

Stowe Recreation Commission Meeting
Stowe Arena - Community Room
November 6, 2024
5:00pm

Members Present: Bill Scudder, Forrest Shinnars, Jared Anello, Brett Loomis, Lyn Goldsmith, Deb Drinkwater, Matt Frazee.

Guests: Patti and Joe Cignoli of Stowe Pickleball

Forrest Shinnars calls meeting to order. Agenda Approved. September meeting minutes approved.

MAYO WETLAND DELINEATION:

- Wetland delineation study reveals that wetlands are increasing for fields JKL since last study in 2010
 - caused by new state regulations, definitions and criteria
 - Field L (Polo Field) has worst impacts
 - Field J has areas of wetlands near residential areas
 - Field K could house volleyball courts, pickleball courts, little league fields, a bantage cage, storage sheds and a parking area
- To proceed with development at Field K —>
 - Copy of Master Agreement between US Corps of Engineers and Town Of Stowe. MF trying to locate
 - Master Agreement needs to be evaluated because it contains agreements not to alter soil anywhere else at Mayo after redoing Field A. Need to determine if there are legally binding soil impact considerations that will prohibit recreational development
 - Agreements between the Town of Stowe and the Stowe Land Trust to create the Mayo Farm Easement needs to be better understood before the Easement renews in 2028
 - does Stowe Land Trust consider recreation to be a top priority for use of Mayo Farm land
 - Preferences of the Selectboard for priorities at Mayo Farm need to be better understood.
 - Committee considering recommending that the Town purchase new property for recreational usage

PICKLEBALL:

- 175K previously approved in FY 24 budget
- Recommend that Selectboard approve an additional \$100K and approve work to being in March to create 6 dedicated pickleball/multipurpose courts

- In house site prep, bid processes can go out in March
- Work can be start in Spring/continue as permitting and budgeting allows
- No need for tennis courts because they are available at the High School. Stowe Pickleball representatives have been regular attendees for the last several years at Recreation Committee meetings
- This is a long term solution because while the primary use would be pickleball for the near term, as the overall plan for Memorial Park is determined, with the possibility of 8 new pickleball courts in a different location behind the Arena, the work done on this area would allow for it to be repurposed as a skatepark, future dedicated tennis courts, or expanded basketball, etc..

STOWE ARENA RATES:

- Motion to recommend proposed rates
 - Ice rental rate \$240/hour prime, \$180 non prime
 - Turf rental rate \$165/hour, \$155 non prime
- Lower price did not impact non prime usage
- Keeping youth organization discount of \$25/hour

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Lyn Goldsmith raised questions about the condition of and process for placing picnic tables and benches along the Rec and Quiet paths
- Questions about the memorial bench program and if can be dissolved and replaced with a Plaque Program
- Will be an agenda item at next month's meeting

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30