

From: SimsburyCT Postings 2/12/09 2:56:51 PM
Subject: Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes 02/05/2009
To: SimsburyCT_ParkRecMin
Cc:

SIMSBURY CULTURE, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

ATHLETIC FIELD SUB-COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2009

MINUTES

Call to Order

A special meeting of the Culture, Parks and Recreation Athletic Field Sub-Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m.. In attendance were Commissioners David Bush, Mary Liljedahl, and Kelly Kearney; Culture, Parks and Recreation Director Gerry Toner. John Deliso and Edgar Miranda were in the audience.

Spring Field Assignments

David Bush asked Gerry to discuss the field requests for the spring and his subsequent recommendation for field assignments. Gerry indicated that the field requests of youth soccer (SSC) and lacrosse (SYL) exceeded the fields available for assignment. The request from SSC included Curtiss Park (5 fields), Iron Horse Boulevard (3 fields), Orkil Field (3 fields), Squadron Line (1 field), Meadow Pond (1 field), and Weatogue Park (2 fields). The request from SYL was for Henry James (5 fields) and Iron Horse Boulevard (3 fields). Representatives from SYL had indicated they were experiencing continued growth, primarily in girl's lacrosse and this year expected 9 girls' teams.

Given the fact that lacrosse is primarily a spring sport, Gerry felt that some preference should be given to them for their field needs. He also indicated that soccer would be looked at the same way in the fall. Gerry had also looked at the youth soccer field usage for the past three seasons.

Based on that information, he felt that SYL should be given use of the fields at Iron Horse Boulevard and that he would work with soccer to find suitable locations to replace those fields. After some discussion, the committee voted to support Gerry's recommendation and to schedule another meeting so that SSC could come in and discuss their needs. David Bush asked John Deliso to confirm that in the fall they would understand the priority in assigning fields to SSC as they saw necessary. John indicated that he understood.

Meadwood/Barndoor Hills Triangle – Discussion and recommendation for potential field development

At an earlier Commission meeting, potential sites were discussed for field expansion. The Simsbury Soccer Club (SSC) was fund raising for the construction of an additional field at Curtiss Park. They were working with town staff and a landscape architect on design drawings and hoped to proceed with the permitting process in the near future. Based on the long term field needs of youth lacrosse, the Commission had also expressed interest in field development at the tri-angle, but it was unclear as to the permitted uses of the parcel. The Commission felt that the parcel adjacent to the Sewer Treatment Plant was questionable due to permitting and construction costs.

The triangle has since included athletic field use as a permitted use. Given the information that was received on the rapid growth of girl's lacrosse, the sub-committee proposed that an area of 10 acres be requested for field development that could accommodate four multi-purpose fields. Mary Liljedahl also stated that girl's field hockey should be identified as a user for those fields. The sub-committee unanimously endorsed the proposal and asked Gerry to forward their request to be included in the February 12 meeting on potential uses of that parcel.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerard Toner, Director
Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission

