

Diamond Field Fund Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2016

Arlington, Virginia

Chair Steve Severn called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Members participating were Phil Juliano (ABR), Drew Murray (AAS), Richie Pacheco (ATB), Adam Rasmussen (ALL), and Jerry Spitz (ASBR).

DFFC Charter

Mr. Severn open the initial meeting of the DFFC. He reviewed the purpose, charter and responsibility of the committee. He provided physical handout packet containing the discussion points. DFFC will need to provide meeting minutes to the Sports Commission.

Calendar

The committee had a lot questions about the timing of submissions. Mr. Severn will reach out to the Sports Commission for clarification on proposal deadlines (currently stated as annually).

New Business

Field Fund Proposals:

Covered (Roofed) Batting Cages

Mr. Pacheco proposed the idea of funding roofed batting cages at possibly Barcroft, Westover and possible future fields (Bluemont).

Gunston Turf Field Option

The Arlington Sports Foundation (ASF) (Chair Greg Patton) has approached the diamond field fund organizations to allocate \$190,000 towards the turf option at the new Gunston diamond field. ASF has a \$100,000 match contingent on ABR & ALL approving \$50,000 each.

ASF has submitted the proposal and presentation to DFFC for review on 11/3/2016.

Prior to DFFC kickoff ABR and ALL organizations approved \$50,000 each towards the goal. ATB has already agreed to allocate their portions of their field towards the project (~\$3,000). After these funds approximately \$87,000.00 delta would need to be resolved. According to ASF, Adult Softball (AAS) and maybe AGSA would contribute as well.

Mr. Murray will contact DPR Ryan Amato regarding AAS funds. Approximately \$62,000 is slated under AAS.

The DFFC have voiced concern over usage especially during diamond season to outside groups. During the off season the field can be permitted as DPR sees fit.

The DFFC needs to understand as best they can about the time allocation between youth and adult leagues. John Foti (ASF) provided a rough breakdown on hours and how the schedule may be set up. Mr. Rasmussen will contact DPR's Ryan Amato to discuss time slots and DPR's stance.

Less maintenance cost and maybe an extended life cycle of the turf was also discussed.

Regardless DFFC suggests a MOU is established between the County and the groups allocating funds to the project. DFFC wants to highlight that this is a special case and recognizes the importance of this as a pilot program, but large scale allocation of money from DFFC should not be the norm or expected in future projects.

Greenbrier Storage Facility

Mr. Severn introduced a Greenbrier storage facility. The 12 x 20 structure would be concrete and placed in the far centerfield corner of Field #2 – where the batting cages end at field #1. The \$30,000 estimate would include the structure and build, but no power element and no redesign of fencing is included. A few members asked about fencing the structure in for safety. Mr. Rasmussen raised if other options were explored, as cheaper alternatives may serve the same purpose. He and Mr. Pacheco volunteered to research other options and will report back to the committee.

Utah Field Improvements

Mr. Juliano suggested improvements to Utah as this is one field that could be used by diamond and softball leagues at different levels. Adding batting cage(s) (roofed or not), bullpens, dugouts, pressbox, scoreboard and new lights were mentioned. Also discussed was the field layout and ground around the field. The field sits at the bottom of a hill in the Fairlington neighborhood.

Respectfully Submitted,

Phil Juliano