

Columbia Recreation Commission

Minutes from July 26,2016 Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 7:02

There were no minutes to be approved.

Audience of Citizens: Lauren Perroti Verbovan spoke concerning the unsafe and poor conditions at the girls' softball field at Rec Park. Her daughter is helping at the camp being held there this week. The field is hard and gravel like. 3rd base is especially dangerous. One of the campers was recently injured at a 3rd base play.

Lauren is questioning the obvious disparity in the appearance and quality of the girls' field and the boys little league field. She would like maintaince data for both fields. What work has been done at each field over the last 6 months?

Commission Member Brian Pederson has played on that field and supported Lauren's appraisal of the field as having unsafe conditions.

The deferred maintaince on the girls' field sends a loud and clear message concerning the value of girls' sports.

Lauren wants to know if its parent volunteers that keep the boys field in such pristine condition or is it the town crew. Can volunteers be organized to work on the girls' field? Is the budget for the 2 fields lopsided? The problem and disparity with the fields has been around for several years.

Marc Volza was present to hear Lauren's concerns and will contact DPW.

OLD BUSINESS Master Plan Discussion

Nickki and Marc are meeting on Wed. with other town officials and the firm(Weston& Sampson) chosen to do the Master Plan. Discussion ensued concerning priorities for the plan. At this point access from Route 66, reorganization of existing fields and incorporation of new fields, additional tennis

courts and building/concession/bathrooms head the list of priorities. The master plan is expected to be done by November.

New Business: Nickki discussed past meetings that have not had a quorum. She needs a committee to work with.

2 issues surfaced- How often do we need to meet now that there is a Full time Rec Director and the level of respect needed to notify Nickki at least 24 hours in advance if unable to attend a scheduled meeting on the second Tuesday of each month.

A question was asked as to what exactly is the charge of the Commission.

A meeting length of one hour was proposed.

Marc V. suggested that the focus for the next 6 months could be the master plan at the park and the beach regrading.

Rec Director Report

Dinner and a Dip went well. Camps are busy.

Cindy P. requested that Marc continue to provide the commission with reports on programming and the financials associated with each program.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25PM

Respectfully Submitted Millie Ramsey