

West Boylston Parks Facilities Committee (PFC) Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2014

PFC attendees: Patrick Crowley, Robert Dunne, Gary Flynn, John Hadley, Patrick Inderwish, John Owanisian, Christopher Rucho, Timothy Shea

BETA Engineering Attendees: Randall Collins, Steven D'Ambrosia

West Boylston Stakeholder Attendees: WB Schools Athletic Director Mike Bartkus, Town Administrator Leon Gaumond, Police Sgt. Francis Glynn, Supt. of Schools Elizabeth Schaper, DPW Director Anthony Sylvia, Fire Chief Thomas Welsh

- Chairman Inderwish opened the meeting at 7:03PM and welcomed attendees representing various town functions.

Motion: A motion by Mr. Inderwish and seconded by Mr. Crowley to approve PFC minutes of October 2, 2014 was approved.

- Mister Inderwish provided those in attendance with an overview of the Goodale Park Master Plan Project and described Goodale Park facilities as a “jewel of the town”.
- Mr. Inderwish indicated a primary goal of the master planning process was to present a Goodale Park Master Plan at an upcoming town meeting with estimated costs.
- Mr. Inderwish then turned facilitation of the meeting over to Mr. Collins from BETA Engineering.
- Mr. Collins Kicked off the stakeholder discussion by asking Sgt. Glynn to provide master plan input from a public safety perspective – Sgt. Glynn offered the following key points concerning elements to be considered in master plan:
 - Improved overall park lighting and implementation of security lighting on buildings/structures.
 - Improved/wider access for emergency and handicapped access.
 - Security/surveillance cameras.
 - Inadequate parking needs to be addressed.
 - Further discussion of parking needs indicated HS Football can draw a crowd of approximately 300 individuals; Little League game could draw 50-100 cars.
 - Chief Welsh suggest a “blue light” safety system similar to what is installed at many colleges could be considered.
- Superintendent Schaper then offered her perspective/inputs from the School's perspective:
 - Overall lighting and stairway access need improvements.
 - Public restrooms are highly desirable.
 - Improvements are needed to the concession facility as well as improved access to the concession area (uphill “hike” is often required to current concession area).
 - Consideration should be given to the pros and cons of synthetic vs. natural turf for the multi-purpose field.
 - Recommended obtaining input from coaches regarding practice field needs.
- Discussion then shifted to pool related issues:
 - Both Chief Welsh and Sgt. Glenn cited safety related issues related to unauthorized pool use, particularly after hours.
 - Chief Welsh mentioned the importance of emergency vehicle access to the pool area, as well as overall emergency vehicle access to the entire park.

- Mr. Gaumond identified pool maintenance and cost related issues as a key factor to be considered.
 - Mr. Collins suggested considering contracting out operation of a pool to a private entity.
- Mr. Collins then asked for input from the perspective of the DPW with Mr. Sylvia making the following points:
 - Maintenance is the primary concern – improved or added facilities will likely require more man hours of maintenance.
 - May require additional DPW personnel – perhaps 3-5 additional DPW headcount.
 - Utilizing wells for field irrigation is likely a more cost effective option than current practice.
 - A centralized trash management system is desirable.
 - On a more tactical note, Mr. Sylvia indicated he will coordinate the DPW's involvement with upcoming Geoprobe and test pit digging estimated to occur late November or early December.
- Mr. Bartkus will be invited to a future meeting focused on specific field use issues, but indicated fences and dugouts are the greatest needs for the baseball field.
- As the meeting came to a conclusion, Mr. Collins identified the three biggest potential Goodale Park cost drivers as follows: Synthetic turf multi-purpose field (if that becomes part of the desired plan), a pool/spray park (again, if part of the plan), and possibly the new lighting system.
- There being no further business to discuss a motion to adjourn was approved at 9:22PM.