

Orford Parks and Playgrounds
Minutes of the Meeting
August 19th, 2020
Orford Community Field
7:00

Present: JJ Hebb (Chair), Lawrence Hibbard. Craig Pelletier and Robb Day (Secretary).

JJ motioned to approve The two July meeting minutes. Lawrence seconded and all were in favor.

There are no new property usage forms at this time due to the pandemic.

JJ asked Matt Taylor (Taylor Farm and Forest) to attend this meeting but he was unable to make it. He has had some experience maintaining the Woodsville playing fields. JJ talked with him on the phone and he agreed with most of the recommendations of Chip (Diamond Turf). Matt's only concern was that Diamond Turf does maintain some premium fields in the area and he recommended that we create a budget for the Community Field so that Chip knows what level of work we are expecting. He did state that applying herbicide to eliminate the crabgrass on the Community Field was not a bad idea, but we would likely eliminate most of the existing turf which would affect this years soccer season. He suggested slice seeding after frost which should kill most of the crabgrass.

Robb thought that working out a budget would be a good idea. He also agreed that Rivendell is not Dartmouth and we should keep that in mind with the quality of our turf and fields. JJ thought that maybe treating half of the field at a time would be a good solution as we would always have a field to play on. Lawrence also agreed with slice seeding after frost as a good economical solution. All felt that spraying the baseball and softball infields with herbicide to eliminate the weed problem was necessary and should be scheduled. JJ agreed to contact Chip and schedule the herbicide treatment on the infields. It was also agreed that it was too late at this time to treat for grubs. The Committee will reconsider it next year. JJ agreed to ask Esther for some numbers so we can get an idea on budgeting for current and future field maintenance.

Robb looked up the soil test for the Town Common last summer. It called for a lime treatment of 1.5 tons per acre. To his estimation, there is approximately 5.25 acres to lime. JJ will contact Connecticut Valley Agriculture Services to schedule an application of lime.

Robb agreed it was time to take soil samples and he will get to it.

Current Projects:

1) Soccer Kick Wall: One coat of stain has been applied. One more coat is needed and JJ agreed to set a time for the Committee to do that.

2) Batting cage electrical outlet has been repaired.

3) The flagpole light has arrived and Lawrence will look into renting a lift to install the light.

4) The boys side of the storage building at the Community Field has been cleaned out so the rotted support beam can be replaced. Lawrence agreed to look into this and the Committee will install the new post. Lawrence noticed a beam that has heaved and raised the roof line. This needs to be cut. It was also agreed to spread some stone in the sheds to help with flooding of the floor. This is another project that Lawrence agreed to facilitate with the help of the Committee.

5) Upper Baker Pond boat launch needs no work at this time.

6) Robb pointed out that the cable installed at Indian Pond Beach has been stolen and will need to be replaced. It was also stated that the recent water test for Indian Pond Beach showed excessive e-coil bacteria levels in the water. At this time it is unadvised to swim there. Another test will be taken in a couple of weeks.

7) JJ had a report of broken glass at the Playground and agreed to clean it up.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:21.

Minutes were taken by Robb Day.