



# *Town of Adams* • Massachusetts 01220

## Parks Commission

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**Approved**

**Parks Commission Meeting Minutes**  
Adams Town Hall\*, 8 Park Street, Adams MA  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Mahogany Room  
**Monday, February 13, 2023 5:00pm**

**Members Present:** Interim Co-Chair Jake Schutz, Interim Co-Chair Jim Fassell, Member Mary Ciuk

**Members Absent:** Member Sarah Pansecchi, Member Aimee Sinopoli

**Others Present:** Michelle DeRose-Administrative Assistant, Tim Cota-DPW Operations Supervisor, Becky Ferguson-Community Development, Joe Nowak – Select Board member, Keith Lagess - Hoosac Valley High School, Lou Moser- ACS Girls Softball, Mike Benson- Adams Cheshire Little League, Celia Norcross – Soccer

**Call Meeting to Order:** Mr. Schutz called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and stated that the meeting is being recorded.

**Approval of Minutes:** October 3, 2022; Mr. Schutz motioned to approve the minutes as written, Ms. Ciuk seconded, All voted Yes unanimously

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

- **Field Request form: Adams Cheshire Little League – Mike Benson; Valley St – Beaver Bard Park; Mar 25 – Oct 1; Weekends 9am-9pm; Week days till 9pm**  
Mr. Benson indicated that the application is the same as in past years. Participation has increased to allow for another team. Only had a lull for a short time. Mr. Fassell motioned to approve application, Mr. Schutz seconded. All voted YES unanimously.
- **Field Request Form: ACS Girls Softball – Lou Moser; Reid Field; Mar 15 – Aug 31; Weekends morning & afternoons, Week days afternoon & evenings**  
Mr. Moser indicated that the application is the same as in past years. Mr. Schutz motioned to approve application, Ms. Ciuk seconded. All voted YES unanimously.
- **Field Request form: Hoosac Valley High School – Jeff Puleri; Russell Field; Mar-20 – May 31; Weekdays 3-6pm practice/games**  
Mr. Schutz motioned to approve application, Ms. Ciuk seconded. Mr. Schutz inquired how the field is holding up after allowing time to rest. Mr. Cota suggested to not abuse the field. Most of the issue with the field was beyond the fence where football is typically practiced. Mr. Lagess shared the upcoming schedule. Most of the games will be during the week and no night time games at this time. If there is one, it may be the last or senior game or when playing Drury game. Latest time is 4:30pm currently. Mr. Cota requested to have advanced notice for any rescheduled games to give ample time to prep the field. Mr. Lagess will work with Mark Pizani with any changes. Mr. Schutz asked if the lighting is in working order. Mr. Cota will check on that. All voted YES unanimously.

- **Field Request form: Soccer – Celia Norcross; Valley St Field; Apr 10 – Jul 30; ASC weekdays 5-7pm practices, Saturdays 12-3pm games, Sundays 9-3pm games; ACSYS: Saturdays 9-12pm practices and games same day**

Ms. Norcross said the application is the same as previous years. Mr. Schutz requested a reminder of the difference between the soccer clubs. Ms. Norcross answered The Adams Soccer Club (ASC) is a travel league that travels all through Berkshire County. The Adams Cheshire Savoy Youth Soccer (ACSYS) is a house league program which is open to Adams, Cheshire and Savoy youth. Some players participate in both the leagues. The participation is good – total participation is 150-200. Mr. Schutz motioned to approve application, Ms. Ciuk seconded. Mr. Schutz inquired about the number trash barrels up there. Ms. Norcross said that they are mainly by the concession stand and there is one in the far corner. She added that they do have a portable toilet that they pay for themselves and place it at the far end as they do not use the bathroom facilities. They also work with Bart to coordinate shared time on the field. All voted YES unanimously.

