

**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 Hryniewich, 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 2nd, 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 2nd, 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 2nd, 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