CPC Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 12, 2022

- Scituate Public Library -

ATTENDEES: Suzanne Brennan, Jill Caffrey*,* Skyler Chick, Mike Connor, Dan Fennelly, Penny Scott Pipes, Meg Stillman *(absent: Ann Burbine, Doug Smith)*

Additional Attendees: Jay Neagle, Patty Lambert/Planning Board

Acceptance of Agenda – Motion by Mr. Fennelly to accept the agenda for September 12, 2022; Second by Ms. Scott Pipes; unanimous vote (7/0 in favor).

Acceptance of Minutes – Motion by Mr. Fennelly to accept the August 8, 2022 minutes with one edit; Second by Ms. Brennan; (7/0 in favor)

**DISCUSSIONS:**

Discussion - April 2023 (FY24) Application for Pickle Ball Court, Jay Neagle

Mr. Neagle explained that pickle ball is the fastest growing sport in the country with 5 million players and a growth rate of 10% a year. This sport attracts a variety of people across all ages and physical abilities. He noted that many towns on the South Shore now have courts and said that Hingham is building 12 courts, Duxbury is building 10 courts, Marshfield is building 11 courts, and Hull has 4 courts. He would like to start with 4-8 courts.

Mr. Neagle said that he has one initial estimate from Boston Tennis who said that building a court from scratch would cost about $35,000 to $50,000 per court. He added that most towns have converted tennis courts to pickle ball courts, which reduces the cost. For reference, four pickle ball courts can fit into one tennis court.

The Board voiced support for the project, but noted that the location needs to be determined. There was a long discussion regarding the location, with suggestions that included “old” Gates where there are five tennis courts, and the High School, which also has five tennis courts. There also was a discussion about the feasibility of sharing Tennis courts but it gets complicated with Recreation Department schedules. He noted that junior tennis players can use both types of courts.

Mr. Fennelly explained that there are other locations to consider: the Hollett Street property near the Purple Dinosaur playground that CPC is purchasing for recreational use and Town owned land behind Central Park adjacent to the Library which used to have ball fields.

Ms. Scott Pipes noted that the North Scituate playground parking lot is under-used and could be a site for some courts.

Mr. Fennelly said that he hoped to see a minimal impact on the tennis players. He suggested that, if this project could be combined with the construction of the new tennis courts at the High School, it would lead to cost savings. He added that it comes down to location and cost and whether or not you can utilize existing courts or will need to construct new courts.

Mr. Neagle was informed about the application and hearing process, which officially begins in November.

Discussion - 90 Foot Baseball Field Construction Phase – Recreation

Mr. Fennelly said that Mark Novak received a letter from the Water Resources Commission about watering and maintenance of the field. He will forward the letter to the Board.

Patty Lambert from the Planning Board noted that 1 million gallons of filtered water will be needed to establish the grass on the new field. She suggested that some difficult decisions may have to be made, such as scaling back from four fields to two fields.

Mr. Fennelly discussed the complexities, health and maintenance issues and costs of artificial turf, which is the only other alternative. He added that the watering time is expected to be for the first four weeks. It was also noted that Central Field has an irrigation system.

Discussion – Annual CPC Meeting, October 3, 2022

Mr. Fennelly said that they will have updates on open projects, some in person and some in writing.

Discussion/Update – September 19, 2022 STM

There was a brief discussion on the upcoming Special Town Meeting.

New/Old Business

Mr. Chick asked if the Select Board had decided on the Toll Brothers money, which was on the agenda for the last meeting; Mr. Fennelly and Ms. Scott Pipes said nothing was decided.

**Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. by unanimous vote (7/0 in favor).

*Submitted by*

*Mary Sprague*

*Documents submitted*

*Applications*