

**RECREATION MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 17, 2019, 7:00 AM
WESTON COMMUNITY CENTER
20 ALPHABET LN., WESTON, MA 02493**

Members Present: Alex Cobb, Melissa Crocker, Kristin Barbieri, Michael McGrath, Ben Polimer, Christopher Fitzgerald Peter Foley, Trevor MacDonald

Remote Participants: Charlie Hipwood, Mark Ferris

Members absent: Michelle Callanan, John Power

Guests: Jerry McCarty, Alan Orth

The meeting commenced at 7:05 AM

Public Comments – Mr. Orth stated that he attended the meeting to learn a little more about the Master Plan, and that he is part of the new Sustainable Weston Action Group (SWAG). He hoped that the new Master Plan would include addressing maintenance on town fields, which is an important part of sustainability.

Minutes

The minutes from the April 26, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Recreation Master Plan Update

The Committee discussed draft concepts shared electronically from Weston & Sampson. The spaces included:

- High School Baseball field 2 – better seating, new dugouts, accessible pathways around field 1, the backstop and connecting to the sidewalk on Wellesley street.
- Middle School, near fields 9 and 10 – a driveway extension leading to a drop-off and turnaround, accessible paths to the fields and tennis courts.
- Ferrelli Field – improved parking and accessible walkways; alternative concept including pickleball courts and a rectangular field.
- Burt field – improvements to parking, rehab the batting cage, add pickleball.
- Woodland playground – improvements to the play area.

The concepts presented were initial drafts, the committee discussed pros, cons, and feasibility of all concepts. The Committee felt that the analysis of data needs to be more detailed and asked Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Polimer to ask Weston & Sampson to provide more narrative. Potential dates for the final public meeting were also discussed.

There is also an interest in hearing concepts for Malone Field, which is not currently used for organized activity.

Data was not yet available on the supplemental survey.

Updates

- Town Green Turf damage – there was turf damage to the Town Green where vehicles were stuck in the mud during a community event. Discussion centered around how appropriate use would be communicated and how Town Green would be fixed in the future should something like that happen.
- Field Scheduling – there were recent conflicts between track meets and youth lacrosse practices. Mr. Cobb would like the Master Plan to state something with regards to better scheduling communications.
- Baseball field lighting – the schools and facilities department are looking into demand charges for light use and policies, charges for users when appropriate.
- Proctor Field – Some progress has been made on providing card access for the doors on the snack building and bathrooms; there are some logistical issues that still need to be worked out.
- Tick Control – A resident expressed via email to a principal concern about ticks on school properties. She requested that the Town take measures to reduce tick population. Mr. Polimer discussed the various ways ticks can be managed; many practices will reduce for short periods but there is no guaranteed way. Proven chemical treatments can be dangerous to other bugs and wildlife in the area as well, so it's not recommended from an environmental perspective. This issue will still need further analysis.

Attachment 1: Field and Grounds Report.

Fields and Grounds Coordinator Update- May 27th, 2019

- Fields are lined weekly, regular grooming of infields. Mowing weekly.
- Continuing overseeding program to all wear areas on high use fields. 2-4 bags of seed per week is used.
- School grounds continue to move equipment/ setups for custodial staff, IT Department, Music Department, Food Service Department, waste water treatment plant, WAIC construction, CH construction. Will continue regular moves for the district.
- Irrigation has not been used so far due to the wet spring.
- Coordinated with Weston LL on scheduling deep tine aeration the first week in June at Burchard Park.
- Working with Weston LL on mitigating severe drainage issues at Burchard Park. Mainly due to differed maintenance.
- Continuing working new Case Campus buildings and wayfinding signs. Signs have been delivered. Install date of May 18th and 19th.
- Resurfacing HS Tennis courts bid was sent out, work will be done after July 1.
- Proctor Field, Pastor Park, Field #6 Irrigation project bids back, bids were under the estimated costs. Construction should start in next 2 weeks.
- Continue planning projects, Woodland School Playground work, Country School Garden Cleanup, Middle School Lawn Repair, HS Pond Hydro Raking, Headwall repairs at the HS, Cobblestone Crosswalk repairs at Library, vacuum sweeping porous pavement parking lot at FS, sidewalk repairs at MS, HS F wing drainage, dead tree removals
- Case Campus and HS/MS Complex electric lines will be pruned this spring, via Eversource. Will work with the contractor.
- Working on department 20-year tree and site evaluations for all outdoor town facilities. This includes drainage, pavement, tree pruning/removals, stone walls, etc.
- Posted summer help ad for school grounds. Contacted Essex Aggie, and Minuteman Regional to find possible students for summer jobs.
- Coordinated electrical outage at Field #2 at HS with Eversource and Weston LL and their electrician.
- Repaired tire damage at Town Green after Spring Fling event.
- Applied limestone to all sportsfields by outside contractor. This promotes better soil health, and nutrient uptake.
- Continuing clearing out drains, catch basin, and culverts due rainy spring.
- Monitor and treat poison ivy at Lamson Park as needed.
- Performed playground inspections on all school playgrounds. Ordering repair parts.
- Added 4 yards of playground mulch to Country School playground. Power raked mulch to increase cushioning.
- Large area mower is out for service again. Continued problems with this mower. Toro cooperate is now involved. We received a demo mower so we can continue to mow fields.
- Irrigation pump has been reinstalled at Field School. System is charged and ready to work when needed.
- Fields had 5-2-20 fertilizer applied by outside contractor. This is in response to low Phosphorous in soil tests in the fall.
- Continuing to work with Recreation, Schools, and Youth Sports on scheduling of fields, lighting, Proctor Building usage.
- Field 1 had more depressions from water movement, were repaired by RAD Sports.
- Proctor Field had 2 seems that failed. They were repaired.