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DENNIS TOWN CLERK

Recreation Minutes 5-1-19

Meeting called to order at: 5pm

Attendance: Vern Ellars, George Levesque, Jeff Treiber, Chair Henry Bowen, Brian McManus, Erik Lambton, Victoria Martin, Jen Hollis arrived at 6:49 after her softball game. Vern Ellars left at 6:30

Selectman- Bob Mezzadri

Rec. Department- Gerrit Murphy, Dustin Pineau
13 members from the public

Introduction

Chair introduces meeting and explains OML and meetings requirement

Introduction of New Committee Members

Victoria Martin- Alternate

Erik Lambton- Alternate

George Levesque- New Member from alternate

Chair discusses quorum rules from last meeting. Was wrongly stated. We do not need 5 members at each meeting. Only need 4.

Chair mentions Charlene O'Brien and the points she brought up at Selectman meeting last night. One idea was library where seniors read to the youth. Second was working with the senior center in order to establish more programs for the seniors. Chair requests Charlene to research and report back to commission future plans with seniors/youth as suggested.

Chair reviews minutes

February 27th minutes reviewed.

Jeff motions to defer the minutes until they can be reviewed by Terrio, Jeff and Hank for compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

Hank defers to complete the minutes

All in favor 4, 1 rejection. Passed

April 10th minutes reviewed

Jeff same objection

All in favor 4, 1 rejection. Passed

Committee Concerns

Jeff's concerns deferred to OML items-on agenda

Public Forum:

No issues brought up

Dustin Discusses Liaison Reports

No new to report outside introduction of new members

Dustin discusses Facility and Fee Structure.

Bob asked about pavilion fee per hour. Dustin clarified cost

Dustin states members each commission are ambassadors to the town to explain info on the fees.

Dustin asks that if anyone has any questions, at anytime. to please contact him.

Question from public: How much do the tennis courts generate in revenue from town. Dustin responds he has to look up to be exact. Estimates \$12k. There's 2 different sources. Groups from out of town and in town program.

Jeff requests revenues on all programs. Would like to see last 2 fiscal years. Dustin agrees to gather

Bob asks for clarification on all programs or just tennis and pickle ball. Jeff states all programs.

Jeff mentions that the signs on the courts for pickle ball is very helpful.

Seasonal Program Reviews

Gerrit says its registration time for all programs. Pickleball kicks off the season

Girls softball team starts next Tuesday

Waiting on the start of the after school programs at Ezra Baker

Staffing is developing. Going thru interviews and hiring. Must plan hiring in accordance to matching up the amount of instructors to the population of children.

Programs must be capped if we can't find enough staff

Chair mentions the success of sailing program. It is limited by the amount of boats we have.

Asks if anyone has any connections with boats it'd help with growing our program.

Chair mentions that Gerrit mentioned last time softball demand is shrinking. Would like to know why.

Gerrit says that his personal take is that team sports is shrinking.

Victoria mentions that lacrosse is growing among females cape wide.

Chair asks if lacrosse is something we can look into

Dustin says we do not have a feeder league for lacrosse

Dustin's daughter doesn't have a freshman softball team. Mentions if we establish a feeder program for that if it would grow

Possibility of feeder program with Yarmouth

Gerrit brings up the success of our football feeder program.

The more complicated the sport, the benefit to earlier exposure

Lack of continuity with high school lacrosse seems to hinder our youth programs. New coach opens an opportunity to this possibly.

Jeff- could something be done at Johnny Kelly? Yes, its a multi field complex so we can.

Chair mentions Mary Franklin Yarmouth program director leaving. Yarmouth recreation attention is thin

Gerrit mentions new brochure for Dennis Recreation is at the printer. They'll be distributed to schools, Libraries, COAs,

Moved from 9-4 camp to 8-5 camp. Idea was catering to working parents

Average turnover with counselors

Youth programs start June 24th. Orientations start prior.

Chair mentions website has all programs online and discusses the efficiency of being able to do so now.

Open Space and Recreation Study

Chair mentions 12 years ago the study began

3 years ago an update was requested on this topic

Dustin discussed with Dan before meeting. Study has been on hold with the state for 3 years.

Dan's best guess is that the study is going to need to be redone.

A link will be supplied to the committee for input

Dan believes the state will make us refile

If committee has any questions or concerns we can mention to Dustin and he will share with them.

