

The Board of Selectmen Facilities and Public Safety Subcommittee held a meeting on June 26, 2012 at the Notch Road Municipal Center. In attendance were: First Selectman Robert Morra; Selectmen Robert Lessard and Ray Walker; Booster Club representatives Peter Phelon and Tim Callahan; George Assard, Bolton Soccer; David Humiston, BHS Athletic Director; Ray Boyd, BOE Facilities Supervisor; John Butrymovich, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor; Tracy Verrastro, Recreation Director; and Administrative Officer Joyce Stille. Board of Education members Richard Hayes and Matthew Giuffre joined the meeting at 7:03 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting began at 6:35 P.M.

2. STATUS REPORT ON STEAP GRANT APPLICATION

Mr. Morra reported that the grant application is available and the Board of Selectmen authorized Ms. Stille to submit a \$500,000 grant request for the creation of two (2) ball fields and a soccer field at Herrick Park. This was discussed at the last meeting. Letters of support from the various groups will be requested.

3. REVIEW OF REVISED LIST OF FIELDS AND FACILITIES

Based on the discussions at the previous meeting, the following priorities for additional facilities/fields were submitted for discussion:

Short Term/High Priority

- Soccer Fields (HP/BHS)
- 2 Softball/Baseball Fields
- Track

Medium Priority

- Pavilion – Herrick Park
- Walking Loop/Workout Circuit (HP/BHS)
- Playscape – Indian Notch Park
- 2 Additional Tennis Courts (BHS)
- Dugouts (HP & BHS Softball)

Long Term/Low Priority

- Gym w/Program Space
- Skatepark
- Pool

The group reviewed the list and agree with the priorities.

4. **PROJECT REPORT**

The following project report was submitted by Town Engineer Joe Dillon:

A meeting was held on Tuesday June 19th at 9:00 AM. Ray Boyd, David Humiston, John Butrymovich and Town Engineer Joe Dillion were present.

They visited the various recreational field sites within town and Joe Dillion compiled the following notes.

Herrick Park – Proposed Soccer/Ball fields

- The completion of this field allows for the reconstruction of the existing fields within Herrick Park.
- It appears that the existing Herrick Park fields will require a drainage layer under the field. Retired UCONN Agronomist Dr. William Dest will be consulted to determine what measures will be required to provide proper drainage for the playing surface.

High School Soccer Field

- It was noted that Varsity and Junior Varsity soccer games occur simultaneously. Currently the Varsity plays on the upper soccer field while the JV game is played in the outfield/infield of the baseball field. It is undesirable to play soccer on a field with two different field surfaces (grass and clay).
- We will investigate if an additional soccer field can be placed to the east of the existing soccer field. Additionally, we will contact Dr. Dest to analyze the soil conditions of the entire High School recreational field area (soccer, softball & baseball). We anticipate that subsurface drainage will be required.

High School Baseball field

- It appears that in the short term most of the unevenness of the field can be corrected by trimming back the edges of the turf to standard baseball field dimensions. Currently, the infield clay area is smaller than a standard baseball field.
- Ultimately, the field will require reconstruction with subsurface drainage.

High School Tennis Courts / Softball Field

- Ray Boyd noted that eight tennis courts would be desirable to complete a tennis match within the time allotted.
- Adding two courts to the east of the existing six tennis courts would impact the softball field. The available school property will be investigated to determine if it would be more feasible to expand the tennis courts and reconstruct the softball field or relocate the tennis courts and reconstruct the softball field in its current location.

Center School Fields

- Ray Boyd noted that generally the Center School fields have performed well. The only problem he noted is that the turf stays saturated for a period of time after a rain storm. With the extensive drainage layer that has been installed under the playing surface, it would appear that the topsoil layer has become compacted and would benefit from core aeration. Dr. Dest could provide some direction on possible turf management techniques.
- Ray also noted that he would like to see the completion of the perimeter walking path.

Indian Notch Park

- The surface of the Little League field at Indian Notch Park is very close to the water table and as John Butrymovich pointed out is generally not playable until the middle or end of May. As with the other fields, this area would most likely require a completed reconstruction with subsurface drainage.
- Perhaps it could be investigated to relocate the ball field to one of the hay fields to the east if it were to provide significantly better drainage.

Joe will contact Dr. William Dest and have him prepare a proposal to analyze the soil conditions at Herrick Park and the High School complex. After reviewing his proposal we can determine which areas we would like to sample first. Also, Joe will download the aerial photo information provided by the 2009 CRCOG flights and overlay possible playing field configurations for the High School fields.

The group discussed the report. Development of cost estimates should include artificial turf versus grass. The high school cross country track would not be impacted by expansion by the soccer fields. Phase 2 lighting at the current Herrick Park fields need to be included in any plans. Properties owned by the Town will be considered prior to any other properties. Mr. Morra is the only authorized individual at this time to pursue other properties.

5. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The next meeting will be August 15, 2012.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 7:37 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce M. Stille
Administrative Officer

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.