

Ball Diamond Task Force Minutes
Monday, Sept. 9, 2019 5:30 pm
Civic Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heyer, Langner, K. Miller (Left at 5:54), T. Miller, Nus, Petersen
MEMBERS ABSENT: Brittain
COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Soash
STAFF PRESENT: Bronner, Riordan
VISITORS: None

SUMMARY OF FORMAL ACTION: The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm by Chair, Langner.

Motion: To approve Sept. 9, 2019 agenda as presented.

10-19 Moved: K. Miller Secoded: Heyer
Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

Motion: To approve Aug. 19, 2019 Minutes as presented.

11-19 Moved: T. Miller Secoded: K. Miller
Yes: 6 No: 0 Absent: 1

Regular Business.

1. Continued Discussion for What is Needed for Ball Diamonds, etc.

Langner said ball complex will concentrate on 12u and under. Currently Shell Rock has 3 diamonds, Memorial Park has 3 diamonds, and Kiwanis Park has 3 diamonds as long as it is usable. K. Miller asked what would deem Kiwanis fields as unusable. Langner mentioned if the City wanted to use the area for something else. Bronner explained that at some point the are could be used for an assortment of different things in the future. A campground is one possibility, but it would make sense to still leave at least 1 diamond in the area. Shell Rock and Memorial Fields can be used for 13u and 14u. It's not ideal, but it will work.

What is needed: 1 Miracle League Field

6 Diamonds that would satisfy the needs of 12u baseball and all youth softball

1 Diamond for 13u

Flag Football Fields: T. Miller wondered if flag football could be played on the soccer fields. However, when flag football is scheduled to play and practice is when soccer players would also be using the fields. Flag football can be played on the new ball diamonds or they can stay in Memorial Park for now. The task force liked the idea of having "everything" (baseball, softball, soccer, and flag football) all in the same area. Mayor Soash asked if Council approves a location could a fund raising campaign begin. Bronner said that once we get estimates for grading, construction, etc. then fund raising will begin.

T. Miller wondered if the chosen property was the area North of Soccer Complex for the location would the land west of town (Champions Ridge) be sold. And if it was, could that money be used towards developing the ball diamonds.

2. Advantages/Disadvantages of site North of Soccer Complex and Champions Ridge Site

Discussion was that the advantages of the site North of the Soccer Complex outweighed the advantages of Champions Ridge site. Advantages and disadvantages have been hashed out in previous meetings.

Langner mentioned being in the area around Cedar River Parkway over the past couple of weeks and had noticed all of the foot and bike traffic using the sidewalk/trail in the area of the proposed location. Disadvantages that were talked about for the Champions Ridge site included the start up cost (moving dirt to level out area) and the cost to add infrastructure cost a great deal more than the site North of the Soccer Complex.

3. Recommend to Council a Location for Youth Ball Diamonds

Riordan read aloud an Email from Brittain who was absent stating that he highly recommended a miracle league field, 3 youth baseball, and 3 youth softball fields be constructed on the area North of the Soccer Complex.

Motion: To Recommend to Council the Area North of the Soccer Fields for the proposed Youth Ball Diamonds to be Constructed

12-19	Moved: T. Miller	Seconded: Petersen
Yes: 5	No: 0	Absent: 2

Staff Report:

Bronner stated that if the Council approves the location then staff will get an RFP together. Construction timelines would be that hopefully grading could take place in Spring of 2020, seed in Fall of 2020 and be playing in the spring of 2021.

Riordan said that the recommendation of the Area North of the Soccer Complex for the proposed youth ball diamonds will be on Sept. 16th meeting. Anyone who is available for that meeting should attend.

Chair Report:

Langner will have a report for Council for the Sept. 16th meeting.

Next Meeting:

Sept. 23, 2019 5:30 PM Civic Center

Adjournment:

Motion: To Adjourn

13-19	Moved: Petersen	Seconded: Langner
Yes: 5	No: 0	Absent: 2

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Garret Riordan
Commission Secretary
Leisure Services Director