

HOPKINTON ATHLETIC FIELD SUB-COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

8:00 AM

Central Office Conference Room

MINUTES

Sub-Committee Vice Chair Jean Bertschmann opened the meeting at 8:15 am with the following present:

Members:

Dee King, Chair (absent)
Jean Bertschmann
Evan Bishop
Kelly DePaolo (absent)
Jon Graziano (absent)
Ed LeFlore (remote participation until 9:02 am)
Dr. Cathy MacLeod
Amy Mick
Al Rogers (absent)
Jon Schwartz
Jim Valis (absent)

Also Present:

Brian Herr, Board of Selectmen Liaison
Mike Manning, Appropriations Liaison (absent)
Jessica Shea, Capital Improvements Liaison (absent)

Also present:

I. Call to Order

Jean Bertschmann called the meeting to order at 8:15 am.

II. Public Comment

None at this meeting.

III. Approval of Minutes

Postponed to the next meeting.

IV. New Business

A. Discussion with CPC

Jean Bertschmann updated the Sub-Committee regarding communications with the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). Jean has been in touch with the Chair of the CPC, Henry Kunicki, regarding whether or not the schools are able to apply to the CPC for partial funding of a field project. Mr. Kunicki recommended reaching out to the Community Preservation Coalition at the state level regarding the regulations regarding the expenditure of CPC funds. Mr. Stuart Saginor responded on behalf of the Coalition to say that, while the CPC may not support a stadium project (Field 3) or purchase synthetic turf, it is within the scope of their charge to provide funding for site work and other project costs, as was done with the Fruit Street fields. Given that response, Jean will reach out to Mr. Kunicki again and ask to be placed on a CPC agenda to discuss how the committees can work together for the benefit of the community.

B. Forum with Coaches, Youth Sports Presidents

Dee King will schedule the forum. Amy Mick relayed an informal discussion she had with a Little League board member, who provided insight and feedback regarding usage of the Hopkins field.

C. Field Usage Master Plan

Dee King and Evan Bishop will lead the work of evaluating current and potential usage of each of the school fields, and whether any re-configuration is possible.

D. Natural Turf Planning

Dr. MacLeod reinforced the importance of having a plan in place to ensure that field 3 is in excellent playing condition until such time as it may be replaced by artificial turf. Toward that end, the Sub-Committee decided to invite Kyle McNerney and Chip Baker to an upcoming meeting to gather information regarding improving the maintenance of the natural fields.

E. Field Management Structure

Jon Graziano developed a list of area towns with turf fields managed either by the Parks and Rec Department or by the schools. Jean Bertschmann, Dee King, Amy Mick, and Cathy MacLeod will invite Dan Terry of Parks and Rec to do some research into each model and report back to the Sub-Committee.

F. Meeting Schedule

The Sub-Committee set February 27, 2017 at 8 am at the High School for its next meeting.

V. Old Business

A. Designer Selection Process

Jon Graziano and Ed LeFlore have worked with Ralph Dumas to create a draft for the Sub-Committee to review at the next meeting. The Sub-Committee will review the RFP and make a recommendation for the School Committee to consider at its March 2, 2017 meeting.

B. Communications Plan

Discussion postponed to next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 AM.

Documents reviewed:

Minutes of January 4, 2017 meeting