

**Sterling Recreation Committee  
Meeting Minutes August 20, 2019**

***Meeting officially called to order at 7:09pm***

**Present:** Deidre Shapiro, Kristen Dietel (Recreation Director), Bonnie Pulda, Jo-Ann Cummings (Committee Chair), Mark Hryniewicz, Glen Donaldson

**Guest:** Chuck Plaisted

**New Business**

**Review and vote minutes from 6.25.2019**

- Mark made a motion to accept the minutes, All in favor

**Finance Report**

- Glen made a motion to accept the Finance Report, Glen 2<sup>nd</sup>, All in favor

**Tennis Court Update** Chuck Plaisted Reports

- The chains on the leaf gates will be unlocked when the gate is fixed and no longer scraping the green.
- Final payment of \$13,900 is waiting for Chuck's approval
- Certificate of Substantial Completion was issued by Chuck 8/19/19
  - Court can be used
  - Wind screens and other punch list items need to be completed before we give them a final payment (there is not a lot to be done)
  - The contract gives them 30 days, if not we have to itemize those things out of the final payment.
- Project Budget
  - Under budget by \$658
  - Outstanding items are close to budget
- Chuck went to DPW for landscaping and they said they will take care of it.
  - JoAnn reported that DWP said the drainage is good.
- Chuck went to DCR to get the trench done, but does not think that will be done.
  - There is a swale on side that will catch the drainage and work, but in Chuck's opinion this is not ideal.
- Maintenance
  - Paying surface needs to be cleaned a couple times a year
  - Posts and nets must come down in in the fall
  - Surface needs to be replaced and repainted in 8-10 years, not the asphalt, estimated \$7-10k
  - Wind Screens in the fall need to be secured or taken down in the fall
- Should we have an Opening Day big deal – Yes!
  - Invite Dean Trahn

**Dean Train Money**

- Improve the playing fields and facility improvement
- Needs to be spent by June
- It may be expected that some is reimbursed to the capital fund, and some is spread around the town projects
- Chuck commented that Open Space Committee is interested in how Rec Committee is going to spend this money

### **Field Plans Kristen Reports**

- There is a Fields committee to discuss development of creating new fields, improving the current fields
- Ideas discussed
  - Track needs to be updated approx. \$6000
  - Hiring a landscape architect to design a fields project that includes facility
  - Tennis Court Landscaping
  - Beach improvement
  - Balance returned to taxpayers Capital Fund

### **Little League Request Kristen Reports**

- Little League would like to have all of the grass removed around the fields and reseeded
  - This meets our objective of keeping grass on the fields
- The committee reviewed quotes and proposals
  - Between \$10-14K
  - Mark made a motion to give them \$5000 with a recommendation for no dog run area, look for local company and good track record with fields, JoAnne 2<sup>nd</sup>, All approved

### **Basketball Kristen Reports**

- Concerned with the referees from last year
- We will look for alternatives to the current organization, such as the group in Leominster
- Other ideas were discussed: hiring our own refs, high school kids that are willing to get certified, find freelancers, have less refed games, coaches ref more games
- The board decided to have Kristen look for other Assigners and they will be in at our next (September) meeting for interview

### **Flag Football Kristen Reports**

- Not enough volunteers so there were complaints that it was poorly run
- Options were discussed on how to get parent volunteers
- Program advertisement for 2020 will include that this program is contingent on volunteers
- JoAnne made a motion to waive the fee if the child of the head coach for Flag Football and Basketball, Mark 2<sup>nd</sup>, All approved

### **Holiday Tree Lighting Kristen Reports**

- Sunday Dec 8
- Will be looking for musical performers, maybe a Santa, and a Minora

### **Old Business None**

### **Announcements:**

- Upcoming Events
  - Look for a postcard instead of trifold mailing announcing fall activities

***Meeting adjourned 9:25***