

October 9, 2018 – First Meeting of the Town of Hopedale – Recreational Field Ad Hoc Committee

In Attendance: Fr. Mac Murray, Jim Fitch, Tasha Griffin, Derek Atherton, Keith Smith, Lori Hampsch, David Guglielmi, Mike Bresciani, Jim Abbruzzese, Brian Keyes

Fr. Mac Murray appointed Chairman of Recreational Field committee

Charter states committee will work together to develop ideas and plans for open land in Hopedale including former landfill on Freedom St.

Committee will present its findings in 3 months.

There are five land parcels that are currently under consideration for fields use:

1. Harmony Field (Lot A)
2. Phillips Field (Mellen)
3. Draper Field (grass to landfill is owned by Hopedale. Asphalt in parking lot not owned by Hopedale)
4. Town Park
5. Moore Road/Lapworth parcel

Don Howes: offered up many documents concerning lands usage and parks opportunities

Mike Bresciani- need maps and ideas of land. Surveys, wetlands, etc.

- Youth leagues should develop a wish list

How do we gain input from the rest of the town (outside youth and HS sports) to determine their needs and wants for recreational fields

Howes: Dog parks will pay for themselves with grants

Brian Keyes: Urban Renewal will have a public hearing on potential new developments

Bresciani: Let's focus on what we own, maps

- Turf field on landfill no good, ground is too volatile
- Need maps and topography
- Feasibility Study looking at plan as a whole or a field at a time

Guglielmi: Draper Field is a priority for Urban Renewal

- Keyes: potential of urban renewal increasing tax base quickly

SURVEY

Murray – Survey is needed to develop needs and feedback of town residents in Hopedale

Keyes: Survey, electronic, Hopedale town paper, town hall, ... how can we gain access to get feedback from all groups in town. Stack ranks priorities for needs in town.

How can we put together survey? All board members put forward their best questions for surveys

Mass Park and recreation website for surveys

Murray - wish list, survey, youth groups,

- what will we look at first
- What is most important to you?
- Fact based information needed for town in order to get accurate feedback

Send list to Mac with survey questions within one week

Hopedale.recreation@gmail.com

TURF FIELD

- Safety no longer a concern based on research and studies
- Potential to rent out turf field for maintenance costs

OTHER RESOURCES

Brian Murray - developed a grant for Fino Field

Guglielmi - CPA (Community Preservation Act)

- 1..5% goes to a fund for conservation commission and athletic use

Hampsch: What timeline are we looking at?

- GOAL: May Town meeting with something to present to town what committee recommends

Next meeting:

Tuesday Oct 30 7:00

Town Hall