- **Soccer Field Shed Replacement Request Discussion – Celia Norcross**

Ms. Norcross said that there are 2 wooden structures they have up at Valley Street soccer field. One is the concession stand that has electricity hooked to it that houses a refrigerator and freezer to serve drinks to the kids. They have not run a full concession stand in a while since Covid and never really made any profit from it. It was more to have things available to the kids. The other structure is an equipment shed approximately 5'x5' in size. Last year there was vandalism damage to the window and "creature" holes from mice or other animals. They have tried to seal them without great success. There is excessive mice droppings and she spends each weekend she is up there cleaning and sanitizing the equipment for use. They also store the lining equipment in this shed. They would like to store the uniforms there which, currently are stored at her home and they should be stored in a location that others have access to in case she is not available.

They have a relationship with Sheds N Stuff and are getting a decent discount. The shed they are looking to purchase is an 8'x16' size where the current shed is approximately 5'x5'. Sheds N Stuff will deliver the new and remove the old shed. The new shed will be placed in the same spot of the old shed. For the past 5 years, the clubs have had fundraising events to put towards this expense. Mr. Cota does not see any issues with this replacement. There will be a shared key that Town could have access to the new shed. The Town will arrange to provide the gate key to them for emergency vehicles to have access to that side of the field. Mr. Schutz gave thanks to Sheds N Stuff as well as the two leagues for providing upgrades into the structure.

Mr. Schutz motioned to approve the acceptance of the new shed upgrade, Ms. Ciuk seconded. All voted YES unanimously.

- **Flagpole at Renfrew Discussion**

Mr. Fassell said that the flag at Renfrew is not visible when pledging allegiance to the flag. He mentioned that Memorial School has 2 flag poles. The one on the West side of the road is a memorial and the other on the East side in the horseshoe bus loop which organizations may have events at this location as well. Mr. Fassell suggested that the East side pole be moved next to the scoreboard at Renfrew. Mr. Cota said that the current flagpole at Renfrew (which is currently behind the scoreboard and arborvitae trees) may just be able to be moved rather than take the one from the school. Mr. Schutz asked Mr. Cota to take a look into the cost involved to move the current pole or purchase new if necessary. Perhaps we can ask the American Legion for a donation for any of the costs.

- **Budget Discussion**

Mrs. DeRose stated that Mr. Fassell had requested to include this as an agenda item. In her conversations with Mr. Fassell, he had brought up fertilizing the fields and she had mentioned that budget meetings with Department Heads had already been underway. Mr. Cota shared that we purchased the fertilizer turf machine for \$15,000 recently and we have a licensed applicator in house as well. We did not have a specific line item in the budget for chemicals to treat the fields. Previously, we had Countryside Landscape do a one-time application for Renfrew Field only at a price of approximately \$1500. The budget request is to increase our chemicals line item to include the cost of materials for treating all the fields twice a year and is awaiting approval. The goal is to have the most pristine and healthy fields after putting so much time and money into upgrading the fields. The chemicals used are all state approved materials.

**For the Good of the Order:**

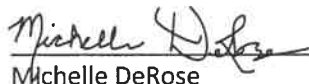
Mr. Fassell is glad we are going in that direction for the fields. He feels more should be brought to the Parks Commission and have more of an influence than that of what they have had in the past. He wondered if it is because he is only available by phone. He said he would never intentionally miss a meeting. He thinks that the Parks Commission should get more involved in what's going on. He shared concern of missed meetings. Mrs. DeRose said there had not been anything offered to be placed on an agenda since October. She suggested if any of the members wanted anything to be included in the agenda to notify her. Mr. Fassell stated that Mr. Cota is real good ally to have and have him on their side including the commission in the discussion.

Mr. Schutz showed his appreciation of having Mr. Cota provide updates and the investment plan for the health of the fields. It's great to hear about the shed replacement from the Soccer leagues.

**Schedule next meeting date:** March 13, 2023 5:00pm

**Adjournment:** Ms. Ciuk requested motioned to adjourn and; Mr. Schutz seconded. All voted Yes unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michelle DeRose  
Administrative Assistant

3/15/2023

Date