Dustin will email link out next week if he is able
Hank would like to know from Dan if the input we provided was utilized. Hank would like some kind of feedback
We'll be able to review and share input

Basketball Courts

Dustin: We're in a waiting game to paint. Weather is huge factor
After 25 days they can paint, but we need consistency with the weather
Don't want to adhere paint and have to redo anything
Barrels are preventing cars going near court
Courts you can play on currently
Dustin would rather have the courts accessible to kids than blocking anyone out
Chair asks if we received feedback on 3 point line
Dustin says that it won't be changing for high school

Wixon Courts

Dustin explains surface is in the same state as basketball
Mesh fence is up
Chair states the rain actually helps the courts. Jeff mentions the oils get washed away
Chair's biggest concern was how they were treating pipes to hold the post

Pickle Ball

A house near Prince street has a combo pickle ball and tennis court if anyone would like to physically see
Jeff hands out graphic and explains graphic.
Jeff says this is the same document that gathered support
Jeff's issues is with the 3 courts on the right. Doesn't seem practical to remove nets and store them
Currently 6 tennis courts in town. With lining of left court would make 7. Jeff says this gives pickleball three tennis courts, with seven for tennis. This would allow for 12 independent pickle ball courts. 14 official pickle ball courts in town.
Jeff suggests for now we only line one court for tennis. Seems to him be most practical.
Jeff motions to paint only one tennis court at the Wixon.
Vern seconds Jeff's motion
Chair's concern is if it meets the warrant as a multi use court.
Jeff states that videos of both town meetings only mention pickleball, not multi use courts.
CPC was there
Second funding Jeff stood up and made pitch. No discussion for multi use courts.
Jeff states that he wouldn't put it forward in bad faith. Feels it is legal
Chair's concern is with the Wixon school program and if they decided to start a tennis program. It wouldn't be feasible with proposed lining of courts being only one tennis court
Dustin states that the school would be excited to be able to offer tennis.
They're also excited about being able to play pickle ball.
They didn't stop using the courts because tennis was canceled. It was the school removed the court so they couldn't use it because it would be a liability
Dustin states Johnny Kelly has 4 pickle ball courts with their own nets
Dustin states he would only change lines if mandated by board of selectman or at town meeting.
Dustin believes we've met half way. We have courts painted for pickle ball, but lined for tennis instead of painted for tennis and lined for pickle ball.
Putting school in tough spot if we limit tennis.
Question from Beth Crowell: is tennis in curriculum?
Dustin, currently it is not. Indoors only.

Dustin: It's not just the paint. The asphalt was an issue because we spent more money to cover the tennis surface playing area. Demands more asphalt.

Dustin's job is to recommend what is best for the town.

Dustin discusses town warrant. First town meeting for purpose of restoring the Wixon school tennis courts. \$206k

Second meeting. Purpose of restoring the Wixon school tennis courts.

Contracts signed by CPC are similar.

The only person Dustin sees having problems with the lines would be the tennis players.

Dustin would like to have option for Tennis.

Sturgis school would like to utilize the new courts for tennis

Doesn't put the town in any procurement rules

George focuses more on operational side because he's an engineer. He has set up and taken down the portable nets. Takes 5 minutes to set up and take down. They do weight 45lbs.

Challenge

Permanent nets weigh more than that. George's concern is for Dustin if he had a short turn around with scheduled events. Estimates an hour of work to convert the courts from tennis to pickle ball. Are we giving recreation enough time to convert if they need to be converted regularly.

George agrees with Dustin the light blue lines won't effect pickle ball. Has no line/painting objection

Concern is a logistic court conversion issue. Do we have the resources to be able to do it quickly.

Vern asks if all nets are permanent.

Dustin explains that pickle ball nets are semi permanent.

The entire package would weigh 65lbs

Dustin states logistically that Gerrit and him have to have staff to setup and breakdown programs

Doesn't see it being a 2 hour process.

Jeff

Asks Chair if Dustin can't be the only one stating his opinion during this discussion.

Vern removes his second based on being uninformed

George seconds Jeff's earlier motion

Public: Seems like it would be more helpful if we have more information from the school. It would be bad if we deter tennis players because of the lines. We can see what the experience is like in the first year and reassess. Understands Dustin wants to go by the rules. Find out what the school is going to do and what the usage is going to be.

Vern: Could we make a motion to table this?

Trudy Burden in South Dennis: Asks if anyone here plays tennis. She plays both tennis and pickle ball. Everyone wants to play in the morning, in May all of seaview 9-12 for pickle ball. Johnny Kelly has 4 courts and everyone tries to get a tennis court. A lot of tennis players have a demand for Tennis in May

In June visitors come to the Cape. 9-12 no tennis players because they're dedicated for pickle ball. She states that she wouldn't mind for them being lined for tennis.

