



16 UNION STREET  
HAMILTON, MA 01982

DIRECTOR  
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## MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, December 19, 2018

PRESENT:

Steve Ozahowski, Chairperson  
John Cusolito  
Brad Tilley  
Len Dolan  
Denis Curran  
Sean Timmons, Recreation Director

Guests – Jeremy Coffey, New England Flag Football, Phil Tocci

Accept Minutes

**Denis makes a motion to accept the minutes from 11.19.18 Brad 2<sup>nd</sup> - All in Favor 5-0**

AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSED:

### 1. Public Comment

No Public Comment

### 2. New England Flag Football request for reduction in user fee payment

Jeremy Coffey from New England Flag Football appeared before the Committee requesting a reduction in user fee payment due to weather cancellation from the Flag Football season. Jeremy explained that this past season three Saturdays were cancelled due to the weather and on one of those occasions they needed to rent space at Pingree/Manchester Essex. Steve asked Jeremy if the referees were paid or the league incurred direct costs due to the cancellations, Jeremy responded that no other costs were incurred by the league due to the cancellations other than field rentals. Sean reminded the board that youth leagues renting fields elsewhere was no uncommon for HW youth leagues as Boys and Girls Lacrosse, Little League and Youth basketball all rent time at other locations due to the lack of facilities in town. Denis asked Jeremy what the breakdown of resident to non-resident participants was for the league and suggested that there might be a compromise that could be made for the percentage of residents playing. Steve asked Jeremy if the league refunded the participants for the missed games which Jeremy informed the committee they did not. On behalf of the Flag Football League Jeremy officially withdrew his request for the reduction and fees and agreed to pay the full fee of \$10 per participant.

### 3. Discussion on re-naming Donovan Field (238 Sagamore Street)

Sean informed the committee that he had spoken with Town Counsel who let Sean know that the town would have to petition the Hamilton Wenham Open Land Trust in order to officially name the field. Sean asked the committee if they had any suggestions on what to name the field. Brad informed the committee that he had done some research and had two suggestions Masconomet Field or Sagamore Field, though personally he felt Sagamore Field was the better options. Brad provided a brief history of that land and the board agreed that due to the history and the fact the field was located on Sagamore Street, that Sagamore Field was the better option. The committee requested that Sean start this process.

**Denis makes a motion to recommend that Donovan Field be renamed to Sagamore Field, Brad 2<sup>nd</sup> – All in favor 5-0**



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#### **4. Pingree Park Tennis Court Update**

Sean updated the committee that the Wenham Board of Selectmen, at one of their previous meetings decided to not pursue a renovation to the courts as part of their FY20 Budget. Sean informed the committee that part of the decision was due to the fact that the school had given no indication as of yet that they were willing to provide funding for the project.

#### **5. Turf Field Project Update**

Sean asked Phil Tocci to provide an update of the Turf Project to the Committee. Phil informed the committee that he along with other members of a turf working group had met with school officials. Phil provided the committee with a synopsis of that meeting. Phil indicated that school officials had informed him that in order to create a full working committee on the project that some funds would need to be in place first. Phil told the committee that he told school officials it was important to have an understanding in place that youth sports in town would be able to use the fields when the HS was not, indicating that possible donors wanted to know this information before donating funds to the project. The committee felt that the school/school committee should take a more active role in the project since it is on town property and only they would be able to provide information to possible donors. Phil wondered if would be a good idea to hold a public meeting where this information could be provided to the public in order to create some "buzz" about the project. Sean let the committee know he would inquire about the availability of the meeting room for such a meeting.

#### **5. Winter Program Update**

Sean provided a brief update on the winter programming that was about to begin. Sean informed the committee that enrollment was up across the board and that he expected another FY where participation and revenue was on the rise. Sean credited Danielle with doing outstanding work and mentioned that the move of that position from PT to FT has made a real difference in the amount of programming being offered.

No new Business

Motion to Adjourn

**Denis makes a motion to adjourn, Steve 2nds All in Favor 5-0**