -- Loker only viable for younger kids

Brud - Alpine – possible eliminate baseball there for 8v8 soccer

Dave Zampese -- We need short term and long term solutions

Frank – we had 750 B&S players; we used all HH, Claypit, Loker and all fields in town. Possible to accommodate 750 kids if the fields are in the proper condition, and make them legitimate fields.

Asa- We used Loker School, HH, Claypit, MS, Art King, and Riverview. Baseball used SB then.

Ward – portable mound brought in on some sites, softball fields can be used by baseball, not ideal, but it does help the pressure.

Brud – one entity, some if we convert a softball field into baseball, that'd be a collective choice.

Ward- we don't need mounds at Loker, allows you to use for softball too.

Brud – 2 at Loker, 1 HH, and other existing assets. School assets remain the same, MS BB and MS SB – improve existing assets. Look at capital and school permission, MOU and DPW to address. Priced up 40k to convert a field. Convert 1 field, get Loker and HH up and running; convert Claypit would be good for 2018.

Asa- if converted it will go offline for one year, like Art King was...need to rehab Riverview

Ward- short term, allow Spring 2018 program to happen,

Brud – touch base with DPW to see how much can be done this Fall.

Ward – safety issue with 120 kids on two fields, swinging bats, congested safety concern

Chris Fay – JV baseball field – clay infield safety was good, redo the mound at Riverview

Circle in with Rec and DPW with priorities to get things ready for Spring 2018.

Loker Rec Site – previous renderings of baseball fields there, getting votes to get a baseball field there.

Dave Z – asked about private funding, Weston did do....

Asa- Putting a field at Oxbow and TB Renovation, fought tooth and nail, took a long long time. Takes a lot of work.

David Z – how hard to get a road in there –

Asa – far less objection from neighbors, never used by another user, like Dow Chemical.

Brud - They'll object to the cost, but also like to see open space to walk their dogs

Asa- personal push back

Frank – Greenways is 15 acres.

Brud – West & Sampson agrees with Baseball, they have a strategic plan to develop that area, interested to hear what they say – 1mil or 2mil to get a road in there. W&S will give an estimate.

Asa- certainly be designed in way to be a flagship, or host tournaments.

Chris – in terms of batting cages, get info from Town Planner regarding that site.

David Z – design the cages with turf left over, to minimize maintenance

Featherlands in Sudbury a good example of facilities – beautiful facility, summer league baseball played there.

Need Loker to be a playable field. HH to be playable.

If Loker Rec passes, we can hopefully build it in summer 2018

Ward – what's the contingency for Softball fields....possible to use it for 2 years.

All – good question, no answer,

Brud – possible to phase it that way

Mark Foreman – turf used by everyone, squeeze on all fields.

Asa – we can't and won't over use the fields once rehabbed

If article doesn't pass, the fields at the WHS site will be destroyed.

The idea behind the Loker Article is to help support that project.

Steve – next steps? Meet with DPW and KB in two weeks to determine next steps

Dave – long terms – greenways, Loker recreation – how do we move on that?

Brud - W&S strategic plan will be finished soon.

Asa – deed restrictions probably, but Cow Common is conservation land.

10:26 PM FIELD ADVISORY GROUP ISSUES

No further discussion.

10:26 PM FALL ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

- Loker Recreation Site
- Decide Commissioner to make the motion for Article 11 – Chris Fay

10:41PM CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

- CIP REQUESTS -- Tabled to another meeting; not ready to vote
- Town Wide Strategic Plan – discuss on usage statistics, reservations versus hours
- High School Master Plan
- Open Space and Recreation Plan – set meeting for this
- Town Building Field Reno
- Oxbow Meadows – meeting with some neighbors at 4pm on Thursday.
Send Charlie’s list to the Commissioners regarding Thursday meetings
We have a meeting with MG at 1pm tomorrow to discuss soil, trees, etc.

- Dudley Woods—walk with conservation

10:52 PM DEPARTMENT UPDATE

- Dogs on the Beach/ Cameras / Vandalism – reach back out to group

10:59 PM TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY CHAIR 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING

None.

10:59 PM PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

11:03 PM MEETING ADJOURNED

Adjourn; There being no further business before the Recreation Commission Frank moved, seconded by Heidi Seaborg, to adjourn the meeting of the Recreation Commission at 11:03 pm; Discussion: None; Vote: 4-0-0.
