

**RECREATION MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2020, 7:00 AM
WESTON COMMUNITY CENTER
20 ALPHABET LN., WESTON, MA 02493**

Members present: Alex Cobb, Trevor MacDonald, Michelle Callanan, Kristin Barbieri, Melissa Crocker, Charlie Hipwood, Ben Polimer, Pete Foley, Christopher Fitzgerald.

Members absent: Mark Ferris, John Powers, Mike McGrath

The meeting started at 7:03 AM.

Resident Comments: None

Minutes: The minutes from the January 24 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Land Sake Land information: Mr. Cobb pointed out that there is about 10-acres of municipal land that was carved out of the most recent lease signed with Land Sake that we may want to keep in mind as we consider feasibility for some of the new facilities that the Master Plan has proposed. The availability of these ten acres was inserted into the lease because the town does not have many remaining parcels that can be built on, either because of septic restrictions, conservation restrictions, or other reasons. There are other Town entities listing potential facilities on their long-term planning documents, including the COA, this committee should stay updated with the progress of these groups as there could be an opportunity to partner and develop combined spaces.

Recreation Master Plan: An initial draft timeline was proposed from Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Polimer that outlined the capital maintenance and new projects identified in the Master Plan (attachment 1). After some discussion, it was proposed to move the pickleball court initiative much earlier because of identified demand in town. More work needs to be done to continue developing this.

Mr. Cobb mentioned that the School Committee is considering a warrant article to look at feasibility for many capital projects that the school has identified, including indoor field house and swimming pool renovation / replacement identified in the Recreation Master Plan. They will put a placeholder in today and discuss at their next meeting.

The Committee asked Mr. Fitzgerald to look into taking out a Warrant Article placeholder for Town Meeting (Deadline is the same day as this meeting) to conduct feasibility on pickleball court location.

The Committee also asked Mr. Fitzgerald to request to meet with the Select Board when they deem it appropriate to officially present the Master Plan document to them.

Field Rotation: Mr. Polimer discussed his intent to take HS/MS Field 7 offline for the spring for maintenance and recovery. This had been discussed with soccer and they agreed to use Brook School

Field for the games that would normally be scheduled at Field 7. Mr. Polimer then discussed a schedule of rotating fields each season to better maintain the quality of field turf.

Field and Grounds update: Attached.

Future Meetings: The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 7 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 AM.

Attachment 2: Field and Grounds update.

Fields and Grounds Coordinator Update- February 28th, 2020

- Weather has been mostly clear of snow and ice the last month. It has given us opportunities to do some more tree pruning, leaf cleanup, fence work.
- Non frozen ground has not allowed us to do any tree removals on sports fields.
- A small dead tree was removed at the entrance road to the Memorial Pool.
- School grounds has removed small trees and brush from under the power line along Alphabet Road towards the WS.
- Coordinating with DPW on fixing some plow tripping locations at the schools.
- Winter equipment maintenance continues. School grounds maintains over 40 pieces of equipment. This includes all mowing/trimming equipment, vehicles, trailers, snow blowers, etc. Waste oil from equipment is recycled and used to heat the DPW mechanics garage.
- Spring 2020 turfgrass maintenance bids have been sent out to perspective vendors. Treatments, core aeration, and FS work have all been received back and are in process.
- Coordinated partial street sweeping at Case Campus February Vacation week.
- School grounds helped Recreation with cleanout of storage area.
- Head Groundskeeper for School Grounds attended a day long training in CT on electrical troubleshooting for equipment on February 4th.
- Head Groundskeeper for School Grounds took MA pesticide exam on February 14th, passed.
- Partook in a webinar on Seasonal Variation in Activity and Abundance of Human biting Ticks Webinar on February 12th.
- Participated in the Water Conservation Policy Group on February 10th.
- School grounds small landscape trailer was rehabbed. Trailer was scrapped, repainted, fixed jack, secured license plate, rewelded gate, and extended the safety chains.
- Coordinated tight tank pumping at the HS on February 6-7.
- Had first of four classes on February 19th to receive an Invasive Plant Certification from UMASS extension.
- Coordinated school grounds vehicles (6) for biannual oil changes and service from DPW mechanics.
- Met with HS science teacher to discuss possible location for pollinator garden for June Academy.
- Working with Recreation Director and Animal Control Officer on possible language change to dog by laws pertaining to dogs on school and recreational fields.
- Participated in a webinar on "overcoming triclopyr confusion: safety, efficacy, and selectivity issues for applicators" on February 26th.
- Continuing working new Case Campus buildings and wayfinding signs. Installation is 75% complete.
- Proctor Field, Pastor Park, Field #6 Irrigation construction started June 7th, 2019. Project is 95% complete. Broken light pole will be replaced in early spring.
- Working on department 20-year tree and site evaluations for all outdoor town facilities. This includes drainage, pavement, tree pruning/removals, stone walls, etc.
- School grounds continue to move equipment/setups for custodial staff, IT Department, Music Department, Food Service Department, Physical Education Department, waste water treatment plant deliveries, CH construction, school in- service workshops. Will continue regular moves for the district.