

Athletic Fields Group: meeting notes

Date: TH 12/8/11 4:30pm@ Haldane/Merritt Bld

Attendees: J. Curto, D.Merandy,Dr. Villanti &T. Cunningham- Haldane

A.Stickle-Town Rec Dept

J. Champlin, community groups

F. Kohut, Blue Devil Booster Club

J.Van Tassel, N. Montgomery, B. Budney, Town Board

S. Dimitz, Town Rec Commission

B. Campbell, Village Board

E. Barry, Ptown Little League

G. Colucci, Garrison School

C. Coronado, Ward Assoc.

The following is a summary of the meeting:

- I. *Curt had spent most of the day revisiting various sites and specifically met with Garrison School & St. Basil's Academy*
- II. *General observation: "if you have space, a full size multi purpose field should be constructed for added flexibility of use"*
- III. *Curt commented that draft drawings for Ptown Park, Garrison School, St Basils & NH field are still in the works- general observations of those sites followed:*
 - *Ptown Park fields were constructed improperly*
 - *Garrison has a major drainage issue school is aware of; softball facing SE, not ideal; multi purpose field for soccer-softball-baseball*
 - *Basil's has major accessibility issues; got a copy of their 1981 plans for field expansion to review*
 - *NH has accessibility issues; possible playground for younger kids near concession w/ netting in area for safety; parking needs improvements*
- IV. *Mayor's Park*
 - *right field flooding issues, strip-regrade subgrade and finish*
 - *drawings show a basic walking track of limestone type material*
 - *existing orientation not ideal for baseball but school coaches don't feel it's been an issue*
 - *multi purpose field shown*

- *general comment: multi purpose fields of natural grass should have drainage & irrigation*

V. *General Baseball Comments*

- *skinned infield is typically recommended, less maint issues*
- *locations possible for a baseball site are Garrison School & Ptown Community Ctr.*
- *E. Barry commented that little league enrollment #'s are always steady between 285-325 kids*
- *New Little League field dimensions being considered by LL Int., longer outfield dimensions & pitching mounds- approx 2 yrs out- potential issue for NH Major field*
- *Little League ideally needs a reg. sized LL field in addition to NH, can be flexible where short term*

VI. *Basil's Visit*

- *access to field from the lot is a major issue, specifically non athletes*
- *Curt received a copy of the 1981 expansion plans Basil's had done, show'd a parking area on south end in woods area*

VII. *"stadium/game field"*

- *requested alternative costs for a game field other than Haldane to compare*
- *tax base broader town wide vs school wide*

VIII. *Haldane*

- *9D lot has safety concerns with width& turn radius- B. Campbell gave a history of some ideas discussed in the past*
- *lower field has fencing concerns*
- *ideal to use lower as a multi purpose small practice field, remove concession-dugouts*
- *softball field ideally realign to create "buffer" dimensions from fencing*
- *tennis ct's to be reviewed with constr #'s to repair in exist location as well as possibly adding 1-2 additional on 9D and/or in James Pond vicinity*
- *tennis ct surfacing can be spec-ed to accommodate multi sports excluding inline skating*

- IX. *Curt's goal is to condense all the drafts into one major draft report and submit in late Dec. for review*
- X. *Committee to meet weekly in Jan. to prepare for the public presentation forum in late Jan.*

NEXT MEETING: Wed. Jan. 4, 2012 7:30am@ Town Hall
• followup meetings to be 1/11 and 1/18 same time/location

notes by joe curto