

**RECEIVED**

*By Karen Wilber at 10:26 am, Sep 12, 2022*

**Town of Northborough  
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting  
February 1, 2022  
Approved April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**In attendance: Faith Stevens (FS), Gary Maggiolino (GM), Mark Awdycki (MA), Scott Charpentier (SC), Tracey Cammarano (TC) Allie Lane (AL), Maegan Jordan (MJ), and Scott Rogers (SR).**

**Youth Group Representatives: Douglas Pulsifer (DP), Kevin McCormick (KM), Richard Swallow (RS), Mike Flynn (MF), Jessica Magnuson (JM).**

**6:33pm: December 7, 2021 Minutes Approved.**

Faith Stevens (FS) made a motion to approve minutes from December 2021. Gary Maggiolino (GM) seconded, all in favor.

**6:33pm: Meeting called to order**

**6:34pm—New Business – Field Maintenance by Allie Lane (AL).**

Asked to start with #3 on the agenda and come back to 1 and 2, FS approved. AL introduces the Youth Group representatives, asked them to be present today to discuss maintenance of the fields moving forward and review last year. Kevin McCormick and Richard Swallow from NYSA, Mike Flynn and Jessica Magnuson from baseball/softball, and Doug Pulsifer from football. AL talks about how Recreation Department took over the field maintenance for the middle school and paid Mike Lynch and Blue Ribbon \$5600 for football field and E fields, did not include the D field. Brought in \$3900 from baseball club in Shrewsbury at HIIT club, who have been renting from us for 2 years now. Did not make much from BEST Soccer as they did not utilize the fields as much. Maintenance will go up next year as we include the D field.

AL: Mike will you be using the fields for softball this year?

MF: That is the intention, yes.

AL: Kevin, can you tell us your intention for softball for middle school?

KM: NYSA is not planning on utilizing Melican Middle School.

AL: Doug are you still planning on using that as your practice field for football?

DP: Yes practice will be from August through end of November.

AL talks about the intention to continue to rent to HIIT and BEST Soccer. Also looking to build a Cricket field under the lights and use that as a form of rental in the evenings and keep lights on until 10pm.

AL: Any issues at Memorial that you would like to discuss?

MF: Not field related, but have had organizational changes, Northborough Baseball and Softball Organization does not exist, has merged with Southborough Little League.

AL: Congratulations on merger, Kevin, how is NYSA at Ellsworth McAfee?

KM: Doing well, will have to take field C down for maintenance this coming season.

AL: Will it be down for summer programs?

KM: May be able to rotate fields, but section near dirt pathway will be down for awhile.

AL: Doug how did you do this fall?

DP: Field D needed some maintenance, other fields held up well. Lights were nice.

AL talks about how all rentals are done online and are available to the public to see what is going on where. Helps prevent double booking and also helps people know when the field is being used and what time things are supposed to end.

AL thanks the Youth Group reps for coming and taking the time to discuss. Dismisses reps.

**6:48pm Recreation Report by Allison Lane (AL).**

Met with Community Advocate regarding new afterschool programs. Was supposed to start those in January, however it was postponed due to rising COVID cases in town. Postponed any class with more than 10 people. Will start in beginning of March. Also postponed Boys Winter Rec Basketball, delayed by 2 weeks but has resumed as of 2 weeks ago. Being run by Marty Murphy, program focuses on no coaching and is self-run by the kids with supervision.

Summer Program registration opens tomorrow, February 2 at 9am. Planning on opening all summer programs for sign ups instead of just the summer day program. Will not be doing a Summer brochure for first time in many years as it is costly, about \$7000 to write print and mail. What was found for Fall was that most people were accessing everything through just the website. Believe the reach online is enough for these summer programs. Created a mailer for the day trips and will mail that out to hopefully reach the people who may not utilize the online registrations. If you hear feedback from the community about no brochure please let Allie know.

Looking to add the Cricket field under the lights at Melican Middle School, have reached out to Diamond Athletic Turf to look at building a pitch. Cricket uses 2 fields, both sides, figuring out how to charge for the usage of space and how much to charge. Currently charging \$75/hr for one field.

GM: What is the timeframe for games and does it compete with other rentals? Traditionally on Sundays?

AL: Uses fields for 6 hours at a time on Saturdays, I believe.

GM: If it's competing with other rentals you may have to charge for 2 fields, but if it's unmanned time, maybe a field and a half.

AL: Usually only people using the fields on Saturdays is HIIT.

Added a women's softball league this spring, combined with Westborough, Southborough, and Grafton. Exploded with activity Hudson considering joining. Will be held under the light on Sunday nights in Spring for 6 weeks.

**6:58pm—DPW Report by Scott Charpentier (SC)**

Nothing new to report.

**6:59pm—New Business by Scott Charpentier (SC)**

Assabett playground construction has taken the season off. A lot of the equipment is set, 50% of work on back slope is done. Will get the equipment in once the weather is better and poured weather surface.

CPC Project Pickleball is funded. Design is complete and the bid opening was last week and also complete. Lot of interest, 13 bidders, bid will be awarded to MJ Cataldo, has done a lot of work in Worcester. Base bid was \$228k with \$240k available from town appropriation. Estimate was put together during COVID but was prior to supply chain prices rising. There has been a lot of metal price escalations that impacted the bidding. Not able to engage the bid alternates, of which there were 3. Base bid includes fencing in between the courts, one of the bid alternates was to include fencing along sidelines. That was \$18k that pushed it outside of the available funding. Project will be going forward without the bid alternates. Once ground thaws it will start construction, hoping to be complete by this coming summer.

AL mentioned that her and Scott presented to the CPC 2 projects, getting started on the dog park and replace the chain link fence at Assabet Park on rock wall adjacent to 135. Next time they will discuss amongst themselves.

SC: Public meeting is closed, next meeting they will discuss the projects and put together their funding recommendations that will be put in a warrant for the Selectmen's consideration at Town Meeting. CPC sounded excited to get a dog park going in Northborough.

AL: Any questions or comments?

TC: Scott and I are on Master Plan Implementation Committee, making progress, dog park is a high priority. Also the design study for downtown revitalization is moving forward, just to make note.

AL: Next meeting March 1<sup>st</sup> unless nothing on agenda, then we will postpone to April.

**7:07pm - Meeting adjured**

Motion to adjourn – TC & MA