

Boxford Rec Com Meeting December 7, 2022

Called to order at 7:10

In attendance

Lisa Donahue

Kimberly Putney

Jeff Hixon

Mark Sullivan

John Rowan

Lance from Boxford CATV

Chris Obrot DPW

JOHNSON FIELD PLAYGROUND

October- Lisa reached out to town to determine more accurate dimensions of land. Chris Olbrot (DPW) suggested an instrument survey which would include existing conditions and base plan. Cost estimate is \$1600 combined total for base survey and base plan. This plan is important because this documentation will be the vehicle used to move through the building process, permitting, etc. The Permanent Building Committee, BOH, etc will want to see it. This would be a Springtime project, although we have no funding for it, so we would need to secure funding for it somehow, or get funding from CPC first, which may affect timetable.

Lisa and Kimberly connected with two members of prior Cole School Playground Committee
Lisa completed and submitted the application for CPC funding
Lisa attended CPC meeting to present application- they recommend we meet with the planning board, BOH, permanent planning committee, they are looking for more details from us

Lisa attended the Select Board meeting on Nov 21, they were supportive and recommended we meet with the permanent building committee. They recommended staging the project, first ask for engineering fees, then ask for funding for structures, etc.

Chris will connect us with Steve Clifford, who was involved with the Spofford Pond School Playground Renovation

Lisa spoke with a representative from the Department of Corrections
They can supply signs, park benches, trash and recycling receptacles
Delivered for free
Order now for Spring delivery
Quotes free of charge
Not billed until delivered
Benches can be "donated" by residents to reduce cost

Chris will also reach out to Amesbury to find out how they raised funding for their downtown Splash Park renovation

What population is most likely to use the space? That population is who we should ask for additional funding (private source) from.

CPC would like us to supply additional information. This is not due until late Spring (30+ days before town meeting warrant)

BUDGET

PBC House doctor funding-

Lance will ask Margaret at tomorrow's meeting- can those funds be used to pay for engineering/survey in advance of CPC funding, to keep things moving?

Pickle Ball \$225 estimate for replacement of materials (especially nets)

Needs a new sign.

Chris will pay for these new materials out of his Parks and Grounds DPW budget, they also power wash the courts. They are estimated to be at least 3 years old, they haven't been replaced since before then.

In response to a question about the Parks and Grounds DPW budget, Chris says it is used for Softball fields, grounds around town, mulch, plants, flags, maintenance of synthetic fields, GMAX concussion testing, maintenance of open fields. Tight budget, can not be increased much with current rate of inflation.

60/40 break down for athletic/open space and infrastructure

New bioretention area will also need maintenance, which is a new addition to list of projects

Needs support at fin comm with requests for budget increases

DPW doesn't want to be choosing priorities for spending of parks and Grounds budget. It would be preferred if a decision was made and then communicated through BAA or another large entity, as opposed to requests from individual committees

Advertising has not been approved through rec com or select board, however signs were displayed on field fences this summer

Fees from sports go to BAA, but no portion comes to rec com for maintenance

Sponsorship?

Synthetic fieldlife 10-12 years, will need to be replaced in 5 years, BAA planning for it

BAA asking for funding for Boy Scout Park and Kostner park updates

John mentioned that it would be beneficial to request a rec com budget.

Ideally more discretionary than fixed costs

Current lack of funding for our committee despite lots of responsibilities and potential projects

LIAISON UPDATES

CPC- no updates

BTA BOLT- pumpkin hunt, ongoing activities, maintenance, clearing trees due to drought conditions, winter speaker series

Camp Sacajawea- season finished, no updates, no problems reported during the season

Rental application through town hall, parties need to be planned and permitting for alcohol, overnight possible

BAA from Tom (via notes to Lisa)- for Parks Program registration, we could potentially use Sports Engine platform

We would need the same tax ID number as BAA, bank account info, town treasurer working through those details

BAA seeking Dug outs, press box, concession stand for Johnson Park

\$150-200 K estimate from Shea construction-

John mentioned that it would be good to see the plan and determine if it will be set on ground or placed in ground (questions about grading, drainage, and associated cost)

Boxford common grass field will remain open

Boxford little league has a new board focused on fields

Open space and rec planning committee

Park program discussed at Select Board meeting

Same director returning next year

Town still unsure of relationship between Park program and Rec Committee

Motion to approve October meeting minutes

Seconded by Jeff and John

Motion passed

Next meeting scheduled for Jan 11th, 7pm

WIFI password for Town Hall not posted in a readily available space- need to find it before next meeting

Meeting Adjourned at 8:11 pm