



Medway Town Hall
155 Village Street
Medway, MA 02053
Telephone (508) 533-3275

TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

PARKS COMMISSION

APPROVED 5/3/2023

Town of Medway
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting
March 22, 2023 – 6:30 PM
Sanford Hall – Medway Town Hall

Park Commissioners: Debi Rossi, Lyle Core, Sean Murphy, Rick D’Innocenzo, John Farrell

Absent: None

Others: Julie Harrington Director of Parks & Recreation,
Glenn Trindade – Selectboard member
Jay Duguay – Medway Youth Baseball

Call to Order: At 6:33PM, Ms. Rossi called the meeting to order.

Public Comments: There were none at this time.

1. Approval of Minutes: February 22, 2023 – Ms. Rossi made motion to approve minutes with edits. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Approved unanimously, Vote 5-0

2. Medway Youth Baseball – Jason Duguay – Podzka infield – Discussion/Vote

Ms. Rossi explained to Mr. Duguay about the misunderstanding from the last meeting and that the Parks & Recreation Committee had told a previous board member that they could potentially fund half of the expense for Podzka so were not expecting to be asked to pay for other fields as well. Mr. Duguay agreed. Medway Youth Baseball went to the company they’ve used before, Diamond and got quotes for all fields. If they don’t address Podzka, it will end up being a tear down. The work on the other fields is maintenance, i.e. correcting run-off. Podzka repairs are about \$20k and other fields is about \$10k. MYB treasurer is in FL, but provided rough financials, last year was a loss, but they have some reserves. The ask is for half of the total, about \$15K. Ms. Rossi feels that Field 4 should be a priority because there are lots of lips and bumps, especially due to it being used for parking. Many events will put up snow fences to keep them off the infield, must make this a policy for anyone having an event (will talk to DPW). and have the town take care of financing that because the town events used the fields for parking. Dr. Duguay will talk to DPW about whether it’s more cost effective to have someone else do the work. Ms. Rossi stated that they would still be willing to pay half of what the repairs to Podzka would be, about \$10k. Mr. Murphy asked MYB to provide financials and reiterated that they had

asked twice previously. Ms. Harrington mentioned that there could be some additional revenue for RBI running a camp during the day. Mr. Duguay mentioned that the size of the fields Medway Youth Baseball uses are different, so it's difficult to re-purpose the field for other baseball groups. Mr. Duguay estimated that there are 300 players in the program for spring and summer seasons.

Vote: Mr. Farrell made a motion to fund half of repairs to Podzka, \$10,000 to come from revolving fund. Mr. D'Innocenzo seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, approved unanimously.

3. HS Baseball Field – discussion

Mr. Farrell said that the field is all set up and ready for the season. He is looking to add a fence on the right side of home dugout. Mr. Pelletier from DPW estimated that the cost would be less than \$1,000 for an 8ft fence. The fence is for safety reasons because coaches and players are often outside the dugout, so it's to protect from foul balls. The work would be done by the town. There are some other repairs needed, and eventually the field will need to be redone. There was a discussion about moving the field, but it's likely too expensive to move the fields because of all of the ledge that might need to be blasted to level. Mr. Farrell mentioned that they could move the back stop forward and put in bleachers behind and fence down the line and cut some platforms into the hillside for fans to have stands and re-do the infield in the future.

Vote - Mr. Farrell made a motion to add a fence at the HS baseball field for up to \$1,000 , Mr. D'Innocenzo seconded the motion. Vote 5-0, approved unanimously.

4. Preparation for Finance Committee Meeting

Ms. Rossi prepared graphs with revenue, expenses, and net income by facility. She will also provide fiscal year-to-date financials. She asked for clarification of Contract Services vs. expenses. Ms. Harrington responded that Contract Services are anything contracted out Vendors for programs. Ms. Rossi noted that the reason for the 2018 bump in income was from collection from outstanding receivables from prior year. In the fall of 2019, Triple E impacted programs and fields and 2020-2021 was impacted by Covid, no tournaments, limited field use. Many programs offered through Parks & Recreation are free to all community members but the costs come out of Parks & Recreation budgets. Many of the programs offered are the major sources of income. Ms. Rossi will indicate to the Finance Committee that their plan is to start putting funds aside. One challenge is that the fields used to be rented out more to other towns and organizations and now they are used mostly by Medway town organizations that are charged minimal fees. Mr. Murphy feels that the question for Finance Committee is whether Parks & Recreation will be expected to pay for maintenance and/or new turf fields, if so, there is a possibility that some town organizations will need to be told they can't use the fields as much in order to be able to rent more and generate more income. Mr. D'Innocenzo said that it would be difficult for Parks & Recreation to pay for all turf fields if they are subsidizing other field expenses as well. The Finance Committee meeting is Wednesday, 3/29 at Town Hall.

5. Trash at Choate - discussion

No update

6. Spring Fields: Update

Status of Lamson score board – Ms. Harrington reported that the footings are going in April 21, and it shouldn't be too much longer before the project is completed.

Mr. Farrell & Mr. Murphy had both driven by to look at fields when tournaments were going on and both noted that people were parked in the grass on North Field. Discussed solutions for stopping this through signage or closing the road and moving the entrance.

7. Field Fees: Woodside Montessori – Upper Memorial; Eastern MA Women’s soccer league – HS Grass

These groups looking for a discount for to use the fields. Montessori has flag football, looking for 90 minutes, once per week. **Mr. D’Innocenzo made a motion to approve \$75 per night, for approximately 8 weeks, Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. Vote 5-0 approved unanimously.**

Eastern MA Women’s soccer - looking to use the back HS grass field on Sunday mornings 8:00-10:00 for 3-4 dates for games. They are looking to pay \$100 per game which would be about 2 hours – **Mr. D’Innocenzo made a motion to approve, and Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. Vote 5-0 approved unanimously.**

8. Cricket Update: season field rental fee and additional dates – discussion/vote

Ms. Harrington noted The Cricket league was told that they could use fields after soccer was over and now are still asking to use in May and June. Ms. Rossi said that they were told they would be charged a fixed fee is \$1,500 for the season for year 2, didn’t charge for year 1 but only for approved the time frame: June 23 is first week they can use it, ends Labor Day. The committee agreed that there is no change to this offer.

9. Facility events: Alumni Association – Pickleball Courts – 5/20

Medway HS Alumni Association is asking to use 2 courts on May 20, same as last year. No fee.

Ms. Rossi made motion to let them use courts 5/20 from 9-11, 2 courts will be blocked off, Mr. D’Innocenzo seconded the motion. Vote – 5-0, approved unanimously.

10. Chair update – Ms. Rossi announced that Ms. Harrington was named 2023 winner of Massachusetts Recreation & Park Associations Community Professional of the Year award. Dinner next Tuesday at Four Points in Norwood.

11. Director’s update – Ms. Harrington said that the Egg Hunt coming up on 4/8 and asked for volunteers 8:00 am at Oakland. There is also the Flash Light egg hunt 4/7 at Choate. Starbucks is bringing free hot cocoa and coffee.

Summer registration is going well. All concerts booked and she’s in the process of getting sponsors.

Motion to Adjourn: At 8:28 PM, Mr. D’Innocenzo offered a motion to adjourn. Mr. Murphy seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 5-0.

Next Meeting: May 3, 2023.

Respectfully submitted by,
Marianne Boynton, Recording Secretary
Commonwealth of Massachusetts