

Belmont Recreation Commission

Minutes – June 11, 2019

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

2019 JUL 30 AM 10:16

In Attendance: Anthony Ferrante, Ann Beré, Mary Bradley, Marsha Semuels, David Kane, Kathy Jones, Cortney Eldridge, Jon Marshall, June Howell, Adam Dash (Select Board Member)

Public: Craig White, Soccer Association, Mia Taylor, Shea Bradley-Hurley, Anna - not sure last name, (Middle School girls kick wall – Chenery) plus 2 of their Dads

Light Request

- ❖ Craig White from Belmont Soccer Association came to ask if we would approve a trial of renting lights for 2 fields in order to be able to use the fields longer for practice as the High School will be using the fields until 5 PM. This will help with loss of fields during the HS construction. Commission recommended public meetings in order to find out what the neighbors think. The Commission is in favor of looking at this going forward after public meetings. Motion to establish public meetings regarding lights. Approved.

Kick Wall- Chenery

- ❖ Mia, Anna & Shea met with June & Frank to see location wanted to build wall. There are 2 sized and 2 different locations. There is an option for an 8 feet high and a 12 feet high wall. Material would be wood or composite (decking type material). Composite would be less maintenance but more expensive to build. Purpose of kick wall is for siblings to kick ball around, for recess, after school and practicing. Chenery Principal is in favor of the smaller wall. He gave his support and will bring it up to the School Board. Belmont Soccer Association will pay for the wall. The Principal said he would talk to neighbors. Commission said to find out who the abutters are and send something out to them. Run it by the Police and DPW. Motion to approve the installation of kick wall, pending School Committee, Police Department, DPW and neighbors approval. Approved.

Rink

- ❖ Select Board & School Committee met to discuss further the RFP for the rink. It was voted unanimously to move forward with the process to explore the public/private option for rink. Recreation Commission will pass along recommendations for the RFP to the Select Board.

Off Leash Program

- ❖ The Town now has an Animal Control officer. There was a meeting with Public Health, Animal Control officer, Jon, June to see the issues/concerns. The signs are not really

clear. Sign says to “yield” when there are youth groups on the field, but what does that really mean? Yield will be changed to suspended so dogs will need to be leashed. Will be tried for summer and revisited later. Motion to approved the wording of the Off leash rules. Approved 6 Yes, 1 No.

Tennis Court request

- ❖ Request for using Tennis Courts before 7AM, which is a town by-law. Commission voted no to this. The Commission has no authority over town by-laws.

Buddy Bench Request

- ❖ Request to put a Buddy Bench at Joey’s Park in honor of little boy (not from Belmont) who passed away. Commission is in favor, but they should talk to Friends of Joey’s Park about the location & design.
- ❖ Going forward with these requests groups who would like to do things should seek input from Friends groups, schools, neighbors, etc and then come to the Commission.

Update

- ❖ Field usage will be discussed next meeting. Data shows that the fields are overused now and with the HS Building Project taking away fields it won’t get better any time soon.
- ❖ HS Building – sat in with construction, turf field was proposed behind new 9-12 wing in shaded area.
- ❖ PQ opening was the other weekend. It was a great event.
- ❖ CPA – expect Underwood playground to come in. Phase 1 for CPA is design, Phase 2 is construction.

Minutes from May 14th approved.

Budget

- ❖ \$980,000 budget. Right now things are in good shape. Next Year won’t be as good with the High School Project (ie losing building and field space for programs, sports groups).