

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

November 4, 2013
6:30 pm

Council Chambers

Minutes & General Account

Parks & Recreation Members Present: Lawrence Straughn, Chair; Shanna Moore, Robert Pickett, Al Bartko, Jill Jarrell (alternate), Steve Owen, and Lynn Tice

Staff Present: Chuck Smith, Matthew Johnson, Michael Hutcheon, John Crowe and Martha Wolfe

Visitors Present: Carol Brooks of the Jamestown News

1. Call to Order – Lawrence Straughn, Chair, called the meeting to order.
2. Approval of minutes from October 7, 2013 – Al Bartko made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Steve Owen made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.
3. Parks & Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) Jamestown Park Project Presentation – Chuck Smith informed the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee that the Town would like to apply for a PARTF grant for Jamestown Park. John Crowe, Parks Superintendent and Michael Hutcheon, Director of Golf, are here to give the Committee a brief summary of the proposed project.

The project includes 18 greens renovation, tees construction and improvements to the baseball fields. Crowe stated that the baseball fields are experiencing erosion problems. There is also drainage issues at the field. The Town would like to construct new dug outs and restore the lighting on the fields. Jamestown Youth League is a big supporter of the baseball field improvements and the lighting improvements. Crowe stated the baseball fields at one time were used as football fields and sloped for that reason. It would be much safer to have the field level for the use of baseball.

Chuck Smith stated that staff used the Richard Mandell 2010 Renovation Business Plan that was created for the Jamestown Park & Golf Course. Plans are to shorten hole #1 to make it more playable and attract new people. This will facilitate faster play.

Other holes identified are holes # 9, 14, 3, 4, & 8. Hole # 3 has severe slopping problems. The Jamestown Park & Golf Course is a public course and gets lots of play. By establishing Bermuda grass at the course, this will accommodate more play. Holes #4, 8 & 9 have slopping problems as well.

Staff presented the following cost estimate.

18 Greens Re-Shape & Establish Bermuda Grass

- Reshaping	\$75,000.00
- Sand	\$ 7,000.00
- Pre-Plant Fertilizing	\$13,000.00
- Fumigation	\$30,000.00
- Covers	<u>\$20,000.00</u>

Total Cost \$145,000.00

The Bermuda grass only needs aerification once a year. Currently, we have to aerify 2 or 3 times a year. Play is disrupted during aerification and for the next couple of weeks thereafter. This impacts play and revenue at the course. The Bermuda grass is the best grass for this area of the State.

If we are awarded the PARTF Grant, we will conduct a hole by hole study to better determine what is needed for each hole. With the renovation of the greens, some of the irrigation system will be torn up. Staff might be able to repair some of the irrigation system, but we may have to contract out work as well.

Crews have been stock piling soil from the Public Services Plant to use on the greens. This will be a savings to the Town.

Staff presented the following cost estimate.

Golf Course Tees Construction

- Tees Construction	\$ 66,000.00
- Erosion Control	\$ 25,000.00
- Sod	<u>\$187,000.00</u>

Total Cost \$ 278,000.00

The cost estimate for the baseball field improvements are as follows:

Baseball Fields Improvements

- Lighting	\$ 80,000.00
- New Dug Outs	<u>\$ 30,000.00</u>

Total Cost \$170,000.00

A new use in the recreation proposal is the addition of Disc Golf. This game is growing in popularity. This game will be free to the public and bring in more people to use the Park.

Disc Golf

- 9 Hole Disc Golf	\$15,000.00
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Total Cost	\$15,000.00
Total Cost of the PARTF Application	\$613,000.00
PARTF Grant Request	\$306,500.00

It was stated the Town has had some success with PARTF grant. The Town received a PARTF grant to purchase the land for the Wrenn Miller Community Park and a grant to develop it.

Smith stated one of the requirements of the PARTF grant is to have community support for the project. Also, have the support of the Parks & Recreation Committee and the Town Council. The Town Council must approve the funding for the PARTF grant from the General Fund and the General Fund Capital Reserve. Smith stated if the grant is awarded the Town would have 5 years to complete the project. This would allow the Capital Reserves Fund time to build for a few years. In the PARTF application we designate funding. Next fiscal year we would designate General Fund Capital Reserve Funds toward the PARTF project. Staff requests the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee approve the Resolution to make application for the PARTF grant.

Shanna Moore discussed if the strength of the PARTF grant would be helped by demonstrating that Jamestown is trying to reach the underserved population, examples: Youth, Seniors, Ladies – this is justification for the recontouring of the greens. She feels we need to mention the aging population of Jamestown. Jamestown is trying to bring new and young golfers to the game, encourage the new generation.

The Committee and staff discussed the requirements of the application. Support letters are good. We need the support of the community. Staff mentioned while we would like to get funding from PARTF for a grant when we apply, if the Town does not receive funding, we can apply again the next year. It pays to be persistent.

The Committee discussed the survey done by the Town a few years ago, regarding the golf course. This survey went to citizens of Jamestown. The results showed the average age of golfers at Jamestown were 51-65 years of age. By improving the course and adding the additional tees, we hope to bring more players to the course and the game of golf.

Hutcheon stated we are at a point where the greens need to be addressed. We must make it more playable to capture new players with the addition of the forward tee. We must try to reach the next generation of golfers and baseball players.

Smith stated the maximum PARTF amount we can apply for is \$500,000.00. The PARTF Board does try to fund as many projects as they can across the State. Jamestown is located in a very competitive area. He feels our success with the Wrenn-Miller Park will help our application.

4. Resolution in Support of Parks & Recreation Trust Fund Application – Smith presented the Resolution. Straughn asked if any member had any questions regarding the project or the application process. Seeing none, Shanna Moore made a motion to approve the Resolution in Support of the Parks & Recreation Trust Fund Application. Al Bartko made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

(Resolution)

5. Details of Wrenn-Miller Dedication Ceremony –

Staff reviewed the details of the dedication ceremony. Dedication ceremony will be held on Saturday, 11-9-13 at 10:00 am for the Wrenn Miller Park and 11:00 am for the Veteran Monument Ceremony.

Martha Wolfe asked for volunteers to be at the Town Hall at 8:00 am. She handed out the volunteer forms to be filled out and returned to her.

6. Other Business

Shanna Moore made a motion to adjourn. Al Bartko made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. The meeting ended at 7:40 pm.