Public: Originally 4 courts at Wixon. Back in the day they waited for Tennis.

Chair asks: If we decide to line just one court what would the cost to line the other 3 courts in the future be? This question was not answered, as we moved on to other discussion.

Dustin mentions gym teacher went to a meeting with all other gym teachers on cape cod. They received tennis balls and rackets. Was excited for the possibility of tennis.

Charlene from Public: Trying to understand how this works. What if all the pickle ball nets are down, where are they? How do you set them up? Where do all the nets go?
Dustin says that recreation department would handle all this. They'll need a shed there to store equipment and cleaning equipment. Would like to keep the courts as clean and organized as possible.

George states Dustin has always been planning on storage

Chair explains we can't change anything as a commission. States Jeff is asking for us to support his motion for 1 tennis court instead of 3.

Dustin would be making his suggestions. We would either support or not support

Dianne asks if we do it with permanent pickle ball nets up for the summer. Can't see the pickle ball nets going up and down. Doesn't want to see this to drag on and has a concern where people will start asking for their money back.

Dustin imagines that in the summer they will be predominantly for pickle ball. On a regular bases during the summer they would be pickle ball.

Public states that Dustin has admitted that the demand in summer is going to be predominantly pickle ball.

George says we need to consider cost to paint courts later.

If its not going to affect pickle ball play, why not do what we originally planned and line them for everyone.

Vern asks the term, a call of motion because we have over discussed and have kept coming back to the same thing

Jeff's original motion is brought back up. 2 in favor. 3 opposed. Doesn't pass.

Election of Officers

Vern: Discusses an experience from his past. Don't change horses in midstream. Nominates Hank for Chair. All in favor.

Vern Nominates- Jeff for vice chair. Brian seconds. All in favor.

Vern nominates Brian for secretary. George seconds. All in favor

AEDs

Dustin: discusses AED and that we will have an AED. \$2,400 costs.

Jeff asks about training?

Dustin says that we can provide training. Jeff says that we can work with fire department on their schedule for the training.

Sunshade

Dustin needs to narrow down the specific project. Pictures would help, but needs to be specific. Will be part of our capital process in the fall.

If we can gather information so we can narrow this down.

Bob asks when we would like that information by?

Jeff states we can have it in 2 weeks. For practical reasons can we consider sturdy temporary structures? Wasn't sure if their was a concern or requirement we need to follow. We have a 10x12" shade that can provide shade temporarily. Please give Jeff ideas and any restrictions they need to follow.

Hank would like to discuss priorities of recreation in terms of these needs.

Dustin is all for putting water at the site. Dustin has requirement to update our playgrounds. To make them accessible and cover fall hazard. This new surface allows for falls from 10 feet. The good news is he has received a price to retro fit our playgrounds. Has to update Mike Stacy, Seaview and Johnny Kelly with new surfacing. After talking with chairman with CPC the funds are stretched and we don't know what the allowable money is to work with.

Dustin's said his priorities have to be weighted upon what is best for town and how to protect from liabilities. Dustin's priority is to go with what he has in queue. Dustin's priorities would be playground 1st, water 2nd, sunshade would be in recreation capital budget.

Jeff asks CPC requests from playgrounds?

Dustin says \$200k and change

Jeff says water would only be \$12k.

Jeff states we have \$600k in potential funds to draw from.

Dustin states he's for water, he's piloting a water program at the beach this year. It's the fact that the playgrounds have been in the queue before water.

Chair states we went 7 years without funding from CPC. We've had lights at Kelly, we've had pickle ball. Are they receptive to more projects?

All Dustin can do is present. Dustin agreed to present the Wixon water project to the CPC.

Joel asks if Hank misspoke about calling courts pickle ball courts instead of multi use courts.

Basketball Tournament

Brian explained where we are at.

Jeff asked if the tournament costs will be covered by fees and donations.

Brian has stated we've structured tournament where we are expecting to break even.

Hank asks about possible pickle ball tournament

-Jeff states its all volunteers so we have to make sure we're capable before we can commit

Jen Hollis arrived 6:49

Kelly 2

Dustin: Town has offered a surveyor. They will stake it out and what we do have available.

Hank: Right now the the outfields intersects. Can't use both fields at the same time. We'd like to find out what we are working with and what we can do with it.

-Bob asks if Dustin has an idea when the field will be surveyed.

-Dustin does not currently, but will update

Dustin doesn't want to approve any bench requests until he can find out the exact cost.

Hank confirms next meeting will be June 5th

Meeting adjourned 7:04