

TOWN OF WAYLAND
Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes Posted in accordance
with the Provisions of the Open Meeting Law
Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:00 PM
Wayland Town Building | 41 Cochituate Road | Wayland MA 01778
School Committee Conference Room; broadcast on waycam.tv

Present Commissioners: Asa Foster, Co-Chair; Brud Wright, Co-Chair; David Pearlman;
Chris Fay, Kelly Pierce

Recreation: K. Brenna, Director; C. Baldwin, Assistant Director

Absent: None

Guests: Steve Wynne, Willow Brook Dr.; Ward Russell, Snake Brook Rd.

7:00 PM MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Asa Foster called meeting to order, announced meeting is recorded/broadcast on television by WayCAM.

7:00 PM PUBLIC COMMENT There was none.

7:05 PM VOTE TO APPROVE 2020 FIELD USER PACKET / POLICY

K. Brenna discussed minor changes to the current packet. Spring field requests are still accepted during the same period, February 1 - 15. Grass fields, with exception of baseball fields are almost never open by March 15 due to weather conditions in early spring. Field permits are usually issued mid-late February and include March dates. Looking at back historically at the dates of field openings, Rec determined that issuing permits before April 15 start date was misleading and would not be appropriate. If Rec issues permits prior to field being opened, it causes problems because users plan and expect to be able to get on fields by date on permit and there is a risk they may use the field before its open/ready to be used. If DPW opens fields prior to April 15, the additional days/times would be added to permit holder's permits during the same days/times/fields that have been issued for the regular season. There would be no additional fee to youth organizations that pay per player for the additional spring season dates, if added to permits.

Ward Russell comments that changing first permit date to April 15 makes it difficult to plan for early season schedules/games. K. Brenna: Permitting before April 15 gives users a false sense of planning. Ward Russell: Discusses duration of the spring permit going from a 14 week permit to an 8 week permit schedule, comparatively the Winter permit is 20 weeks. K. Brenna noted Rec does not issue any winter field permits.

Per player fees for spring permits would also include field use between March 15 and April 15, however, indoor space such as town building gym is not treated the same way as field space. There would be a fee for gym use prior to April 15 if a field has not been opened for the season. Youth Organizations already pays to use indoor space. K. Brenna. discusses priority among user groups in gyms.

7:32 PM ATTEND PLANNING BOARD MEETING TO DISCUSS LOKER PROJECT

Recreation Commission recessed to attend the Planning Board Meeting

7:38 pm

From Planning Board Minutes: Brud Wright Co-Chair of the Recreation Commission requested to appear before the Planning Board regarding the LSP Report that Ben Gould presented in a public meeting to the Board of Selectmen on February 10. He reminded the Planning Board that when they conducted Site Plan Review and issued an advisory opinion it had included a condition requiring an independent environmental licensed site professional review the site. He noted, that the Chair of the Planning Board at the time, Dan Hill, also appeared before the ZBA at a public hearing with a letter stating this condition. He noted that S.Sarkisian, Town Planner submitted and presented the conditions to the PMBC. B. Wright requested that the Planning Board issue a memo stating that the conditions have been met relating to the LSP review. S.Sarkisian stated that the LSP Ben Gould was hired and funded by the Town of Wayland and has issued his report that was presented to the Board of Selectmen at a recent meeting. A link was sent to all Planning Board members to review. J.Steel requested a copy of the Dan Hill letter. She watched the video and stated that she is satisfied with the LSP Report. J.Steel requested that the Town Planner send board members copies of the Planning Board's recommendations to the ZBA, the Dan Hill Letter and the recent Ben Gould LSP report. She recommended a discussion on Loker at the next meeting.

8:03 PM RECONVENE

Asa asks about DPW and opening fields and the playability guidelines. Consensus among Rec. staff and commissioners is that wording for field user packet should read: Spring permit is effective from the day that DPW deems field to be open and ready for use. Wayland Public Schools (WPS) athletics have priority on school fields during school calendar year; does not have priority on non-school fields.

