



**TOWN OF MENDON**  
**PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

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**Meeting Date: 3/3/2023**  
**Meeting Location: Hybrid**  
**Minutes Approved: \_10/3/23\_**

**Members Present:** Tom Belland, Dan Byer, AJ Byrne

**Members Absent:**

**Parks Director:** Dan Byer

**Others:**

*The meeting was called to order at 9:41 with All 3 in attendance remotely. Dan in person*

**Tom made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/10/23, 2/6/23, 2/15/23, AJ seconded and all approved.**

The board discussed the playground. Tom said Shawn will need details on any prep required. Dan said we are waiting on O'Brien and Sons to respond for a 3<sup>rd</sup> quote. The board will meet again on Friday to review.

The board discussed the beach fending. Dan said the company is closed for the season but did respond and said the price is still valid. We will follow up once they resume operations.

The board discussed the sump pump. Shawn will do the work.

Dan reviewed a proposal to install lights on Pezzella and Lowell Fields. A group from both Nipmuc Youth Baseball and Nipmuc Youth Softball are interested. Dan met with them, and they reviewed options. They have a proposal of \$100k for lights with 6 poles in total (2 shared between fields). This is better than the 8 pole proposal from Muscoe that was \$300k. They can contribute \$15k at this point. We could also apply for a PARC grant from the state that would fund up to 60% of the project up to \$100k or \$60k. With \$15k in donations we would need an additional \$25k from CPA, though they would need to approve the full amount. All are in favor of supporting this proposal. Dan to get more quotes and submit an article. The deadline for the grant is in July so the work would have to wait until the fall or later.

**Tom made a motion to support the request for CPA funds, AJ seconded, and all approved.**

Dan reviewed a proposed eagle project on the softball fields. A scout approached Nipmuc Youth Softball about installing shelving in the dugouts. The board is in favor, it was suggested they could also do the Pezzella dugouts to, to increase the scope of the project a bit. All are fine with Softball coordinating this project.

The board discussed a request from Nipmuc Youth Softball to name Lowell Field or perhaps a dugout for a specific individual. The board discussed. Lowell Field was named as a memorial for Harold Lowell after he died. All agree that it would be inappropriate to re-name this field. They would support a request to name a dugout on the field but would want further discussion as the proclamation should come from Parks and not a private group.

The board discussed a proposed tennis program. Dan was approached by someone in town who got certified through the USTA (US Tennis Assoc) to run a "Tennis in the Parks" program sponsored through the USTA. These would be 1 hr classes by age, probably on a weekend, kids would get a racket. The structure is similar to our old fitness classes, the USTA would invoice us \$60 per kid and we would keep the rest. Dan suggests pricing of \$75/\$90 for resident/non-resident. All agree. There may be options for summer programming as well depending on the success and interest.

**AJ made a motion to approve the program and set the pricing as \$75 for residents and \$90 for non, Tom seconded, and all approved.**

The board discussed the maintenance garage. All agree we need more pricing. We will work on a complete scope of work as recommended by the select board.

The board discussed the maintenance crew. They will meet on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> to interview the 2 candidates for the Maintenance Crew Team Lead position. All agree this is the best way to handle the interest in the position.

*Tom left the meeting at 10:22am*

Dan and AJ discussed a request for a portable toilet at Clough. Since there was interest from multiple groups Dan thought it was best to have Parks coordinate and the groups can pay. We may need to revisit this in our use fees in future years. AJ agrees.

Dan reviewed the AED's. We will submit an article for the warrant to support.

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:28am*