

Recreation Committee Minutes - DRAFT
January 19, 2006

Members Present: Chairman Dennis Senibaldi, Ralph Valentine, Glen Yergeau, Barry Goldman, and Recreation Coordinator Cheryl Haas. Lynn Goldman arrived at 8:40 pm.

Members Absent: Earl Bartlett, Selectmen Bruce Breton.

Also present: Andy Vanti and Jim Cooney from Pelham Windham Razorbacks. John LaRochelle and MaryBeth Arling from Windham Soccer Association. Duane Delfosse and Laura Marks from Windham Lacrosse. Julie Morgan, Linda Greco, Malcolm Woolfe, Paul Tiery from NH Phantoms Soccer. Resident Michael Hatem.

Chairman Senibaldi called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

Pelham Windham Razorbacks Football Request:

The Pelham Windham Razorbacks had submitted a request for the use of Windham fields from August until September for two teams to practice on. The month of August would be from Monday through Friday from 5:30 pm – 8 pm and the month of September would be three days a week (Tuesday-Thursday) from 5:30 pm – 8 pm. After much discussion and input from soccer and lacrosse, Ralph Valentine made a motion to approve the use of Rogers Field by the Pelham Windham Razorbacks Football organization during the months of August and September with the schedule to be coordinated with the Recreation Coordinator, and the field returned to the town in the same condition as when it was received, seconded by Glen Yergeau, the vote passed 4-0-1. (Lynn Goldman abstained.)

Windham Soccer Association (WSA)

John LaRochelle discussed how over the past few years, WSA has invested a great deal of time and money into Windham fields and how they are some of the best fields in the state. In the spring, soccer shares the fields with lacrosse. Lacrosse is a growing sport and their field needs are also growing. Soccer and lacrosse do the schedule at the end of February for the fields. This year soccer was thinking about having lacrosse use Nashua Rd. and Searles fields exclusively. Mr. LaRochelle suggested that it was important to evaluate the condition of the field prior to usage, then re-evaluate after the season. This way the Town and sports organizations can see if there is normal wear and tear on fields, or if it is above and beyond usage. Fields should be returned in the same or better condition.

At this time, there was discussion on the request from the NH Phantoms for practice space in Windham from April through August. They are looking for fields 2-3 nights a week for 3 hours. Due to the restrictions in Windham, the only field that could be used by the NH Phantoms is Nashua Rd., because it was built with federal funds, so the non-profit status and number of Windham residents cannot be restricted on this particular field.

After a great deal of discussion, the Chairman requested that soccer and lacrosse (and NH Phantoms) have a meeting regarding schedules and fields, and come back to the Recreation Committee with a proposed plan.

Tokenal Field

There was discussion regarding the warrant article submitted by Mike Hatem regarding Tokenal Field. The proposed plan is to keep the field in the same location, but to do the following: engineering, repair or replace backstop, skin infield, fill (hopefully for free), put down fabric, and topsoil (re-use).

Ralph Valentine made a motion to support the Tokenal Field article and to present this article and the Recreation article together; Barry Goldman seconded; the vote passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Cheryl Haas
Recreation Coordinator

The remainder of the minutes were taken by Committee Member Lynn Goldman.

Mrs. Beth Lippold introduced herself to the committee regarding her possible appointment to the Recreation Committee. A discussion ensued regarding her interests. Mr. Ralph Valentine made a motion to contact Mrs. Haas, Recreation Coordinator, regarding her appointment before a letter is sent recommending Mrs. Lippold to the Selectmen. Motion seconded by Mr. Goldman; the vote carried 5-0.

Chairman Senibaldi commenced a discussion regarding a brief history of satellite fields. There is no opposition to securing land for possible use and the issue is maintenance and possible budget objections from the Selectmen. Mr. Yergeau stated that in theory fields spread throughout the community would support those neighborhoods and activities. Having enough parking would decrease parking issues at other venues as well as traffic concerns. Mr. Valentine made a motion to support working with developers to build satellite fields for sports with the Committee to take a position to be proactive on applications from developers donating fields. Mr. Yergeau seconded; the vote carried 5-0.

Chairman Senibaldi made a motion to seek (RFP) request for proposal for the Recreation Master Plan by Mrs. Haas to continue to go forward to secure grant money. Mr. Yergeau seconded; the vote carried 5-0.

There was discussion regarding invoices not submitted or paid in the 2005 budget will be presented against the 2006 budget.

Mr. Goldman made a motion to ask for the same three issues previously proposed by Mr. Valentine as a private citizen to ask Selectmen Breton for the following: 1. The well report for Griffin Park 2. The binder from Mr. McMahan (as stipulated for December 1,

2005), and 3. Full accounting for the 10% net profit from organizations selling product from the M.U.B. The Recreation Committee has voted to request that the private citizen's proposal (Mr. Valentine), proposal be adopted.

Ralph Valentine made a motion to accept the minutes of December 20, 2005 with the revision "developers agreed to contribute." The December 6, 2005 minutes were tabled until the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Goldman