

**Recreation Commission Meeting**

3/6/2023

Zoom

DATE: April 6, 2023

TIME: 2:35 PM

Commission Attendees: Paul Cowing (chair), David Lind (vice chair), Cortney Eldridge (secretary), Anthony Ferrante, Joshua Gould, Steve Colello, Theresa O'Connor, Ken Krilla  
Town Attendees: Brandon Fitts

Call to order 5:37pm

**Minutes from last month:**

No changes

In favor: Anthony Ferrante, David Lind, Josh Gould, Theresa O'Connor

Abstain: Cortney Eldridge, Ken Krilla, Paul Cowing, Steve Colello

**Welcome to Ken Krilla:** Recreation Department Program manager for Littleton, joining officially tonight as a Recreation Commission Member

**Kevin Logan Summer Camp Permit Request at Grove Street Park (Possible Vote):** Withdrawn

**Spring Tennis Permit Requests:**

- More requests for tennis courts than we have courts
- Belmont High School (BHS) uses Winn Brook Monday through Friday after school (3-5pm)
- Winn Brook courts are open after 5pm
- Pickleball courts are closed at Town field so Pickleball is moved to PQ until Town Field is done
- Belmont Hill permits courts every year and Belmont Town uses turf field for Lax; similar relationship with Belmont Day School
- March 21<sup>st</sup> to June 1<sup>st</sup>

**Discussion:**

- Given the limitation, we can't have all the courts booked (Tue, Wed, Thurs 3-5pm)
- There is ONE court at Grove Street open, and possibly two at PQ open/not permitted during this time
- Belmont Hill is not charged; we are not charged for using Belmont Hill – discussion/clarification on this
- Belmont Day is taking more "prime time" so if we need to bump anybody, they are likely the first candidate
- Can pickleball be played on a basketball court? Yes, but we do not have any functional basketball courts (other than at schools; not our jurisdiction)
- Potentially reduce number of courts received and perhaps move to M-W-F
- Tuesday is the busy day – there are open courts/options elsewhere on other days
- Discuss with Belmont Day and Belmont Hill to see if there is flexibility in times/days

**Financial Aid Review:**

- In the past, we have not had a good/consistent policy
- Developed a financial aid form (leveraged from Franklin Recreation)

**Discussion:**

- Q: Is this based on a dollar amount or a percentage of what they're registering for? A: Percentage.
- There is not a uniform policy within the Town so need to create something
- Want to make sure there's an appropriate way to collect this information, store it, and destroy it when necessary
- Response: we ask people to NOT email this; there is a secure link; we ask people to come in and there is a shredder on site; if we do need to retain information, we have locked cabinets
- Q: Have we run this by Town Council to confirm all the necessary (e.g., Privacy Act) statements are included? A: That is the next step
- Once we have a revolving fund set up, we can establish a fund for scholarships; we cannot do this in the general fund

**CPC Project Update:**

- Final proposal for PQ Basketball Court replacement and Grove Street Baseball and Basketball – presenting at Select Board tonight
- Town Field courts and playground are in progress and may be a bit ahead of schedule – mid to late May is still the target
- A funding source that cannot be named yet came forward to speed up the Chenery Middle School project
  - Brandon submitted an off-cycle request and will go to the CPC on Wednesday, Select Board shortly after, and hopefully this will be part of Town Meeting
  - Softball fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, playground, site and landscape improvements
  - Modularity will be sold, which will contribute to the project cost (and space)
  - Anticipating the project to be around \$3M – educated guess – no actual figures created yet
  - Phase I design and engineering would be roughly \$103K
  - Activitas already did field assessment (as part of previous project)

**Discussion:**

Q: Why not public bid? A: You do not need to go to public bid for design and engineering – only construction

Q: What is the need for this? A: holes in the slides, playground is not age-appropriate for the ages that will be at this school; tennis courts have modularity physically sitting on them (and are ruined)

Q: Where is the money coming from for the \$103K? A: Spending FY24 money for this special project to take advantage of the potential funding

**Motion:**

Recreation Commission supports the application for design and engineering funds (Phase I) of the Chenery Upper Elementary School playground, courts, and fields.

Approved Unanimously: Cortney Eldridge, David Lind, Anthony Ferrante, Josh Gould, Theresa O'Connor, Ken Krilla, Steve Colello, Paul Cowing

**Current Rink Season update**

- March 18<sup>th</sup> is closing date for the rink (weather-dependent)
- It's been a pretty good season but is likely the last season of this rink
- Women's hockey has expanded; record numbers for hockey
- BHS season ended last weekend
- Belmont Youth Hockey season ends with an ice-melter event March 18<sup>th</sup>
- Did not break even this year and will likely take a hit from maintenance costs, etc. – will present finances when the rink has been closed
- Select Board will not invest any more money into repairing the rink

**Spring/Summer Brochure**

- Camp registration opens tomorrow morning
- Lots of great programming
- Brochure at the printer; will be sent out soon

**Next meetings**

April 3<sup>rd</sup>: 5:30pm on Zoom

May 15<sup>th</sup>: 5:30pm on Zoom

Adjourn 6:49pm