

Board of Aldermen Recreation Committee Minutes
Meeting held Monday Sept 8, 2014 convened 5:30 PM, adjourned 6:30 PM

Committee members present; Gary Donahue, Chris Siliski, Matt Bloomer, Chaired by Melinda Humphrey

Others present; President David Allaire, Abby Brodowski, Ed Larson and Cindi Wight, Bob Peterson from the Rec Department.

The recreation committee convened for a general project update from the Recreation Department Superintendent.

Major Park Updates

Giorgetti

Upcoming scoping recommendations are anticipated to include major structural enhancements as Superintendent Wight reminded us that the original design of the building was a pavilion. Meetings for public input will be held as the decision making process gets underway.

Whites's

Pool assessment complete, report expected in a couple of weeks and public meetings will be held, likely in conjunction with Giorgetti meetings for public input on next steps.

As an aside, President Allaire inquired about Wallingford resident Bethany Bosch's crossing of the channel to support a future aquatic center. Superintendent Wight said that there was no formal relationship between sponsor Intrepid Athletics and Rutland Recreation at this time.

Alderman Siliski inquired about work being done on contaminated soil at site of removed oil tank and shed. Work is done, monitoring is underway and next step is to follow up with state on monitoring.

Rotary

Bids are due for field work and building demo by September 10, contractor to be chosen on 22nd for work this year. Bob Peterson indicated soil at Giorgetti collected after Irene will be used to offset costs.

Finished 2014 Park Enhancements

Justin Thomas Park got rehabbed this summer and is now open again, baseball fields were re-profiled, Main Street Park gazebo got cleaned up and new paint though long term fixes still needed.

Upcoming Projects

A new retaining wall will be going in at Giorgetti, complementing the existing overlooking the creek. Several new playground pieces will be installed throughout our parks. Compressor equipment from Mandigo will be assessed and/or rebuilt to be considered for Giorgetti. Anonymous \$5k donation will expedite purchase and install of new flagpole at Main Street Park this year.

Courcelle

Rec department is moved in , one room left for some updates, otherwise move is complete and administrative as well as programming areas are getting settled and organized. A 2015 yard sale is planned . Parks is enjoying new space, getting organized to determine best use of space. Roof repair in good shape, Bob Peterson mentioned a couple areas they will keep an eye on, but for repair, not replacement.

Plans to pursue CAPRA accreditation

Pursuing as a four year goal, it would be a five year accreditation. Preparing for and sustaining accreditation bolsters continuity, accountability, and succession planning. It could help gain recognition and financial support. Hartford is the only other Vermont Rec with CAPRA, they've had it since 2004. \$100 fee to file, population based fee to maintain.

Other

Siliski inquired about maintenance responsibilities at the bike path as well as the Carriage Trail. Rec is responsible for maintaining the bike path during warm seasons, the Carriage Trail is maintained by Pine Hill Partnership. Siliski also suggested narrowing Meadow Street to re-establish the green strip between the sidewalk, Superintendent Wight agreed to follow up with the DPW.

Alderman Larson asked about future work on Giofreddi Fields, no work beyond regular maintenance is planned at this time. He also asked about Godnick kitchen project. Bob Peterson updated that Rec has appliances and cabinets, the work will be done mostly by Park staff due to high bids from outside contractors, still planned for 2014.

Superintendent Wight mentioned potential for Land Water Conservation Fund match for projects this year. \$700,000 will be made available throughout the state, requires 50% match.

Gary Donahue motioned for meeting to adjourn at 6:30 PM, this report is for information only.