

Town of Stonington

Athletic Field Oversight Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was held February 6, 2014 @ 8:00 am at Stonington Town Hall. The items discussed were as follows:

1. Discuss Plans and Timeline for All-Purpose Field Reconstruction

Larry Sullivan began the meeting by introducing Dan Krober, P.E., the engineer from Milone & MacBroom, and asking him to explain his plan for the field based upon previous discussions and requests of the committee. Larry prefaced Dan's presentation by stating that the proposal would cost \$240,000+ which exceeds the amount budgeted for this work. Dan explained the \$240K proposal includes increasing the width of the field by 15 ft. and the length by 20ft, shifting the field away from the wetlands area, installing a series of drains, replacing the entire irrigation system, installing an 18ft high fence behind the soccer goals and a 4 ft fence around the remaining perimeter of the field as well as several gates to provide access. In addition to the \$240,000, there would be additional costs for materials. There was a great deal of discussion between members of the committee and several possibilities were discussed. It was agreed that we must remain within the allotted budgeted amount for the field of \$180,000. Dan Krober stated we could keep to the budgeted amount if the field remains the existing size of 195 ft by 340 ft, the irrigation systems is left as it is, that the field can be shifted slightly away from the wetlands and one of the parking areas, drainage would be installed, and the field would be re-graded, reshaped, and re-sodded, and fencing would be added only behind the soccer goals. There was further discussion about the cost of adding additional width to the field and a decision was made to increase the width to 200 ft and keep the length at 340 ft with several add/alts for fencing just behind the goals, along the side near the wetlands, and the additional sides. A decision could be made based upon the bid. Larry stated that the advertisement for the bid must be done quickly because the bids must be received by Feb. 21st in order for us to receive a deliverable by June 13th.

2. Discuss Storage Requirements

There was a great deal of discussion about storage requirements. It was decided to address the needs of the high school teams with storage inside the fenced area surrounding the new all-weather field. To prevent issues with the sub soil structure

and solidity, it was suggested to consider using pre-fabricated units that can be placed on a crushed stone base. It was also suggested that separate smaller buildings be considered to provide storage for each coach. There was a lot of discussion about existing storage and storage needs and it was decided that the south end of the all weather field would be used for the school and the area by the ice rink would be used to meet storage needs for the Town. Lou DiCesare presented an idea of possibly building a multi-level structure with access to each level being on different grades. This structure would be built of block or something more long lasting than a pre-fab structure and that would be more aesthetically pleasing.

3. Discuss Repairs to Baseball Field

Ken Donovan stated he is having a consultant look at the field to determine what needs to be done and provide a cost breakdown. Bryan Morrone stated that the suppliers of the material are taking orders at this time and if we wait too long we may not be able to get the material. Therefore time is of the essence. The cost for fixing the infield is top priority so that we can place our order ASAP. There was further discussion about usage of the baseball field and it was decided that the field would be limited to just high school baseball initially and that perhaps it could be opened up to others but this would be decided by the school at a later time. Sandy Grimes, representing the Board of Finance on the committee, stated he was not sure that the baseball field was part of the bond issue and was going to discuss this with Maryanna Stevens, the Director of Finance. He will advise Larry Sullivan of Maryanna's decision and Larry will inform Ken Donovan.

4. Update Progress of Softball Dugout Improvements

It was stated that the baseball dugout needs to be enclosed with emergency and handicap access and lighting added. Larry Sullivan stated he thought that was doable and would not be too expensive. Lou DiCesare will get a price from the contractor doing the work on the softball dugouts to enclose the area behind the baseball dugout.

5. Discuss Scoreboard Issues

Bryan Morrone and Joe Mendonca stated that they believed the new softball scoreboard panel will fit into the existing space on the scoreboard. Bill King, who was not able to attend the meeting, is coordinating and should be able to provide an update. No one was sure how the sponsor panels would be handled.

6. Plans for Other Work

- a. Parking lot expansion

Larry Sullivan provided a plan for improving and increasing the parking area.

b. Basketball Court Repair

c. Lay Down Area

It was agreed that the lay down area would provide a nice location for an additional field in the future. However, for now, the area will be turned to what it was, leveled out and grassed over.

The need/date/time for a future meeting will be determined as needed.