

CPC Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 10, 2023
- Scituate Public Library -

ATTENDEES: Ann Burbine, Jill Caffrey, Skyler Chick, Dan Fennelly, Penny Scott Pipes, Meg Stillman, Jack Whittaker (*Absent – Suzanne Brennan, Mike Connor*)

Additional Attendees: Jay Neagle, Darryn Campbell/VP of Scituate Little League, Mark Novak/Activitas, Jaime Gilmore, Frank Snow/Conservation Commission

Acceptance of Agenda – Motion by Ms. Burbine to accept the agenda for July 10, 2023; Second by Mr. Chick; unanimous vote (7/0 in favor).

Acceptance of Minutes – Motion by Ms. Burbine to accept the May 8, 2023 minutes as presented; Second by Ms. Caffrey; unanimous vote (7/0 in favor).

DISCUSSIONS:

Discussion/Vote - Pickle Ball Feasibility Study Application (\$20,000) – Jay Neagle – An application for funding and support for dedicated pickleball courts.

Mr. Neagle said he has spoken to the Recreation Dept and HS Tennis, and there is not a lot of support to put the courts behind the old Gates School. The two locations now being considered is the area behind Town Hall and the North Scituate Community Playground. He has submitted an amended application for a \$20,000 feasibility study for six courts and approximately 24 parking spots at one of these locations. Mr. Neagle said he will be going before the Select Board in the next two weeks.

There was a discussion about the obstacles around merging tennis courts with pickle ball courts and the conflicts it creates, as well as shade structures, seating and bathrooms.

It was suggested that the easiest solution is to take two tennis courts from the Gates School and make them pickle ball courts.

Mr. Fennelly suggested increasing the request to \$24,000.

The vote was tabled until August.

Discussion/Vote - Tennis Courts Design & Engineering Application (\$125,000) - Mark Novak, Jaime Gilmore - *Application for the design services phase, including professional design, permitting, bidding and construction administration.*

Mr. Novak said that they have completed the feasibility study and would like to move on to the design and engineering phase.

Mr. Chick suggested increasing the amount of the request to \$125,000.

VOTE: A MOTION was made by Ms. Burbine to fund \$125,000 for the Design & Engineering phase; second by Ms. Scott Pipes; All in favor (7/0)

Purple Dinosaur Field Expansion Application (\$18,000) - Darryn Campbell, Mark Novak
Application to study the potential for additional multi-purpose athletic fields on newly acquired property abutting the existing "Purple Dinosaur" Playground and Field.

Mr. Campbell said they would like to do a study to see whether or not they could build a multi-purpose field in that area for baseball, soccer, lacrosse, etc. The Recreation Commission supports the idea.

Mr. Fennelly offered his thoughts about access and parking, lighting issues, abutters meetings, etc.

Mr. Whittaker said he had concerns about parking in the heavily residential neighborhood and the impact to the families using the playground. He cautioned that public engagement would be critical.

There was an additional discussion about the lack of fields in town across all ages. Mr. Chick suggested adding more details about the deficits, and how much per sport, the town is looking at. He also suggested a vegetative review in that area.

Ms. Burbine suggested increasing the funding request to \$25,000 for some of the other studies that may be required. Mr. Novak will review the request with his team.

Mr. Novak added that, if the multi-purpose idea doesn't work out, this could be a space designed for passive recreation.

Discussion - Conservation Commission Projects – Frank Snow

Mr. Snow reviewed some project updates and said they are finally wrapping up the parking and accessibility projects at the various fields. He also updated progress at Appleton Field Community Garden, Sunset Road land purchase, Mordecai Lincoln parking, MBTA Berms and footbridges, to name a few.

He also discussed the Border Street property and said that he understands that people are frustrated that nothing has been done since it was purchased. He said there has been some discussion about making accessible paths and picnic areas there. They are reaching out to the proponents of the project to see what kind of funds they have for the parking lot that they said they would do.

Mr. Fennelly said that the Town should ask the Gulf River Association for the money that they said they would provide for parking and put it in a Town fund.

Mr. Fennelly also requested an accounting from Conservation on funds that won't be used, so they can be rescinded at the STM.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 8.05 p.m. by unanimous vote (7/0 in favor).

Submitted by: Mary Sprague

Documents submitted: Financial Report

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