

West Boylston Parks Facilities Committee (PFC) Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2015

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

BETA Engineering attendees: Randall Collins, Steven D'Ambrosia

Other attendees: Anthony Drappi, Christine Drappi, Thomas Ebert

- Mr. Owanisian opened the meeting at 7:03PM.

Motion: A motion by Mr. Rucho and seconded by Mr. Hadley to approve PFC minutes of December 16, 2014 was approved.

- Mr. Rucho referenced an Email message (Email included in Appendix A of these minutes) he sent prior to the meeting that included suggested input for a Goodale Park plan – this input was incorporated into the Concept 5 plan described below.
- Mr. Owanisian described an insurance certificate (\$2M) that the PFC received from the Feldman survey firm – Mr. Collins agreed that BETA Engineering will contact Feldman, since Feldman has been contracted by BETA as opposed to the PFC.
- Mr. Owanisian inquired about the Goodale Park Master plan executive summary which BETA will provide – Mr. Collins stated the document will be available at the end of the master planning process and will contain a synopsis of the overall process.
- Discussion ensued concerning the Goodale Park letter writing campaign in support of a Goodale Park funding provision contained in an environmental bond bill – agreed that the PFC will follow-up with PFC member Mr. O'Day to determine next steps.
- Invoice 2 from BETA totaling \$12,767.00 was reviewed.

Motion: A motion by Mr. Rucho and seconded by Mr. Hadley to approve Invoice 2 was approved (PFC members signed and the invoice was left with Mr. Crowley to obtain CPC signatures).

- Mr. D'Ambrosia then kicked off a review of Goodale Park alternative plans (referenced as Concepts 5, 1A and 3) that were presented in hardcopy form (roughly 2' x 3' drawings):
 - Concept 5 highlights: Reflects many of Mr. Rucho's suggestions (Appendix A), maintains multi-purpose field and other fields in their current locations, with two LL fields and adds nine lane running track, no improvement to HS baseball field dimensions.
 - Concept 1A: This plan locates two LL fields in the current location of multi-purpose field with multi-purpose field moving to pine grove. An overlapping practice field was overlaid on the LL fields which created a competing use issue. Consensus from the PFC was placing an overlapping practice field on the LL fields was unacceptable. This essentially disqualified this alternative from consideration.
 - Concept 3: New multi-purpose field located in pine grove, with practice field in location of current multi-purpose field. This allows for an expanded HS baseball field.

- Further discussion narrowed alternatives down to two options with consensus that these options should be voted on at our next meeting to select a single alternative as a go forward plan:
 - Concept 3: Some members of the committee expressed support for this option, since it includes a multi-purpose field in pine grove area with full size track and allows an expanded HS baseball field. Mr. Dunne, the Drappi's and Mr. Ebert expressed concern that this plan emphasized active recreation over passive recreation, particularly in the pine grove area. Please refer to separate attached .pdf file of concept 3.
 - Modified version of concept 5: Mr. Dunne suggested the multi-purpose field should be maintained in its current location, but the proposed nine lane track in the drawing presented by Mr. D'Ambrosia be reduced in size. Mr. D'Ambrosia made an updated version of concept 5 available after the meeting (.pdf file attached). Concept 5 provides greater passive recreation space than concept 3, particularly in the sloped area. However, this option somewhat restricts the dimensions of the HS baseball field and one of the LL fields.

Motion: A motion by Mr. Rucho and seconded by Mr. Hadley to have the PFC vote at the January 29 meeting selecting either concept 3 or the modified concept 5 was approved.

- Agreed to following date/time for next PFC meeting: Thursday, January 29 at 7PM.
- There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was approved at 8:52PM.

Appendix A:

Hi Randy,

I am Cc. John and Pat on this request and I will bring it up at our next meeting. If possible I would like to see the following plan.

All of the fields staying were they are, just moving and updating to make new items fit.

All purpose field moved to fit bigger track and a little bigger HS baseball field. (Remember the track is used a lot by residents to just walk). A Baseball field with a bigger outfield. Does not need to be Fenway park, just a nicer high school field. We may play about 15 games a year on this field.

Little League fields moved so one can be bigger for the older players. (We need to remember the school uses these fields for softball practice and recess. We use them for woman's softball and they are use by residents as a park) .

Pine grove turned into practice/ youth soccer fields. This all started with the need for a practice field to keep practices off other fields.

A area put aside for some water facility. Pool or water park.

Some area for a stage over looking a field. I do not think the current stage was used 10 times last year. I could be wrong.

Parking on side of Newton Street and other lots where you can.

Connecting trails and other needed items. (Bathrooms, concessions and storage.)

I am thinking about COST and a way to do this in phases over years without have to close all of the park.

Again I am one member of the committee, so if this needs a vote of the committee I will bring it to the next meeting, I have no problem with that.

Thanks Chris