

Town of Groton

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Park Commissioners

Evan Boucher, Chair
Timothy Siok, Vice Chair
Kenneth Bushnell
Robert Flynn
James Gaffney

Meeting Minutes

Date: April 4, 2017
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Legion Hall, 75 Hollis St., Groton, MA
Commissioners present: Kenneth Bushnell, James Gaffney, Timothy Siok, Evan Boucher, Robert Flynn
Visitors: Ashish Dwivedi (Boston Warriors Cricket Club), Joshua Degen (Earthscape Landscaping)
Handouts: Agenda, 3 fertilization estimates

Evan Boucher called the meeting called to order at 7 pm. Pending invoices were reviewed and approved.

Cricket pitch

Commissioners discussed the type of pitch that they are willing to have installed at use group's expense at Cutler Field. Cricket use group Boston Warriors Cricket Club brought Joshua Degen (Earthscape Landscaping) who is the contractor that they have selected to do the work. After discussion about the type of pitch, Commissioners settled on removal of loam for a 90 long by 70 foot wide strip, installation of an 8 inch deep compacted clay (baseball infield mix) covered by an artificial grass, similar to AstroTurf, mat. Any impacts to irrigation will be repaired. The wicket poles will not leave holes in the ground.

Robert Flynn expressed his concerns regarding what installation of a cricket pitch will provide to the Town.

Evan Boucher moved to approve the cricket pitch installation at Cutler Field in the manner discussed with all costs to be borne by the cricket use group. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 3:1 (Robert Flynn against; James Gaffney abstained).

Robert Flynn left the meeting.

Fertilization Contract

The Park Commission received three written estimates for fertilization of the Park Commission's four ball fields:

Turf Unlimited	Total cost: \$20,000
Cow Pond \$2,875 an application (4 applications)	
Cutler Field \$625 an application (4 applications)	
Town Field \$625 an application (4 applications)	
Woitowicz \$875 an application (4 applications)	
Landworks Landscaping	Total cost: \$19,300
1 st application \$4,900	
2 nd application \$4,900	
3 rd application \$4,750	
4 th application \$4,750	
TruGreen Commercial	Total cost: \$19,264.02
1 st application \$5,706.52	
2 nd application \$5,328.98	
3 rd application \$4,114.26	
4 th application \$4,114.26	

Park Commissioners discussed the estimates. In the discussion, the commissioners observed that the past vendor Turf Unlimited has performed well with good results for the fertilization. With the lowest price estimate being less

than a thousand dollars difference from the highest quote, the group decided not to change vendors and to remain with Turf Unlimited for the year.

Evan Boucher moved to accept Turf Unlimited's quote for fertilization of its ball fields for the cost of \$5,000 per round for the four rounds as quoted on the written estimate. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Robert Flynn absent).

Baseball infield preparation

The commissioners do not have a vendor yet for prepping the baseball infields on the timeline that the Park Commission requires. James Gaffney will request an estimate from local landscapers. Evan Boucher will contact youth baseball president John Kelly to see if that use group can locate a contractor to do the work.

Field Use Permits

All approved field use permit request are conditioned on the receipt of a valid certificate of insurance that lists the Town of Groton as additional insured.

Evan Boucher moved to approve the Groton Dunstable Regional High School field use permit request for use of Town Field for freshman baseball provided that this use group coordinates its play around the previously approved uses granted at this field for Lawrence Academy and youth baseball. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Robert Flynn absent).

Fencing at Town Field

Evan Boucher reported on his meeting and site walk with the HDC regarding fencing and removal of the stone wall. The HDC members like the proposed fencing. They want the job to start at the playground fencing and work down Playground Road to the basketball court. The HDC members also like the existing stone wall and want to see the pricing for an experienced stone mason to repair it. If the costs for repair exceed the costs for the granite post and Douglas Fir rail fencing, then the HDC will agree to the removal of the stone wall.

Town Field Dugout Roofs for Large Baseball Diamond

Kenneth Bushnell collected an estimate from Jimmy Cronin to build and install both dugout roofs for the Town Field's large baseball diamond. The estimate is for \$2,200 for the labor only with materials to be paid for separately by the Park Commission.

Evan Boucher reported that the Historic Districts Commission has previously decided that the wood of the dugouts should be painted green. Also, the roofs should be divided asphalt shingles (i.e, not rolled roofing) in a black or charcoal color. Commissioners agreed that the wood should be pressure treated to avoid rot. Also, the roofing should constructed in a manner that does not have roofing nails protruding into the dugout roof as that might present a hazard for the players.

Evan Boucher moved to approve contractor Jimmy Cronin's proposal to build and install unpainted dugouts at Town Field large baseball diamond for \$2,200 provided that the construction is as specified above and materials are purchased at Moore's Lumber in Ayer where the Park Commission has an account. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0 (Robert Flynn absent).

Ice Hockey Rink

The rink will be dismantled for the year. Climate change may be impacting the rink. No use was possible this year. Commissioners discussed other ways to recognize Evan Holofcener if the rink is no longer installed each winter.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next regular meeting: Tuesday, May 2, 2017 at 7 pm.

Notes by Fran Stanley