

**MILLIS COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 14, 2020
VIRTUAL/REMOTE MEETING VIA ZOOM PLATFORM**

The remote ZOOM meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mr. Nathan Maltinsky, Chair.

Members present: Nathan Maltinsky, Chair
 Wendy Barry, Treasurer
 David Baker
 Loring Barnes
 James McKay
 Pamela Rheume-Mustard
 Anne Rich

Members absent: Raymond Normandin

Also present: Michael Rand, Millis Girls Softball
 Jennifer Scannell, Treasurer/Collector

**Memorial Field Improvements Project Request, Continued Discussion
Michael Rand, President - Millis Girls Softball League**

Mr. Rand summarized his revised funding request application. He provided additional information and changed the amount of CPA funding requested from \$153,350.00 to \$86,558.49.

The Committee reviewed Mr. Rand's revised project proposal. The proposal includes rebuilding the surfaces of three fields, removing and replacing backstops, dug out fences, and perimeter fencing in disrepair (see attached).

Maintenance of the current fields was discussed. Mr. Rand stated that maintenance of the fields is currently handled by the Millis Department of Public Works and the field users, for example, Millis High School, Millis Girls Softball and Youth Baseball. He stated that the current maintenance protocol would remain.

Mr. Rand stated that the proposal addresses existing recreation space that is used by local youth/adult sports, the general community, and "pay for use" organizations. The proposed improvements will make the fields safer and open the availability of additional playing opportunities. He stated that the work proposed will "bring the fields up to playable standards." This is "not a Band-Aid proposal," Mr. Rand said. He stated that "this capital improvement should last for several years."

Other funding source options were discussed. Mr. Rand stated that other than the \$25,000.00 allocated from the Planning Board, no other definitive funding sources have been confirmed. Mr. Baker asked if there was a potential for other funding sources such

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as the Permanent Building Committee, Select Board and/or Clyde Brown School project. He was of the opinion that it should not all be “burdened on the CPC to fund the project.” Mr. Baker stated that he would be comfortable making a motion appropriating \$50,000.00 from the CPA funds and see if the additional funds would be available from other sources. He stated that would be a “worthwhile effort” for the project. Other funding amounts were discussed. Mr. McKay stated that the application before the CPC at this time was for \$86,558.49 and that is what should be considered.

Ms. Barnes expressed concern over the DPW being able to continue maintaining the fields with the Town cutting costs. She asked if there was a way for the maintenance costs to be allocated proportionate to use, offset by revenue, so the DPW budget is not “hammered when they are having roads and other services constricted.” She also wants to avoid any sense of competitiveness with other groups in Town so that this project is a “unified effort.” Mr. McKay discussed the current DPW budget for the fields and stated it is between \$35-\$45,000.00.

There was discussion regarding reactivating the Fields Committee. The CPC members were in favor of this.

Mr. Rand stated that he has brought this proposal before the Select Board, Planning Board and other organizations in town. User groups of the fields are all in support of the project, he said.

A motion was made by Mr. Baker, seconded by Ms. Barry, to appropriate \$50,000.00 for the Memorial Field Improvements Project from the **Community Preservation Open Space/Recreation Resources Reserve account**. By Roll Call Vote: Maltinsky – no; Barry – no; Baker – aye; McKay – no; Mustard – no; Rich – aye. The motion did not pass.

On a motion made by Ms. Barry, seconded by Mr. McKay, it was unanimously voted (5-0) in favor of appropriating **\$74,558.49** for the Memorial Field Improvements Project from the **Community Preservation Open Space/Recreation Resources Reserve account**. By Roll Call Vote: Maltinsky – aye; Barry – aye; McKay – aye; Mustard – aye; Rich – aye. The funds must be used within one year of the Town Meeting date of June 29, 2020. (Note: Members Ms. Barnes and Mr. Baker had to leave the meeting prior to this vote.)

The Community Preservation Committee **recommends approval** of the above article for the **Memorial Field Improvements Project** at the Town Meeting to be held on June 29, 2020.

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Minutes

On a motion made by Mr. Maltinsky, seconded by Mr. McKay, it was voted unanimously to approve the minutes of March 5, 2020 as written. By Roll Call Vote: Maltinsky – aye; Barry – aye; McKay – aye; Mustard – aye; Rich – aye.

Adjourn

There being no further discussion and on a motion made by Mr. Maltinsky, seconded by Ms. Barry, and voted unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m. By Roll Call Vote: Maltinsky – aye; Barry – aye; McKay – aye; Mustard – aye; Rich – aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Camille Standley
Administrative Assistant