

BELCHERTOWN PARKS & RECREATION PUBLIC MEETING  
December 13, 2017

Present: Bill Vosburgh, Nancy Kwiatkowski, Tilo Schiffer, Kyle Thibeault, Linda Racicot

Absent: Chris Daley, Wilbur Quirk, Brenda Aldrich

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

REVIEW MINUTES

Minutes from the November 15 meeting were not reviewed due to Nancy and Tilo not being present at the November meeting and could not vote.

OLD BUSINESS

CPA grants to be submitted Friday, December 15, 2017 were reviewed.

2 Pickleball Courts, located behind Jabish School, Springfield Rd.

The Belchertown Recreation Dept. has a proposal to install 2 outdoor pickle ball courts. Played both indoors or outdoors on a badminton-sized court, a pickle ball court is 20' wide by 44' long. Pickle ball is a sport that uses a paddle made of wood or composite materials to hit a perforated polymer ball, similar to a whiffle ball, over a net. It uses components from badminton, ping pong and tennis. The game is played with singles or doubles. A court is constructed on a well-drained, flat surface similar to a tennis court.

Level Foley Field, located next to Lake Wallace, 59 State St.

The Belchertown Recreation Dept. is looking to improve Foley field by leveling out an area near the trails towards Lake Wallace. Leveling this area would allow the dept. to move the current baseball field and maximize the additional open field space to use for a variety of sports and programs.

Disc Golf, located at Piper Farm

The Belchertown Recreation Dept. is looking to create an 18-hole disc golf course at the Piper Farms location. There are now more than 2000 disc golf courses in the United States and Canada, nearly all installed by city and county parks departments. They have found that there are few recreational activities that offer the high benefit to cost ratio of disc golf. Disc golf has relatively low capital and maintenance costs compared with other recreational installations, is environmentally sound and is enjoyed even by beginners of all ages.

Fencing, located at CHCS

The Belchertown Recreation Dept. would like to add 95 feet of fencing to finish the CHCS field's area in order to keep unauthorized vehicles from driving onto the recreation fields.

Bill recommended reviewing the basketball policies at the February meeting.

Tilo asked that the meeting adjourn and recommended scheduling the next meeting.

Next Recreation Committee meeting is Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Recreation Conference Room.

Tilo made a motion to adjourn. *Nancy seconded, motion passed 3-0-0.*

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.