

August 4, 2016 – Recreation Commission – Regular Meeting - Minutes

In attendance: Baecher-DiSalvo (Chair), Calamari, Dailey, Downs, Reeve, Garrison (Superintendent)

I. Call to Order.

II. Public Comment

No public comment.

III. Old Business

No old business reviewed.

IV. New Business

2017 Capital Project Options (summary and illustration presented by D. Downs – handout attached)

(see Handout picturing 4 possible options that make use of the 1.825 acre land grant from 9A / The Lofts project plus anticipated funding of \$478K – comprised of \$420k Rec Fee from The Lofts + \$50k Village + \$8K prior fee). In summary:

- 1- Ginsburg Proposal – neighborhood park on 9A parcel w/ 2 tennis courts, playground, grass lawn. (Est. cost \$420k). REJECTED
- 2- Tennis @ Hillside – Resurface 4 courts @ Hillside (est. \$225k), move playground & outfield fence @ Uniontown, and expand Uniontown parking (est. 250k) and postpone any action on 9A parcel (est. \$0)
- 3- Tennis at 9A – construct 4 new courts @ 9A (est. \$275k), Uniontown move playground, outfield fence, and expand parking (est. \$250k), turn Hillside courts into pool parking (est. \$25k).
- 4- Sports Field at 9A – resurface 4 courts @ Hillside (est. \$225), Uniontown reduce playground, move outfield fence, expand parking (est. \$175k), Install new 50x75yd sod field, fencing, irrigation on 9A parcel (est. \$100k)

Attendees questioned pedestrian safety to access 9A parcel by foot. Trustee Sturgis suggested to bring to the Safety Committee's attention.

HILLSIDE TENNIS COURTS

Noted the advantage of having the Hillside Tennis Courts remain at current location:

- accessible by foot, especially to after school programming for elementary aged children,
- naturally wooded / private setting
- ease of access
- compliment to the current amenities (pool, nature trails, pond)

Noted the challenges of leaving the Hillside Courts at current location:

- Ground water has been a concern for years, and any renovations to this location must address the underground stream
- Adds to the need for parking at this location

Noted on the parking at Chemka Pool, this summer's Family Day festivities hosting 500+ families resulted in no major issues for parking, as signage directed patrons to Hillside School and neighboring side streets.

9A RECREATION FEE DISCUSSION

Questioned whether Ginsburg's Proposal to build 2 tennis courts, fenced children's play area, and large lawn and using the \$420K recreation fee to accomplish that truly served the larger Hastings' recreation/parks needs or rather served to provide amenities to those who will reside at The Lofts.

Parking at the 9A parcel will be an issue.

Pedestrian safety to access 9A parcel is a concern.

Having access to the Trailway from Ravensdale Road would be beneficial and give access to 9A parcel.

Suggested that the September Recreation Commission Meeting include public input as to what residents envision for the 9A parcel.

Noted that there is a "dog park constituency" to consider, although location of such a park is undecided. Trustee Sturgis offered to be involved in discussions relating to the idea of a dog park and the Commission suggested that the Rec Dept can supply him with a list of some contacts who have approached the Dept and the Commission over the past few years to voice input pertaining to a dog park.

"Tennis Player" constituency should be invited to participate in the discussions. It was suggested that perhaps a survey of tennis permit buyers for the past 5 years might yield a meaningful base of opinion.

NEXT STEP pertaining to 2017 Capital Project Options:

After discussing the various 2017 Capital Project Options as presented this evening, the Recreation Commissions supports the idea to propose a comprehensive package (a revised version of the "Sports Field at 9A Parcel" as listed above), to include :

- Hillside Tennis Courts – resurface at current location after addressing drainage
- Uniontown – move playground, expand parking, extend outfield fence to meet LL regulation size
- 9A – install 50x75 yd sod field, fencing, irrigation, parking

D. Downs & G. Calamari will work together to prepare a presentation of this proposal for the Sept meeting to allow for public review/input.

LITTLE LEAGUE REQUEST FOR STORAGE UNIT AT UNIONTOWN PARK

Some attendees on the HLL Board opposed the idea of forming a "sub-committee" to address the proposed upgrades to Uniontown Park.

Commission approved the request to install a storage unit at Uniontown Park.

V.Meeting Adjourned

Next regular Recreation Commission Meeting – September 7, 2016 (8:00pm) @ JHCC

Minutes submitted by A. Reeve, reviewed and adopted: Sep 7, 2016