

**RECREATION MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 7:00 AM**

*Pursuant to Gov. Baker's Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 modifying the requirements of the Open Meeting Law, the Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee, to ensure the safety of all participants, held its meeting remotely via Zoom. A link was provided for participation by members of the public in real time.*

**Members present:** Melissa Crocker, Kelly Larocque, Trevor MacDonald, Alex Cobb, Shirley Small-Rougeau, Kate Carlson, Mark Ferris, Mike McGrath, Pete Foley, Ben Polimer, Christopher Fitzgerald.

**Absent:** Charlie Hipwood, Attia Linnard.

**Guest:** Patrick McGuire (Activitas), Stephen Cissafulli (Activitas), Sharon Locke (Weston Recreation Department).

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 AM.

**Resident Comments:** None.

**Previous meeting minutes:** The minutes from the January 21, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Pickleball Feasibility.**

Mr. McGuire and Mr. Cissafulli led a discussion on the Pickleball feasibility study process. They spoke in more detail than previously about the pros and cons of building courts at the five locations in town under consideration, and wanted a sense from RMPSC about where to focus. Previously not discussed was courts at Brook school apartment.

More targeted discussion focused on Melone Field, an area northwest of Memorial Pool pending wetlands boundary determination, and considerations at Burchard Park beyond what was depicted in the presentation. Mr. McGuire and Mr. Cissafulli will do more targeted analysis, discuss with selected committee members, then target when and how to solicit public input.

**2021 Annual Report.**

The 2021 Annual Report was reviewed and approved with grammatical edits.

**Indoor Facility Discussion**

Ms. Locke reported on the coordination of pool use between Weston High School and Weston Red Waves. Largest challenge is the scheduling of practice times considering the late release time of schools and coordinating diving practices with other practices.

Ms. Carlson noted that gymnasium scheduling challenges for Youth Basketball were more related to COVID than general scheduling; Mr. MacDonald stated that in normal years gyms are scheduled out and it's hard to find extra time.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that typical Recreation led gym activities have not been offered recently because of COVID restrictions but that a request had been received for Badminton and that Recreation will approach the school about re-offering these activities as restrictions ease.

### **Master Plan Task List and Timeline Review**

Mr. Cobb asked to review the timeline and tasks to ensure we are staying on schedule. The CPA funding request for pickleball design was pulled because feasibility is not vetted enough for a strong sense of cost. Mr. Cobb suggested we consider submitting a warrant article that doesn't ask for CPC given that the timing would better coincide with the conclusion of feasibility work and would keep us on our projected timeline. After further discussion, other voting members agreed and put it to a vote.

**VOTE: Motion - To submit a warrant article for pickleball courts design fees request, requested amount to be determined upon completion of the feasibility study.**

*Moved: Mr. Cobb. Second: Mr. Ferris. Roll call vote: Mr. Cobb – yes, Mr. Ferris – yes, Ms. Small-Rougeau – yes, Ms. Carlson – yes, Mr. MacDonald – yes, Ms. Crocker – yes.*

**Motion carries unanimously.**

### **Weston Little League.**

Mr. Fitzgerald reported on behalf of Mr. Hipwood that Weston Little League, at its own expense, wants to take on the following work at Burchard Park and Burt Field:

- Burchard Park – Replace existing batting cages and move slightly west of current location. Is working with Mr. Polimer on proper location to avoid impacting any utilities.
- Burt Field – Install a permanent pitcher's mound at the 50-70 field size location.

No concerns were raised about any of this work. This will also be communicated to Recreation Commission at their next meeting.

### **Field Rotation**

Mr. Polimer announced he would like to take Alphabet Field 2 offline this spring season as part of his field rotation program. Will work with Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. MacDonald to determine how remaining fields should be lined.

### **Project updates – Memorial Pool**

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that a public meeting was held this past Wednesday on the Memorial Pool project, would like to bring more detailed information to either the March or April RMPSC meeting.

**Future meetings:** Next meeting scheduled for Friday, March 18, 7 AM via Zoom.

*The meeting adjourned at 8:40 AM.*

