

Town of Agawam
Community Preservation Committee

Committee Minutes
February 25, 2008

Members Present: Henry Kozloski; Chair, Vi Baldwin, Ray Moreau, Tom Tierney, Richard Maggi, Corinne Wingard, Dottie Drewnowski, Louis Russo
Others Present: Jennifer Bonfiglio; CPA Secretary, Chris Sparks; Director of Park & Recreation, Paul Cavallo; City Councilor, Jill Messik; City Councilor

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Chairman Kozloski.

1. *Motion by Ray Moreau to approve November 26, 2007 and January 28, 2008 minutes. 2nd by Via Baldwin. Vote: Unanimous*

2. *Application for Funding: Elementary Granger School Baseball Backstop: \$6,000 as submitted by Chris Sparks; Director of Parks and Recreation*
 - Motion to accept application for discussion by Louis Russo, seconded by Dottie Drewnowski, vote: Unanimous
 - Chris Sparks, Park & Rec. Director advises that since 1999 Granger school field has been used for youth soccer and Lacrosse. There was also a prior baseball field, although it was lost when the new access road was put in.
 - Letter of support from School Superintendent Mary Czackowski is distributed.
 - DPW has already cut in a 60 ft. diamond to primarily be used by the new Tri-Town U-11 baseball league as well as secondarily for little league and public use.
 - Tri Town does not have funds to purchase backstop, fencing, and benches.
 - Chris is seeking \$6,000 for purchase and installation of backstop, safety fencing, and player's benches.
 - Vi Baldwin asks if a larger share of use will be local. Chris advises yes, that visitors will not use the field unless playing against an Agawam team.
 - Chris advised that the benches were put out to bid. Three vendors submitted bids. Chris enclosed the lowest bid in the application and stated that the auditor will verify lowest bidder is used.
 - CPC indicated they would like to see all three bids.
 - Corinne Wingard asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the new field at Granger. Chris advised that it is currently in the inventory/budget and Jack Stone; DPW has indicated that there will be no effect on his budget.
 - Chris also indicated he is planning a future meeting with the council and CPA to discuss maintenance.
 - Tom Tierney expressed concern that money has not been added to the budget to maintain fields properly.
 - Richard Maggi questions if the project fits into M.G.L. Ch, 44B. Henry advised he is satisfied because it is a construction of a new backstop and not a rehabilitation of a field.
 - Ray Moreau asked if there is a need for another backstop and baseball field in town. Chris advised that this is a new use for a new travel team league that did not have a home field last year. School Street will have a 90 ft. and 60 ft. adult

field. There will be no little league played there. Shea has 2 60 ft. and a 90ft. which share outfields and creates a dangerous situation.

- Paul Cavallo; City Councilor is concerned that maintenance is an issue. Will Jack fund for additional/existing parks in his budget? Is there guaranteed from the Mayor to add maintenance personnel, etc.
- Jill Messik; City Councilor also concurs that this field is already maintained. Chris agrees that Granger will not add maintenance costs. Meadowbrook/Valley Brook would have added maintenance costs which is the difference between the projects.
- Henry Kozloski refers to a letter from Jack Stone that the budget will increase after park at School Street is completed.
- Corinne Wingard would like a letter of support from Jack Stone, copies of the three bids, and pictures of Granger.
- Motion by Louis Russo to table until next meeting. Seconded by Vi Baldwin
Vote: Unanimous.

3. *School Street Park Amenities: \$125,000 as submitted by Chris Sparks; Director of Parks and Recreation*

- Motion to accept application for discussion by Louis Russo, seconded by Dottie Drewnowski, vote: Unanimous
- Chris Sparks, Director of park and Rec. is looking to add Playground, rubber “poured in place”, dumpster pad, trash receptacles and bleachers to the School Street Park
- Total cost is \$212,000 of which \$7,000 is donated by the ADA for playscape, \$80,000 to be donated by Berkshire Power. \$125,000 requested in CPA application.
- Chris originally put to bid an \$80,000 playscape and a \$150,000 ADA ramp accessible playscape.
- Seven bids were received. The bids for \$80,000 are ADA “compliant. The bid for \$150,000 are ADA “Friendly” with ramp access.
- ADA prefers poured in place rubber in lieu of rubber mulch or wood mulch.
- Cost difference to change from wood to rubber mulch is \$35,000. Cost difference to change to poured in place is \$40,000.
- ADA voted unanimously on this structure. It is the best balance between wheelchair accessible and able body children. This would be one of the best playscapes in Western MA.
- Chris is also asking for bleachers for baseball field at School Street.
- Trash & recycling bins approved by State. On the state contractor list. Letters of support provided.
- Dumpster Pad will also be installed with fencing to conceal dumpster.
- Dumpster pick up will be included in Park & Rec.’s FY09 budget. Borgatti dumpster would be moved to School Street Park and trash will be brought there.
- Dottie Drewnowski asked why benches were put out so early. Chris advised that the weather in fall 2007 delayed the project and the benches had already been ordered and placed.
- Dottie also asked why detention ponds were full. Chris advised that he will address this issue Wed, evening at the ad-hoc meeting.
- Corinne Wingard questioned the placement of swings/ Chris advised that he will

integrate them and add a tire swing and change layout.

- Tom Tierney supports poured in place because it will not disappear. It is permanent and does not require replacement or maintenance.
- Chris Sparks advised the trash will be emptied daily.
- Jill Messick asked if only one handicapped accessible picnic table was efficient. Chris stated that it was approved.
- Jill also asked if poured in place was warranted. Chris stated yes.
- Paul Cavallo stated he is happy with the proposal and is also happy to see pond issue will be addresses Wednesday.
- Ray Moreau asked for literature on barrels, bleachers and copies of bids for next meeting.
- Chris Sparks indicated that this will be the complete cost of Phase One unless Engineering adds any conditions.
- Motion by Louis Russo to table application until the next meeting. 2nd by Tom Tierney. Vote: Unanimous.
- Chris Sparks requested to move up March meeting to speed up time line if possible.

4. *CPA Application revisions*

- Application revisions distributed for committee to take home and review. Motion to table agenda item “CPA Application Revisions” by Ray Moreau. Second by Richard Maggi, Vote: unanimous.

5. *Housing Seminar Update*

- Corinne Wingard provides an update on the housing seminar she recently attended. She advised that a housing needs assessment must be done. She will talk with Deb Dachos and report back.

6. *Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. by Richard Maggi, 2nd by Louis Russo, Vote: Unanimous.*