

Town of Pembroke  
Recreation Commission  
100 Center St.  
Pembroke, MA 02359  
781-293-3249

**Pembroke Recreation Commission**

**Minutes of Meeting of Sept 13, 2022**

**Present:** Ginger Comeau, Corey Pento, Tim Folan, Nicole Pedro, Grant Nickerson, and George Grey, with Rachel Quinlan arriving at 7:51. Mr. Nickerson maintained minutes until Mrs. Quinlan's arrival.

**Guests:** Town Manager William Chenard and potential Recreation Commission Member Brooke Musial

**Meeting opened @ 7:32 PM**

**Community Center Update:**

Town Manager bill Chenard was present to update Board Members on current status of Community Center. Currently, 2 similar bids for the construction of the Community Center have been received, as they are w/in \$100,000 of each other. One of the bids, made by G & R Construction of Hanover, specializes in Public Work projects, including Hanover Public Library and Marshfield Boys and Girls club. The project requires \$3.1 million, with potential funding available from MA legislature, and additional potential funding in the US Senate, pending approval. The timeline of potential federal aide is unknown, beyond that the fiscal year ends 9/30 and it is unlikely to expect the budget to be complete prior to that. Securing funding will be necessary prior to being able to accept a final bid.

Mr. Gray requests that Mr Chenard include contact information to reach out to Senators Markey's and Warren's offices to express support for passage of funding in US Senate. Mr. Chenard acknowledged he does not know when funding could become available, but federal fiscal year ends 9/30.

Anticipated impact on taxpayers for the already approved \$19M bod is \$127.41/yr, and for the additional \$3.1M being sought would be \$25.95/yr, for a total of \$153.36/yr.

Costs of construction is not expected to decrease in the near future, only level off. Expense of labor will be determined by prevailing wages.

The existing CoA building will not be torn down, but re-purposed for an as-yet undetermined use.

Anticipated timeline of work:

Nov-Dec, 2022: site demo work

Feb, 2023: begin construction site work

March, 2024: completion

(recording of minutes transitioned from Grant Nickerson to Rachel Quinlan at 7:51)

**Discussion of Capital Funding needs/ 5 year Capital Plan:**

What is the best usage of the Birch St. playground and fields?

A feasibility study, funded by CPC funds, to assess all Recreation- run locations would assist in determining best usage of space, including determining best use of current athletic fields and basketball courts (including the possibility of additional courts), as well triaging needs of current playgrounds and creating an improvement plan if necessary, revisiting the recently completed safety study as needed. Expect expense of feasibility study would be approx \$30,000.

Mr. Chenard put forth the possibility of working with a cricket league to build a turf field, with the league likely requiring use of the fields similar to 1 night/wk and 4 hrs ea Sunday in the summer.

The Recreation Board reached a consensus to move forward with such a study.

Additional possibility facilities improvements could include "tight tanks" at fields to provide rest room access.

Grant Nickerson made a motion to support the existing Community Center plan, seconded by Rachel Quinlan. All in favor.

**Options for optimizing Voter turnout at next Town Meeting:**

Utilizing outlets including:

- Pembroke Town News
- PAC News
- Friends of Pembroke Community Center
- COA
- Rec Dept. database for email blast

George Gray will reach out to COA and Friends of PCC to craft a statement to encourage voter turnout in support of the Community Center.

**New Business:**

Guest Brooke Musial, present as she is interested in potentially joining the Recreation Commission, posed questions about what the role of the Commissioners is and what Rec Commission members do. As there is currently at much transitioning occurring within the Recreation Dept, both in terms of physical location and leadership, the Commission is effectively at a crossroads, but collectively looking forward to playing a significant role in positively impacting the development and implementation of Recreation programs at a new Community Center.

**Next Recreation Commission meeting:**

Oct. 11 at 7:30 in Veterans' Hall.

**Adjournment: 8:49 pm**

VOTE: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tim Folan, seconded by Corey Pento. All in favor. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes recorded by Grant Nickerson/ Rachel Quinlan