

**Dover Parks & Recreation**  
**Caryl Park and Recreation Complex**  
CPARC kick-off information meeting  
May 23, 2011  
Minutes

Parks & Recreation Commissioners Present: Nancy Simms, Chris Boland, Rich Oasis, Scott Seidman

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Jessica Cooney

CPARP Directors & 501c3 members: Dave Laidman, Jay Gately, Jay Morton, Paul Blanchard, George Doherty, Terry Moriarty

Sherborn guests: Doug Collins

Other guests: Udi Edni, Carol Lisbon, Tim Caffrey, Robert Simms, Stuart & Laina Swiny, Sara Molyneaux, Carl O'Connell, Tom Windle, Jeff Atwood, Jay Allen, David Cottrell, Jim Powers, Carol Jannetta, James Stuart, Paul Hammerness?, Mark Hoffman, Mike Savage

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm in the Caryl Community Center 'library' room.

**Power Point Presentation:**

- Nancy Simms introduced the five CPARC Steering Committee members, and then Chris Boland who presented the Power Point presentation.
- Chris Boland pointed out the goals of the meeting to give everyone the facts about the project, where it stands now, answer questions from residents, and form working groups to move the project forward.
- A FAQ's sheet was handed out to all meeting attendees that included answers to the most commonly asked questions.
- Chris Boland went through the Power Point that highlights the most commonly asked questions about the Caryl Park project. Among the questions highlighted included: why we need new fields, why build at Caryl Park, what is the cost of the project, how will the project be funded, what are the ongoing maintenance costs, what are the lights and traffic concerns, what is the timeline to build the fields, what are the environmental / health concerns with synthetic turf fields, and what would happen to donations if the full amount was not raised?
- After completion of the power point presentation the meeting was opened up for comments and questions.

**Meeting Attendee Questions & Comments:**

- Will Sherborn residents be asked to donate as well?
  - o It was explained that anyone that wishes to contribute to the project may donate once the 501c3 is ready to accept donations. Since the funding for this project is expected to be 100% private donations it would not affect taxes in either towns.

- It was again pointed out that this project is for the kids, and that the Dover vs. Sherborn argument is not a fair argument in this case with private donations and kids playing on teams with mixed town residents.
- Are we the only town that does not have turf fields?
  - Dover is one of the very few towns that do not have a turf field. Games such as Lacrosse and Field Hockey are a completely different game on turf, therefore our athletes are at a much greater dis-advantage at games during Spring & Fall seasons. A complete list of towns with turf fields can be obtained by the Dover Parks & Recreation Department.
- How have other towns funded their fields?
  - Over the past several years there has been a shift in how fields have been funded because of the slower economy. More and more fields are being funded primarily with private donations rather than public funds or bonds. Gale Associates can attest to how fields are funded.
- A meeting attendee pointed out that the D/S Soccer Club pays approx. \$48,000 a year just to use the fields in fees. These fees are charged to maintain the fields current, still rather poor, condition.
  - He points out that by adding turf fields in town it will do wonders on alleviating the poor conditions of current fields, and open up rental opportunities for when the turf fields are not used for town functions.
  - Potential rental fees could help reduce players fees, maintenance fees, and turf replacement cost.

#### **CPARC Steering Committee Introduction:**

- Jay Morton kicked off the 5 member Steering Committee introduction by pointing out that he once sat quiet in the chairs but has chosen to get involved because of confirmed plans for the new fields, great cause, and chance for community involvement.
- The other 4 members of the Steering committee also spoke about why they are involved, why we need other residents help to complete all the work that has to be done, and how new ideas, involvement, and suggestions are always welcome from other town residents.
- Many spoke of how their kids will not even benefit from these fields by the time they are built because they will be older but still feel this is an important investment for the town to make that will help residents in many different ways.
- Robert Simms, high school senior, also spoke about his experiences on the fields, the disadvantages the teams face at games by not having turf fields, and how the new fields will benefit players and coaches with practice times, rain outs, early and late season games, etc.

#### **Attendee Comments & Questions:**

- There was a conversation about bleachers being installed at the fields. Concerns expressed about available space to put them, and safety of having seats between the two adjoining fields.

- New ideas for fundraising and community involvement included adding “family tiles” to a walk way to and from the new fields, sponsored bleachers, etc.
- New bleachers could be added if that was decided important, the footprint of the total field would need to be expanded slightly to accommodate those if wanted.

**Working Group discussion:**

- The Parks & Recreation Commission along with the CPARC directors announced the four working groups that we will need volunteers for to keep the project moving forward. These groups include: Fundraising, Publicity, Technology, and Field Usage.
- Attendees at the meeting interested in helping on a working group left their contact information under one of the groups.
- Future meetings with these groups and the CPARC and 501c3 Directors will be scheduled to continue communication of the steps of the project.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.