

Recreation Board Meeting

February 8, 2016

Newton School Library

Attendees: Hilary Linchan, Ellen Bagnato, Dave Taplin, John Freitag,

1. Soccer camp:

The board decided to work with Challenger Soccer Camp in 2016. Their new Tetra Brazil soccer program should be a good match for Strafford kids. Dates were tentatively set for the week before school begins. Different soccer camp options will be available for 3- 12 year olds. With a tentative schedule of:

8:15 – 9:00 for Little Kicks (3-4 year old)

9:00- 12:00 is \$125 (5- 9 year old)

1:30- 4:30 is \$135 (9 – 12 year old)

2. Tennis court renovations and options were discussed.

The board received a Building Communities Grants award in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the State of Vermont. We are still in need of \$15,000.00 - \$30,000.00 in order to fund the tennis court renovations. Other funding sources were discussed as well as the option for community members to donate their professional expertise to prepare the site.

Previous cost estimates were from 2012 so the board is requesting proposals.

3. According to the Town of Strafford website, the mission of the recreation board is as follows "The Board oversees three areas owned by the Town. These are the Old City Falls Nature Preserve (Acquired by the Town of Strafford September 11, 1977), The South Strafford Recreation Area which includes the Murray Field, Red Barn, and Tennis Court, and the Varney Ball Field." Recreation board members discussed the need to update this mission. A need to communicate with the Strafford Athletic Association in order to differentiate our two organizations was also discussed. Hilary agreed to get feedback on the current mission of the SAA by calling an SAA meeting. Ellen will draft a mission for the Recreation Board to be shared and discussed at our next meeting.

5. Preparation for spring and summer:

The Select Board is pursuing bids for mowing as well as spring and fall clean up. Varney field baseball infield needs work. Dave will talk to Scott and Kenney Smith. Bleachers need to be moved over from soccer fields.

At Murray field, one side of the red barn needs to be painted. Scott will contact some painters and encourage them to bid. Summer work will also need to include a repair of the rock wall on side of red barn. The water fountain outside by pre-school playground still needs to be fixed. John will talk with the Town of Strafford about using equipment. Hilary and John will coordinate.

A spring workday will be announced via the listserv.

6. Next meeting to be held on Monday in May 2 at 6:00 pm at the Newton Library.