

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

Citizen's Advisory Committee – Athletic Fields Meeting Minutes May 23, 2017

Committee Members Present

Glenn Schloeffel, Board Member
Sharon Collopy, Board Member
Loretta Jenkins, DAA
Jon Biederman, WAA
Becky Barlow – CBAA

John Kopicki, Superintendent
Bill Slawter, Facilities Manager
Ken Rodemer, Asst. Director Operations
Danielle Turner – Director of Athletics

Others in Attendance

Beth Darcy – Board President; Paul Faulkner – Board Member; Suzanne Moffat – Facilities Office Mgr.;
Louisa Isernia – Operations Staff; Ed Tate – Director of Communications; Wayne Birster – CBESPA

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mr. Schloeffel

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment requested at this meeting

REVIEW OF MEETING NOTES

The February 28, 2017 Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved without changes.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

Mr. Slawter reported that spring cleanup has been completed in almost all fields, Unami will be finished today. General turf maintenance will begin once all ball fields are finished. Twenty-four sheds have been deployed, three remain to be distributed. Access codes for the sheds have been emailed to authorized users. There may be other elementary fields that would need upgrading before they could be used for athletic events, the remaining sheds may be deployed there.

Discussion was held regarding field maintenance performed by groups not participating in the Citizen's Advisory Committee. Softball America utilizes a Groveland field for softball, the school only uses the field for kickball. Softball America does touchup to all their rented fields prior to use. If Softball America can maintain the field it is possible it may be utilized more by the district. It was agreed that Softball America may have access to the fields.

The sheds currently have a list of emergency numbers and field maintenance requirements (in bullet format). The DAA has field maintenance requirements in checklist form. The DAA checklist overlaps the current information, but may be easier to use. It was agreed that the DAA checklist should be included with the other information posted in the sheds. Emergency phone numbers are provided for all groups, the checklist is specific to baseball. Additional checklists may be provided that address other sports and could be included with the posted information. There is an inventory list in each shed, groups are asked to check the list before and after use. Access to the shed may be given to outside groups if they frequently use the fields, however it was agreed that one time users should not have access.

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INFORMATION/DISCUSSION (continued)

Loretta Jenkins commented that the fields are in better shape than they have been in the last five years. There are no issues or concerns at this time.

The Facilities Weekly Look Ahead schedule is typically updated on Fridays, and can be located under the Facilities & Operations tab on the CB website.

It was reported that there is an abundance of poison ivy surrounding the JV field at Lenape. The DAA had submitted a wish list of items that included a large net to prevent balls from going in to that field. Mr. Slawter will have it sprayed over the weekend.

A question was raised regarding the covers on the drains at Tohickon Middle School. There was a concern that it would prevent drainage. Mr. Slawter commented that the covers are there to address safety issues with students using nearby fields, the building staff will remove the covers in the event of rain.

The "Adopt a Field" initiative is under review by the district solicitor and will be tabled at tonight's School Board meeting. Once the initiative is approved, the question was raised regarding whether it would be retroactive for spring participants. Mr. Schloeffel commented that it was his understanding that it would be retroactive.

There is a unique situation with the Tohickon fields and Plumsteadville Township. The fields are considered a public park on the weekends. The township handles the scheduling and receives the fees, CB supplies the maintenance. The question was raised if the fields could be part of the "Adopt a Field" initiative due to that arrangement. Mr. Kopicki asked why that arrangement was in effect. Mr. Rodemer explained that it was part of the land development agreement. He will supply Mr. Kopicki with a copy of the agreement for his review.

An "Adopt a Field" form must be completed each season – two per season are available to groups. The group that previously held the field has first refusal rights before another group may request it.

Concern was expressed regarding "missing" items from the sheds and whether there will be any accountability. Mr. Slawter commented that prompt notice of missing items will allow us to identify the last user and contact them. It was agreed that some loss is to be expected and should be appropriately budgeted for.

Mrs. Collopy informed the committee that Facilities Use charges will be voted on at tonight's School Board meeting.

Mr. Schloeffel commented on the excellent progress addressing safety issues and improvements. Communication has been great, and special thanks was given to Mr. Slawter and the Facilities & Operations Department for their hard work. There was discussion of a possible Fall meeting to discuss progress and the need for any corrections to the agreement or process.

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INFORMATION/DISCUSSION (continued)

The possibility of a meeting in July to address the spring season was discussed. Committee members will communicate and decide at a later date if the additional meeting is necessary.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Schloeffel adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.
Minutes prepared by Christine Trawinski, Committee Recording Secretary

FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULED

July 24, 2017