Scituate Recreation Commission

August 15, 2016

7:07 Meeting called to order Dave Smith

* Second Jennifer McMellen

Attendance: Dave Smith, Shawn Harris, Anne Vegnani, Maura Glancy, Al Kazlousky, Maddie Chacon, Jennifer McMellen, Dan Fennelly, Gary Meyerson

Review of previous minutes. Edits suggested.

**Skate Park** – Maura Glancy

Skate park almost done. Designer had a punch card of things to finalize which should be done by next week. There is access to it. It has been challenging having two companies working on the area at the same time, but it has worked out. Dave proposed that we should have an official opening. We’ll have to wait for school construction to be done. Maybe in the spring.

Central Field project – Dave Smith

Still working with architect. Hope is to finalize numbers with estimates for pavilion. They’ll have a subsequent meeting (maybe September) to get feedback and then determine what they’ll need to go back to CPC for – as costs have escalated in the years since this project was started. $194,154 for whole thing without the pavilion – was the original estimate. (As a reminder this was not originally going to be a part of the high school field. Fixes were to just make the field better, not perfect, as a new field was to go in at the high school. Now that that field is no longer happening and funds have been returned to CPC we are looking to make more improvements. ) Central fields have been very neglected for a long time. There are no lights, no bathroom, no scoreboard at this field which could affect the teams that will come here to play.

Playground – Maura Glancy

We are still to appear before PlAnneing Board and Conservation Commission – both in early September. An agreement has been made on the structure. Hoping to go out to bid in early January – which is considered a competitive time to do this. Should be usable by next spring. Structure should be for wide range of ages and ADA compliant. Open question remains around parking and getting additional spaces so that users aren’t ticketed by the MBTA.

Field Use Sub-Committee – Gary Meyerson

People involved with fields have been showing up. Dealing with a lot of short term problems, permit conflicts between groups. There is also a long term need and project list with space that has been identified for use. Things that have been done: have worked with Bill Luette on Cushing Field project that went through CPC, have worked with Dan Fennelly on Roache Field project that went through CPC. They pulled together analysis on the current fields and needs. The heaviest users of the town fields are soccer and SYC. The lowest sentiment in regards to condition and safety were on SHS back field, SHS quad field, Central SB1, Cushing and Gates BB. Generalized comments were requesting new fields/complexes, lighting, bathrooms, better parking, general field improvements, better storage, and the mess/trash left behind at the fields. There was some disgruntlement around the field permitting. Issues around make-up games being played on fields without permits and fields not getting used that were permitted. Anne Vegnani is now in charge of this. We will be going back to a calendar based system with online access so that everyone can see the fields. From now on anything/everything will be run through Rec to avoid people from just walking on fields. There are online (and free) field scheduling programs.

Who oversees the fields? Recreation (Anne Vegnani) oversees the fields and they coordinate with DPW for repairs and maintenance.

What is the time frame on Cushing Field? Not known, but there is a meeting in September for updates. They need to lay sod, but are waiting for water. There is question about a well being dug behind the high school. Rain water collection from the roof of Cushing was determined to be only sufficient for 2 days.

Gary and Dan are both on CPC now. Question around on if we should be focusing on small/quick projects or save up for big projects.

Dave suggesting that field study committee was to both identify issues and needs and then the next step is to determine and recommend the next steps – both short term and long term.

Dan: Analysis done to determine available field space – considered which properties were town owned, eliminated anything that was not appropriate, less than 2-2.5 acres, any wetlands or otherwise unusable. Looked at assessor database, worked with town assessor, looked at MassDEP Online for Old Town Dump off Stockbridge, Hatherly playground (Purple Dinosaur), Kevin’s Way Properties, 3A Near Doctors Hill, Town Forest. Other towns’ facilities that are multi-purpose are generally 100-400 acres – our available land is a lot smaller but there is quite a bit of space, near each other, that is not wetlands, that could be a part of a future plan.

CPC Update –

Roach Field – where is the application coming from? Little League, Rec or Field Use? Determination was that it should be by Little League. Project is to enhance parking at Roach, parking for 50 cars, provide handicap spaces, grade lot with gravel, close it in winter. $63k. Vote to be at next meeting.

Sailing – Maddie Vachon

Summer program is wrapping up and boats are getting put away. Successful season – no code reds. The old 420s are done. Order for new boats getting finalized in October. Adult sailing program on the Mercuries was enjoyable and they’ll do it again. J24 class was sold out all summer long. Will look to add days and hours next year. Maura questioned if the high school would consider buying the old 420s to refurbish them. Shawn asked if the high school would have access to new boats – they will, but they won’t be here until June. Maddie said she would like to see the high school refurbish the old boats, train in those and race in the new ones but our docking system doesn’t have enough room to fit that many boats at once. Maura raved about the program and Maddie’s ability and success in running it. Dan said he is currently drafting a letter to the CPA in regards to the inability to use CPC funds on coastal projects.

Fields – Anne Vegnani

There’s a lot to do but she’s already working on getting re-organized. This year the high school will need to use Gates for field hockey. There will have to be accommodations made for just this year during construction. She’s hoping to get an online calendar for field permitting as soon as possible.

Motion to end the meeting – Al Kazlousky

Second -Dave Smith

Meeting adjourned 9:15pm