



RECEIVED
BARBARA STATS

2021 MAR 15 PM 2:46

TOWN OF NORTH READING
Massachusetts

**Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes of
Monday, December 14, 2020
Virtual Meeting 6:45pm**

Recreation Chair: "Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the North Reading Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. A reminder that persons who would like to listen to this meeting while in progress may do so by dialing: +1 929 205 6099 US (New York) or linking to: Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84245605052?pwd=MElvMTJJZDNPY0ZBM2ZPSWZrNGFkdz09>

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, the North Reading Parks & Recreation Committee states for the record that this meeting is being recorded by the state and may be recorded by other individuals or media.

Attendance:

Committee Members Present: Ron Kern, Chair (RK), Sergio Coviello (SC), Rita Mullin (RM), Pat Filmore (PF)

Staff present: Maureen Stevens (MS), Lynne Clemens (LC), Marty Tilton (MT), Maria Brown (MB)

Tardy: Mike Fitzpatrick (MF)

Absent: Billie Luker (BL), Sheila Sturdevant (SS)

Call to order: 6:52pm; Quorum, called by RK

Audience of Citizens: None

Acceptance of Minutes:

(PF) made a motion to accept Meeting Minutes of November 2, 2020.

(SC) Second the Motion

Approved: 4 Opposed: 0 Abstained: 0 Motion: Passed

NEW BUSINESS:

NRHS Turf Field Replacement - this was a capital request. MT – explained the three quotes given for replacing turf field at NRHS:

Top/Premium surface - \$447,667.72 (10 year warranty, 10-15 year expectancy) technology and grass quality is better. Infield doesn't float like lower grade surface. Backing provides better drainage. Includes Center Hornet Logo, which is \$14,280.

Medium surface - \$434,579.73 (same as basic, but drains better, 8 year warranty, 10-12 year expectancy)

Basic surface - \$412,766.42 (vertex, low end, 8 year warranty, 10-12 year expectancy).

The original quote was \$440,000 to \$500,000. They take out existing turf, they'd have to put down a new pad. Which is \$100 difference just in pad alone. If you go over it you would not have to do.

Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 14, 2020

Page -2-

NRHS Turf Field Replacement – Continued discussion.

MT recommends accepting the \$447,667.72 price with logo. Hillview will not be able to assist with this expense, so this will be a Town expenditure.

RK agrees with MT with regards to accepting the Premium price. He also feels that we should keep the price for the logo. MS mentioned that JT Berry money can only be for a Capital project. They have that option to use some of that money on the turf field replacement. MS - when we put in the capital plan a few weeks ago we put in \$450,000.

MT - we were one of the first communities to have this surface. They said it would last 8-10 years and we are now on year 12.

SC – feels that we should go with the premium surface.

PF – MT did his homework I feel we should accept the premium surface.

RM – agrees with the premium surface.

MF – agrees with the premium surface.

Re-Appointment of Recreation Committee Members: PASS

OLD BUSINESS: None

OTHER BUSINESS:

MS, Operations Director Update:

Office: plexiglass barriers have been put up between workstations in P&R office. Lynne and Nancy have been moved to Room 5. We are at 50% capacity. This may go down to 25%.

GIS Map: MT has met with Steven Lutterman of the DPW/GIS. Steve showed MT how to use the GIS function. Marty has done his part with listing locations and taking pictures (memorials, trees, benches, equipment, etc). Waiting for Steve for the next step.

FY21 Budget: MS went through her December 4, 2020 updated Budget. We have a loss of \$35,881.21, which reflects from 7/1/20-12/4/20. Both Recreation and Parks are about \$15,000 +/- loss per department. It does not look as though we will bring in much money for the months of January, February. Looking for a brighter Spring for programs and permits. When Finance requests FY22 Budget I'll be asking TA/Finance to assist the department by transferring Equipment Operator salary from Parks to DPW payroll budget FY21 & 22. Half of his salary would also assist our department bringing down the loss. DPW has open positions so they are saving money and should be able to take on this positions salary.

We have already taken a loss of \$86,000+/- in FY20. FY21 ends June 30, 2021. If we eliminate the Equipment Operator salary and bring in some income with programs and permits we can hopefully breakeven for FY21, which would be brighter than taking another loss for a second year in a row.

Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 14, 2020

Page -3-

LC, Recreation Director Update:

Fall went well. I'm proud of what we were able to offer the community. Winter will not be that productive. There is not much that we can offer. We're attempting to run a hockey rink program in January, one of the dance studios is running a couple of programs with us, Nancy and I will be running an enrichment program once a week, which is full. We have a Candy Cane Hunt, which sold out in one hour. Parents are looking to get their children outdoors. We had a scavenger hunt, which was very popular. We have a second scavenger hunt the week between Christmas and New Year. We were able to get sponsorships for that for prizes. Hoping for a brighter 2021, because it will be a tough winter.

MT, Parks Director Update:

GIS: I went around and got all the locations and pictures of all the parks with trees, benches, pavilion, courts, etc. Steve has worked on the platform. It's an interactive GPS for all the parks and what's inside the parks. It will show the public a picture of a tree and its location and who sponsored that tree. I'm very excited about this project. It will help us greatly. This will eventually be on our website. MF asked what purpose was for it. MS responded that it would be helpful if someone would like to rent a location they can see information on that location and a picture of it. For MT it would assist when planning a new memorial or which memorial needs updating, when it was installed, does it need painting, etc. MT can view information on his smartphone. This would be a time saver. You can also print out reports.

Parks employees working outdoors until the snow comes in. Still working at pruning trees and getting things done we couldn't get done in fall.

We have a Covid Sprayer Backpack. Richard G is using this with a face shield once a week. We can use it everywhere inside and out. MS mentioned that it will be helpful in spring. Maybe we can open the bathrooms and it will be easier for disinfecting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

LUC (RM): LUC Recreation Committee Liaison - PASS.

CIT (RM): No Update.

FONRPRC: W&F - March 2021 – PASS.

Brick Program – need to discuss soon, receiving phone calls.

Next Recreation Committee Meeting: Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:45pm.

- **Adjournment: 7:36pm**

(MF) made a motion to adjourn meeting at 7:36pm.

(SC) seconds the motion.

Approved: 5 Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion: PASSED