



Parks and Recreation Board Meeting

Date of Meeting: Tuesday July 3, 2019

Location: Nicholas Ward Meeting Room, 221 Main Street, Boylston MA)

Time: 6:30pm – 7:35

Members Present: Eric Hoffses, Drew LeBlanc, Claudine Underwood, Ali LeBlanc-Board Members

The meeting commenced at 6:30pm

Review and vote to approve minutes from meetings held on 4th June 2019

A motion was made by Claudine to approve the June 4th minutes as is, seconded by Eric,

Yes – Ali, Claudine, Drew. Abstain – None, No – None

Letter requesting resignation

No updates to report per Drew. The letter was sent last week and was not delivered to hand. It is held at the post office. Claudine notes that it's a shame as Ms. Johnson's continued absence and lack of participation hurts the board and those they serve.

Coordinator position

Drew states that interviews have been conducted and the top two qualified candidates have been selected and ranked. The hiring committee plans to move forward with the process including offer of position, candidate screening. Ali motions for the hiring committee to move forward with the process of hiring their top candidate with the assistance of the town administrator. Eric seconds. All in favor, no abstain, no nay.

Center Courts

Eric details his research into removal of asphalt and fencing around the tennis court. He sought several quotes from local companies and Bradshaw's Trucking came in as the best rate for services required. Much of the expense is the cost of recycling the materials. The board is in agreement that Bradshaw's Trucking has an excellent reputation for quality and price. Ali motions to authorize the chair, Drew LeBlanc, to contract with Bradshaw's Trucking for removal

and disposal of the old tennis court and tennis court fencing at Center Court for a cost not to exceed \$8000. Seconded by Eric, all in favor, no abstain, no nay.

Ali details her research into loam and wood chip delivery. The board agrees that the left-hand ½ the former tennis area should be grassy lawn and the right-hand ½ of the area should be the site of the new playground. Ali has received quotes from several local companies. The site requires 3-4 inches depth of loam and 12 inches depth of certified fall-zone approved wood chip. Ali motions to authorize the chair, Drew LeBlanc, to contract with the company presenting the lowest quote for 120 cubic yards of certified playground woodchip, and 30 cubic yards of screened loam in an amount not to exceed \$5000 for both. Seconded by Claudine, All in favor, no nay, no abstain.

Ali describes the preferred landscape timbers to define the border between woodchip and lawn should be composite or plastic for durability and safety and to keep the new playground up to code. The board is in agreement. The quotes have been sought and the expected cost should be less than \$3000 for the appropriate materials, installed in an area measuring 60 feet by 54 feet. Ali motions to authorize the chair, Drew LeBlanc, to contract for installation of playground landscape timbers in an amount not to exceed \$3000. Seconded by Claudine, all in favor, no abstain, no nay.

Ali details the selection of playground equipment, as discussed with representatives from the historical commission in 2018. The equipment should be neutral in color (tan, green, galvanized) and not contain a structure with a roof. Separate pieces were chosen, rather than one large structure, to honor the historic look of the district wherein the park lies. Claudine notes that all the options for slides have a small roof. Ali explains that the current safety code requires that roof. Money towards a sandbox has been donated by the Clinton Savings Bank. Three quotes were received for comparable pieces and Miracle Playground came in at the best value and also offered reduced installation fees and a “community build”. Drew is familiar with the brand and notes that it has been safe and durable and enjoyed by the active students at his school, in his experience. Claudine motions to authorize Ali LeBlanc to purchase playground equipment, including the required materials, in a cost not to exceed \$15, 000. Eric seconds, all in favor, no abstain, no nay.

Ali describes miscellaneous equipment such as fencing, benches, picnic table for wheelchair accessibility (for which we have received donation money from Clinton Savings Bank), bike

rack, trash can. Drew discusses the importance of addressing lighting concerns and an ADA approved walkway before purchasing these items. Eric asks about remaining funding to expense the park improvements. Drew explains that there is 35K still left from the warrant money and 24K in the revolving budget. The revolving budget should be spent down to 10K as per the town accountant, so the demolition money will be paid from that account and the purchasing costs paid from the warrant budget.

PickleBall

The PickleBall group of volunteers have been working to keep PickleBall going for our committee without the assistance of a coordinator (collecting waivers and fees, communicating with the community, setting up and breaking down the equipment). They request to reserve Hillside gym for 4 hours a week from July 1-August 30, 2019 for a waived fee. These times will be for experienced players and by invitation, not the open drop in for the community that is offered on Wednesdays. Claudine asks if the same might apply to other groups who volunteer their time for a sport. Eric expresses the same concern and urges the committee to consider the implications for basketball, etc. Ali states that the PickleBall pays a drop in rate, is sponsored by Parks and Recreation, and does not collect money for itself. The board agrees to waive the hourly fee for the volunteers so long as they continue to collect the \$3 drop-in fee from all players who join Monday and Friday morning.

Misc.

Eric asks for an update of the soccer field irrigation. Ali says the water is now turned on, the irrigation company believes there is no leak, that monitoring manual water use will lower the usage. Drew asks if there is a sensor. Ali says yes. Soccer president, Joel, will be in touch if water use is still unexpectedly high.

Drew mentions that one of our proposed dates for meeting is Election Day 2019. The board is comfortable meeting on that day.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:35

Respectfully submitted,
Alison LeBlanc