

**Orford Parks and Playgrounds Committee**  
**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**February 17, 2021**  
**Orford Town Offices**  
**7:00**

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

JJ opened the meeting at 7:07. The November Minutes were read and one grammatical error was noted and corrected. JJ motioned to approve, Lawrence seconded and all were in favor.

JJ noted a few property request forms were submitted. Rivers Edge requested the use of the Community Field from Mid-April until June. This was approved. The Orford Social Library requested the Bandstand for July 18<sup>th</sup> from 3-4 for a Squam Lakes Science Center presentation. All Covid precautions will be observed and this was also approved.

Unfinished projects from 2020:

- Community Field storage shed structural repairs.
- Basketball court playing surface cracks.
- Community Field gates (handicapped accessibility)
- Baseball Dugouts grade repairs.
- Problem trees along the Town Common.
- Mark water and electrical lines on the Community Field map.
- Clarify the Right of Way to access the Community Field from the Fire

Department.

JJ agreed to reach out to Vermont Recreational Surfacing and fencing to get some new estimates for repair. Robb and Lawrence were unhappy with the crack repair from 2019 as it did not last. All agreed it would be wise to look into a complete resurfacing of the court.

JJ also suggested that we invite Bill Wilson (Orford Tree Warden) to the next meeting to determine what is to be done about two Maples along the Mall walk that are in bad shape.

It was agreed to put off any repair to the dugouts until we have completed other projects first.

Chip from Diamond Turf sent a proposal for work to be completed in the spring/summer of 2021 at the Community Field. It was agreed that the fields should be sprayed for weeds as well as treated for grubs this season. It was determined that there should be limited maintenance on the baseball and softball fields as they were reconditioned in 2019 and, due to Covid, were not used in 2020. It was agreed that an herbicide treatment and very basic fall type cleanup was all that was needed at this time. Rivendell does plan to use them this spring as there will be baseball and softball seasons.

JJ motioned to accept Diamond Turfs turf management recommendations for 2021, Robb seconded and all were in favor.

JJ motioned to recommend to Diamond Turf to complete a basic fall cleanup and limited reshaping of the baseball and softball fields as well as a spring herbicide application, Robb seconded and all were in favor.

Lawrence suggested that if we complete these tasks now, the maintenance costs should fall over time as we are in a repair timetable at this point. All agreed.

JJ thought it best to table new projects until the next meeting.

JJ informed the group that Craig Pelletier will be leaving the Committee and that will leave one open position. Lawrence and Robb both have some ideas about filling the position. JJ suggested that we post workdays on this listserv to involve the Community and to get extra help as needed.

JJ motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:22, Lawrence seconded and all were in favor.