

## Minutes

### Deerfield School Field Redevelopment Subcommittee Meeting 10/22/2014

Meeting convened in the Champagne Meeting Room at 50 Carby Street at 5:00 pm.

Recreation Commission: Joyce Cannon and Dave Reilly

Recreation Dept: Nicole Banks, Mike Griffin and Jan Parr

School Dept: Ken Aries

DPW: Todd Korchin and Brendan Ryan

Minutes: Review and approval of the Minutes of Oct 1 meeting.

**Design Plans:** The Town has engaged the landscape architecture and engineering firm BETA Group Inc for some site analysis and preliminary design lay-outs at Deerfield. These conceptual lay-outs were presented by Randy Collins of BETA. Current configuration at Deerfield has 2 softball fields, and a third unused/defunct softball field, as well as multiple mini-fields for youth soccer's youngest players. The Subcommittee is waiting for input from youth softball regarding their need for 2 softball fields. Depending upon the needs expressed by user groups, and space constraints, one design option would allow for 2 softball fields and an 11v11 soccer field. Another design considered would maximize space with 2 softball fields, an 11v11 soccer field and an 8v8 soccer field, but require some expansion into the tree line at both the north and west edges of the property. Buffer zone of abutting wetland area on the western edge of the property may impact location. The Subcommittee is waiting for input from youth softball regarding their need for 2 softball fields.

The Subcommittee's goal is to maximize the field space at Deerfield to accommodate the current users and potentially add some new user groups, youth lacrosse being one possible addition. The fields are mainly used for practice not competition currently and it is likely that that would be the continued use.

**Review of Westwood Fields:** Mike Griffin and Matt Gillis are responsible for the field scheduling and HS and MS athletic teams and clubs have priority. In addition to the school users, the fields at the HS, MS and elementary schools, together with Morrison Park and the School Street fields, serve more than 16 different sports leagues and groups. Deerfield is currently used in the Fall by youth soccer and in the Spring by both youth soccer and youth softball. Field permits currently allow use weekdays 3:45 pm-dusk and weekends 8:30 am – dusk.

**User Group Input Meeting:** The Subcommittee will meet with representatives of Westwood sports leagues on Oct 29 to solicit input on the current field use at Deerfield and ideas about best uses going forward. This is an information-gathering session only. Suggestion made to include Recreation Commission members in this meeting as well.

Other potential stakeholders to consider are the Library, Planning Board, American Legion, St. John's Church and Gay St, High St and Deerfield Ave abutters and neighbors.

Adjourned: Meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM. Next meeting scheduled for Oct. 29.

Respectfully submitted, Jan Parr