

MEREDITH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: June 28, 2006

Members Present: Bill Bayard, Chairman, Planning Board Representative
Miller Lovett, Board of Selectmen Representative
Jack Carty, Inter-lakes School Board Representative
Lou Kahn, Planning Board Representative (Alternate)

Absent with Notice: Jeanie Forrester
Mark Flanders

Staff Present: John Edgar, Town Planner
Vint Choiniere, Parks and Recreation Director
Phillip McCormack, Supt. of Schools

Call to Order: Bill Bayard called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. The Chairman asked all attendees to introduce themselves. Bill noted that we did not have a quorum of at least half of the members and therefore no actions would be taken. Bill will follow up with Planning Board Chairman Vadney regarding the possibility of Lou Kahn serving as an unrestricted alternate, not limited to being an alternate Planning Board representative.

Approval of Minutes: The review and consideration of meeting minutes dated 6/21/06 was deferred until the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum. John Edgar noted that Miller Lovett should be added to those present.

Parks and Recreation Update:

Vint Choiniere, Parks and Recreation Director met with the Committee to provide updates on several items. No new items were submitted. Vint indicated that he has been working on an evaluation and improvement plan for all parks and recreation facilities under the management of his department. The completion of this plan has been delayed due to the Community Center project and the assumption of park maintenance responsibilities previously the responsibility of the Department of Public Works. . The 8-10 year plan will be completed next year in anticipation of the CIP cycle. An update of the as yet unscheduled Prescott Park Phase II project will be part of the presentation next year.

Vint advised the Committee that there are architectural and archeological assessments being done or to be done in regards to the bathroom project at Waukegan Beach. These evaluations are part of the LWCF grant requirements. If all goes well, Vint plans to initiate construction this fall.

Miller Lovett questioned whether there were any "sleeping giants" in the area of recreation that the Committee should be made aware of. Vint indicated that he did not believe so and reiterated that the Parks and Recreation Plan for existing facilities will be completed next year. There was a discussion about future ball field space needs. John indicated that the expansion of Prescott Park was a cooperative venture between the District and the Town of Meredith and that is was intended primarily to off set deficiencies at the time, as opposed to building in major future field capacity. Vint indicated that he is serving on a school committee initiated by Supt. McCormack to look at field issues.

Inter-lakes School District Update:

Phillip McCormack, Supt. of Schools met with the Committee to provide an update on the athletic field reconstruction project. Phil distributed a Project Identification Form dated 6/28/06 (Athletic Field Reconstruction). This form essentially updates a previously scheduled project.

No new items were submitted. The project will include the reconstruction of the upper field, lower field and track and will enhance capacity, efficiency and safety. Jack Carty and Phil indicated that the fields are community assets being used extensively by the school teams, physical education classes, other teams and the general public.

Demand for field space is increasing and will continue to increase and the available capacity of existing fields is limited. Phil indicated that the committee that Vint alluded to is evaluating the option of artificial turf for the lower field. The estimated project cost takes into consideration the potential added costs and savings associated with the artificial turf option. The project is eligible for state building aid at 45% of project cost. The revised total project cost estimate is \$480,000. John asked Phil if he could break the cost down to include the revenue offset (state building aid) and Meredith's share of the net cost as the CIP includes only Meredith's share of District's capital improvements. The district plans include the project in the '07-'08 budget and begin construction in July '07.

Other Business:

John Edgar advised the committee of conversations he has had with Mark Flanders and the Laconia Area Community Land Trust regarding affordable housing. Mark has expressed an interest in possibly creating an expendable trust fund that would be available to aid or assist with the creation of affordable housing. A Project Identification Form may be submitted in the future. Miller Lovett indicated that he has an interest in this area and would like to be included in the discussions.

John reminded the Committee that this is the last meeting until the resumption of meetings in September. Chairman Bayard will work with John to set the September/October meeting schedule and will forward it along to members so they can plan accordingly.

Adjournment:

Bill Bayard closed the meeting at approximately 9:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Edgar, Town Planner
June 29, 2006

Approved:

September 6, 2006