

**TOWN OF BEDFORD
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
June 14, 2018**

Present were: Chairman Michelle Casale, David Gilbert (TC Rep), Steve Grocott (Alt), Bill Duschatko (TC Alt) and Susan Fahey (Alt) at 7:05 PM

Absent: Diane Phelps, Christine Donati and Sheila Quick

Chairman Casale opened the meeting at 7 PM. We have a short agenda so let's get to the first item under New Business.

NEW BUSINESS – Approval of Fall Field Use Schedule

Chairman Casale stated this schedule outlines all the recreational leagues, where they are playing and on what fields this fall. It really is a puzzle and Jane does a great job putting it together. Jane then confers with the MOLD group to iron out any wrinkles. This year we have major construction taking place on Riley field so we have to come up with a solution to find another lighted field for the fall. Jane were there any issues this year or conflicts?

Ms. O'Brien stated with the closing of Riley Field it leaves us down by one lighted field and that is the major issue. I would like to propose that the Parks & Recreation Commission recommend to Town Council the use of portable lights on Joppa Hill for the fall season. We have done that in the past, I believe it was when the SAU baseball field was being sodded. This will allow all the leagues to get their field time in as they have in the past. This would be just a one year proposal, as Riley Field should be back in the rotation for next fall.

Mr. Gilbert suggested when you go to Council that you bring to the table what the costs will be, because that will be asked. Ms. O'Brien stated that at the MOLD meeting which was just last night, and I have someone looking into the cost of the portables. I also have a commitment from one league willing to help cover the costs. I feel the Town should also help pay for these portable lights as we will not have a Riley Field electric bill this fall.

Chairman Casale asked if there were any other conflict. Ms. O'Brien commented if you look at the 6-14-18 schedule we had a number of conflicts, but after last night's meeting there are only two conflicts which we will work out between fall soccer and fall football. Mr. Gilbert said, Only two conflicts left?

Ms. O'Brien said, That's correct, so basically we need a motion to accept it as presented and then I will need to go before Town Council to get the final blessing for use of portables for this fall. Ms. Casale said it sounds like a reasonable solution to pursue.

MOTION made by Dave Gilbert that the Parks & Recreation Commission accept the fall field schedule as presented this evening with the recommendation that the Town Council approve using portable lights at Joppa Hill for the fall season. Seconded by Bill Duschatko. Vote taken all in favor. Motion passes.

NEW BUSINESS – Proposed naming “Bedford Recreational Area”

Ms. O’Brien stated that she and Karin Elmer from the Planning Department have been coordinating with Southern NH Planning Commission on doing a story board for all the facilities Bedford has to offer. On the website will be pictures and GPS information. When we went through our inventory we have been calling the Nashua/County Road locations the Riley Field Complex our thoughts were to rename it the “Bedford Recreational Area” which would encompass all the recreational facilities located in this area such as: the pool, Selvoski Field, Sportsman’s Field, Riley Field, County Road Tennis Courts, Ann DeNicola Playground and the Sledding Hill.

Mr. Grocott asked do the initials bother you at all, BRA. Ms. O’Brien said we could change it to Bedford Area Recreation and be BAR? Mr. Grocott said I have four girls. Ms. O’Brien said do you have another name you want to propose?

Mr. Gilbert asked do you want to put a sign up. Ms. O’Brien said no it was just really to make it consistent as the Bedford Recreational Area, not just Riley Field, or calling it the Riley Field Complex.

Mr. Grocott suggested Bedford Community Recreation Area? Ms. Casale said this isn’t really the place to brain storm names, but how often will you be using just the letters or would you just spell it out? Ms. O’Brien said I wouldn’t use the letters, I would spell it out.

Councilor Duschatko asked would it be on a map. Ms. O’Brien said yes and on the website it will be listed as Bedford Recreational Area. Chairman Casale said if it becomes an issue we will re-look at it. I think the way you have it is okay.

MOTION made by David Gilbert that the Parks & Recreation Commission recommend that the Bedford Town Council rename the Riley Field Complex located at the corner of (Nashua & County Road) to the new proposed name “Bedford Recreational Area”. Seconded by Steve Grocott. Vote taken all in favor. Motion passes.

OLD BUSINESS – VOLLEYBALL COURT UPDATE

Chairman Casale asked Jane to give the update. Ms. O’Brien stated as we only had one company submit a bid for the construction of our two proposed courts, the bid came in three times higher than we expected. I have recommended that we table the project and

wait for the Master Plan to see what the citizens in Bedford are looking for. This update was to let you know what happened with the RFP and the bidding process.

Chairman Casale asked when was it that we first discussed this proposal, wasn't it last month. Ms. O'Brien stated it was back in October. Chairman Casale said thank you for the update.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 21, 2018

Chairman Casale stated the next item is approval of the minutes from March and let's see we have Dave, Sue and Steve you were all at the last meeting.

MOTION to approve March 21, 2018 minutes made by Councilor Dave Gilbert. Seconded by Steve Grocott. Vote taken – all in favor with Bill Duschatko abstaining. Motion passes.

Chairman Casale stated that wraps up our agenda for the evening and our next meeting is planned for Tuesday, September 11, 2018.

Meeting Adjourn 7:15 PM

Submitted by Jane O'Brien