Chris Fay makes motion to approve 2020 Field User Packet / Policy with changes as amended and discussed. Kelly Pierce seconds. VOTE: 5-0-0

8:30 PM LOKER TURF FIELD PROJECT

Discussion about order of articles: Loker article tentatively scheduled for Monday night of Town Meeting late. Waiting for the outcome of ZBA hearing and Conservation permit, and whether or not PMBC had any comment about the budget. K. Brenna noted that nothing has changed in the design since the last time Conservation Commission had met so may have decision before Town Meeting. No less than five LSPs have looked at Loker site. Concluded it was okay to proceed as a soccer field ZBA will not have decision before Town Meeting. ZBA decision would likely come on April 14..

K. Brenna met with Historical Commission to discuss the 2013 study at Loker. The Loker footprint is entirely within the area that has already been studied. Access road will be pulled up and replaced. Existing pathway crosses into conservation land. Pathway would be removed and

replaced onto Recreation property. Overlay of current Loker design placed onto older design with baseball diamonds. Baseball field was a much bigger project but overlay shows that the work of the current project has not increased in scope.

K. Brenna noted the need to determine the Commissioner who will be article mover at Town Meeting. Brud Wright suggests that K. Brenna assemble wording for town meeting. K. Brenna has supporting documents but commission needs to come together to discuss what the message should be. C. Fay noted that 869 (65+%) voted for this project, a significant majority, as an important point. B. Wright added that many other sites have been looked at and vetted for consideration of a turf field. David Pearlman points to the BOS support of the article insertion, and that BOS made it clear this would be the last shot to put forth this article. K. Brenna noted that Selectmen Antes had indicated at a BOS meeting there was a need to understand the Rec five-year and ten-year capital plan.

8:50 PM 5Y & 10Y CAPITAL PLAN FOR RECREATION PROJECTS

K. Brenna explains the capital showing capital projects planned for the next five years and why it appeared that Loker was bumped to FY22. Phase 3 of WHS project and Loker were proposed as interchangeable debt-excluded projects in terms of capital planning. Loker could be FY21 and WHS phase 3 could be moved to FY22. There would be no big projects in the out years beyond FY21. Recreation would then focus on rehab of baseball fields and possibly some work to be done at Alpine. Suggest commission revisit plan and look at timeline and reorganize projects through FY22 – FY26. If Loker passes, Rec would not seek new field construction but would focus on rehabbing existing fields. If Loker does not pass, Rec priority would shift to a new location for a turf field. Asa Foster noted a need to create two different five-year plans for either scenario. Recreation agreed they should this in place prior to Town Meeting and become part of the presentation of the article. Chris Fay indicates Little League organizations are moving toward 50/70 field for ages 12 - 13. Need to convert 60/90 fields to 50/70. Claypit could move to 50/70 and Middle School would be modified to accommodate these changing needs. Dual mounds. Does not include irrigation at Claypit, and would need to increase capital plan.

9:09 PM VOTE TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS (FEBRUARY 3, FEBRUARY 10)

K. Brenna will confirm conversation had on allowable surfaces on playgrounds. Include standards and surface. Also, how much of the playground is covered by the proposed surface. K. Brenna will amend minutes to reflect these additional comments.

David Pearlman makes a motion to approve minutes from February 3, 2020 and February 10, 2020 as amended. Kelly Pierce seconds: VOTE 5-0-0

9:16 PM TOPICS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING, IF ANY There were none.

9:16 PM CALENDAR – SCHEDULE NEXT RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Discussion of items to complete prior to town meeting:

Commission to give a list of bulleted items regarding Loker to K. Brenna in preparation for Town Meeting. Playground surface should be specified so as not to have a debate on Town Meeting floor.

Brud Wright opined that a cork surface that has not been installed anywhere in the US should not warrant much consideration at this point, and expressed his reservations on being first in country to install the cork surface. David Pearlman suggests European standards may be adequate and/or better than US standards and cork should be considered if a viable product. Next Rec. Commission meeting scheduled for Monday, March 9, 2020 @ 7:00 pm.

9:17 PM ADJOURN

Brud Wright moves to adjourn the meeting, Chris Fay seconds. VOTE 5-0-0

DOCUMENT LIST:

- 2/3/20 Minutes
- 2/10/20 Minutes