

Scituate Recreation Commission Meeting, 7:03pm called to order

Recreation Department Rm A102 --- January 16th 2019

In attendance: Maura Glancy, Nick Lombardo, Kevin Devin, Jen McMellen, Suzanne Brennan, Dave Mahery, Mike Connor, Maria Marcelino, Linda Hayes, Rachel Young, Steve Kirby, Tony Vegnani, Esther Blacker, Bob Blacker, Tony Vegnani, Missy Veiga, Tom Cuddihy, Chris Roberts, Mark Novak, Sean O'Connell, Darryn Campbell, Rick Bartley, Ron Orleans, Jeff Holley, Maura Quinn, Jen Sjostedt, Sean O'Connor

COA Director, Linda Hayes introduces Rachel Young from BH+A architect group that is putting together the Senior Center Project with Recreation accommodations. A PowerPoint presentation was put together involving current situation at Rec Dept/Old Gates School and explaining the difficulties and challenges of what the facility currently presents. For example: The current courtyard space is not accessible. The front of the building is not the most gracious entrance or compliant. There are very wide corridors and wasted space. Most of the systems in the building are very outdated. There is no A/C, outdated electrical, sprinklers, heating system etc. This can explain the cost number associated with the new buildings.

The landscape plan is described by Rachel. Parking lots have over flow parking and many trees planted. The project would bring more parking for the Rec Fields and tennis courts. Original entrance would be maintained. The original design of the front of the building will be recreated. The gym area and underneath will be original. The cupola is another part that they have looked at to reinstall. Tried to break up the massing so it doesn't seem like such a large building. Have broken it up into three areas. The existing gym will be kept. Repair glass windows and install a/c and sprinkler and fire protection. The roof will also be replaced as well as the gutters. An elevator will be installed so all patrons can use the gym. The elevator will be an add-on and will not be built into the current structure of the building. Access to the elevator would be in the lobby of the building. The bottom floor where recreation will be is explained. SCTV will also be incorporated into the new building. Steve Kirby from Vertex explains how Rec would need to be moved while construction is going on. There have been a few different places discussed, such as space at the schools. Joel B. (BH+A) met with Rec this week to discuss program needs. The biggest hurdles are the lockers room etc. Contractors have to be prequalified and will end in June. The timeline is 14-16 months and would be taking one by one contractor. Building coming down completely and demolition of gym area is included in the price and is a large . Recreation will be misplaced and that seems to be a question that will be answered hopefully soon. Whether it be relocated at Jenkins or Scituate Harbor Community Building. Presentation has concluded.

Maura discusses the fee changes for the fields and Veteran's memorial Gymnasium. Kevin Devin has been introduced as the new Field Coordinator for the Recreation. The field user fees will jump from \$5 to \$10. The South Field at Central is on hold right now with CPC funds. We're hoping the project for the field restoration is passed so we can then proceed on that. DPW has hired more help for fields.

Scituate Little League puts a lot of their own money into their maintenance. They hire out for grass and field maintenance. Little League maintains all fields except Rec Field at Former Middle School and High School.

Dave Mahery introduces the field restoration project and addresses current conflicts and safety issues. The project would take around 12 months to complete. Groups were invited because everyone will be using it in some way. Also the development of a 501c3 to help restore the surrounding fields and maintaining the new turf fields at the high school campus. There are Title IX challenges and ADA accessibility around the site and the deplorable condition of current state of track and turf fields.

The project includes a new urethane track surfacing with 8/6 lanes. Would be able to run all field events, long jump, triple jump pole vault, discus etc. There will be netting on both ends with storage for SHS and sport organizations. Seating will be keeping current spectator count. 175 seats on visitor side which will be handicap accessible. New concessions with restrooms. Keeping the existing ticket booth and pavilion structures. There will be a new lighting fixture on the field. The scoreboard will be moved back to its original spot. The orientation of baseball will be moved from its current state. Expanding the outfield for more multi-use fields and purpose usage. There will be a batting cage/bullpen that both softball and baseball can use. The existing lights on the baseball field will be relocated to the back fields. Putting in the softball field will fix our title 9 issue. There was an attempt to put home plate closer to parking lot, but there are issues that will not let that happen. There is a walking trail that goes around the whole site that will be ADA accessible. This project will create a lot of top soil which will be reused on site. They will be created as berms. The rope course will be kept at its current location and will be fenced off with wood chips installed. Sporta Fence is the fencing system that will be looked at to install. The turf field was put in in 2004. The life expectancy for fields is usually 12 years. 16.67 rectangular field deficit.

Dave Mahery explained that we need to come together as a group to try and start some fundraising. Once these fields are completed, the other fields need to be rested, maintained and kept up with. We need to get the word out and work together. Rec would immediately look to replace the JV field somewhere else. Suzanne Brennan explained that CPC cannot pay for seating, turf, maintenance. Dave has sent an email out to boosters. Fundraising has to be a group effort with CPC funding secured.

There are more grants out there. CPC has 4 million in unrestricted funds. Dave Mahery asks how much can each organization donate/gift or raise on a one time basis annual basis, etc. It would need to be continuous for existing fields and this restoration project. There is not a lot of time to raise the money. The groups will need to come up with a number and to let Rec Commission know exactly what is going on, in terms of fundraising and money being raised. Dave, Norwell went out and solicited families and private organizations with signs and we could tap into certain companies for a larger number for charitable giving. There have been conversations about doubling up games etc. Little League could possibly move over to Gates field. Potentially what we can do with the 501c3 is run it with a booster. Groups will have to have board meetings to determine that number. Sean O'Connor suggested we send out another email regarding the next meeting dates. Mason repairs and plaques could be an idea for the fundraising groups. Dave suggests those interested meet up again next week or so to discuss and write

up letter and emails to send out. Hull has a page that is called I support the fields – Facebook. If completed, this project will make our real estate more attractive and etc.

This is a community effort. There are pockets of field space but nothing large that could be looked at. Once everyone starts using it, they will certainly see the benefits of the project. Turf vendor and installer will be required to do a deep grooming of the field. That will all be tied into the ten million dollars

Old/New Business – Rec Budget was cut by 20,000. The change will support the Rec Clerk from the revolving account. New Guitar instructor has been hired. Class will start the 22nd

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm. All in favor.