

Recreation Commission meeting Monday, December 13, 2010

Tana Babbitt in attendance
Robert Benton in attendance
Jennifer Gallagher not in attendance
Erin Gianni in attendance
Charlie Hammond in attendance
Bill O'Neill in attendance
Elizabeth Nikiciuk, Chair in attendance

Anne Daley in attendance

Meeting commenced at 7:05PM

Guests: Jeff Minuskin, Bill Welch, Rob Kimball from EYBL, and Brad Washburn - Town planner.

These guests were present to discuss the land available at Friends Crossing. They showed a map of a possible use of the site with two Babe Ruth size baseball fields, and two little league size fields. They also request Recreation backing for a request for CPC funding for \$20,000 - \$23,000 to do a feasibility study on this piece of property. What can be done on this site without encroaching on wetland boundaries?

Once the results of this feasibility are available, there would be further discussion on field orientation. A full topographical survey would be needed, A P & S (purchase and sale) would be presented, etc. The P & S would contain contingencies for both the town, and the Friends Crossing group. If the land is developed, parking would be need to be expanded, and paved. There is some issue with the original deed – and Elizabeth asked if anyone had actually seen it. Erin asked about the time line – wetlands survey December, P & S in January. Tana pointed out the orientation of the fields in the diagram was not ideal for multi-use. Even if not used by an organized sports group, re-orientation of the fields so that the outfields are adjacent would give more open space for use by any group wanting to use a field space. This type of field use is common in many area towns. Bob, Elizabeth, and all Recreation board members are highly interested in space for multi-use. Jeff Minuskin pointed out the EYBL complex is used by others than baseball – specifically by neighbors to walk, and exercise their dogs, and by the wiffleball tournament.

Elizabeth Smith Bornstein unable to attend, will be invited to next meeting to discuss a tot playground in another area of Easton.

Review and Vote on October Minutes

The meeting minutes of October 18, 2010 were reviewed. Bill motioned to accept, Bob seconded, all in favor, October minutes accepted.

Old Business

The Movie night planned for December was postponed – the Y had a movie night.

Elizabeth and Jen met with East Coast Management and will continue to work with them. Next year on September 17th we will hold a Flag football game with Patriots alumni on the Oliver Ames High School turf field. ECM will look into the complaints filed by Easton residents. The calls were recorded so they will be able to go back and listen to them. We will give them a script to follow when making calls; this should reduce the number of complaints. Recreation will advertise the event throughout the community and will discuss a possible lottery for who will play in the game. Players must be over 18 years of age.

Y Meeting Update

Elizabeth and Anne attended a second meeting with the Y. There has been no further discussion. We could possibly help them with their teen center.

CPA Update

Bill reported from CPA. Friends Crossing parcel available for \$1, no deed had been produced. Planning board had accepted the deed some years ago, but they cannot accept land.

January 13th is next CPC meeting in Mary Connolly room 7PM. Friends Land parcel to be used for multiple purpose fields, Recreation is behind it.

Recreation to recommend to CPC to do the initial study. "We are in favor of taking the next step, defined as supporting funding for evaluating the parcel for feasibility for multi-use recreational fields at Friends Crossing."

Tana Babbitt – Yes

Bill O'Neill – Yes

Erin Gianni – Yes

Charlie Hammond – Yes

Bob Benton – Yes

Elizabeth Nikiciuk – Yes

Unanimous

Winter Programs

Anne reported on the winter programs. Skiing has ~25 participants, tubing on school scheduled ½ day, karate at Frothingham hall, Hip Hop. Gym teachers at FLO HHR doing Volleyball afterschool. March Madness at Middle School for 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

New Business

A resident donated an elliptical, treadmill, bike, ping pong, and pool tables to the Recreation Dept. Extending thanks to the family.

Attend Jan 13th CPC meeting at 7PM in Mary Connolly room.

Erin motioned to adjourn, Charlie seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM

Next Meeting Monday, January 24th, 2011 7PM

Approval of Minutes

Elizabeth Nikiciuk, Chair

Tana Babbitt