

TOWN OF RED HOOK RECREATION COMMISSION

7340 South Broadway, Red Hook, NY 12571

Phone: 845-758-4625 Fax: 845-758-5313

Monday, 8 August 2016

Submitted by John D. Kuhn, Park and Programs Director

2016 Summer Recreation Programs

All summer programs are now over except for Tee Ball and Softball that ends on 10 August, and the Coed Sports Camp that ends on 4 August. Program Reports and Notebooks are supposed to be turned in by 27 August 2016.

Recreation Park Maintenance

Park Staff has been involved in the demands of daily ballfield grooming and mowing. Development of the Bus Parking Area in the South Parking Lot continues with much progress accomplished. Howard Callies manages the project and has done a very professional job with careful attention paid to grade and to drainage.

Linden Avenue Bridge

New Century Construction, LLC completed the bridge ahead of schedule! It is now open for traffic.

South Park Entrance

Dutchess County rebuilt the south entrance to the Recreational Park and eliminated the swale along the east side of the road when they black topped the section of Linden Avenue. This is a major improvement to the entrance! The entry is now without the major bump everyone had to drive over. Also, the elimination of the swale allows us to mow along the roadway safely.

2016 Rhinebeck Legion Band Concert

The Rhinebeck Legion Band that the Recreation Commission sponsors every year was held on Tuesday, 2 August 2016 on the lawn at the Linden Avenue Middle School at 7:00 p.m. The weather cooperated with a very pleasant evening and Over 70 attended the concert. I purchased ten signs advertising the free concert and posted them at appropriate spots around town.

Tennis Courts

A rebuild of the tennis courts is scheduled for August of 2017. Funding for this project has been approved by the Red Hook Town Board. The RFP Process will begin once financing is finalized.

Dutchess County Safety Inspection – 19 July 2016

On Tuesday, 19 July 2016, Elsa Gracian, Dutchess County Safety Specialist, inspected the Town Hall, the Highway Garage Complex, the Recycling Center/Exchange Garage, and the Recreation Park. Two items at the Recreation Park were identified as hazardous. There was a broken duplex outlet in the north bay of the Maintenance Building and the bench grinder work rest was not adjusted to be within 1/8" from the grinder wheel as required. Both deficiencies have been corrected.

Infield Rebuilds

The Town Board approved the release of funds to rebuild the infields of all three ball fields that require the removal and replacement of the infield material. A contractor with a tracked machine will remove a few inches of the infield and replace it with new material. At the same time the transition from infield to

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outfield (the lip) will be removed and seeded. The ball field projects must be done during the growing season in the fall of 2016.

Please note that the infield rebuilds will require that the Baseball Field and the North Field be closed to all practice and play for the fall.

The Middle Field will remain open for play as long as possible to accommodate the Over-40 Softball League.

Ball Field Power Outlet Projects

Installing a 110V outlet for use on the North Field and a 110V outlet on the Baseball Field will be completed in August. The cost of 2" conduit is .70 per foot or \$350.00 for 500 feet. Sweeps are \$2.97 each at Red Hook Electrical Supply. The outlet boxes and ground fault outlets would be supplied by the electrician hired to do the wiring. The requirements within the maintenance building to accommodate the outlet to the baseball field are not yet determined, but they should not be overly expensive. We have the funds in the 2016 equipment budget line to cover the costs of these projects.

St. Margaret's Home Passive Park for North Lawn

I would like to remind everyone once again that the development of the North Lawn at St. Margaret's Home into a Passive Park is on the 2016 Wish List. The creation of a design, assistance from the Old Dutch Village Garden Club, donations of benches and picnic tables, and other ideas are all issues for consideration.

Recreation Park Extension Development Funding Opportunities

As noted in last month's report, Supervisor McKeon met with Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro to discuss possible CBDG and Shared Services grants. Included in the discussion was the possibility of developing a field or area specifically for users with special needs. This concept introduces the exciting possibility of providing a facility that is clearly needed in Red Hook. The Recreation Commission has been tasked with exploring development possibilities.

As you may have read in the newspaper, the grant applications have been submitted.

Plaque for Don Whipple

The plaque is finished at a cost of \$516.00. The wording is as follows:

Don Whipple

In Recognition of 25 Years
Of Dedicated Service to the
Community of Red Hook

This wording matches that done in the past for Bob Bowman and Gordie Mergendahl, and will be mounted on the Recreational Park of Red Hook sign. Will there be a special program planned for mounting the plaque?

Snack Bar Storage – Doors

As reported last month, the door to the Snack Bar storage area has been further damaged. The wood inside the metal clad door has been broken so that there is now a space between the bottom side of the door and the jamb. All efforts at repair have failed. The door must be replaced. If possible it would be best to redesign the door to open out instead of in so as to make it impossible to kick the

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door in again. I contacted a door company who will visit the park to inspect the door and to provide a cost estimate for replacement.

Purchase of Lot by Entrance to Recreation Park West

The Purchase Lot 1 adjacent to the entrance to the Recreation Park Extension is in the works! Purchase of this lot will allow a clearly better entrance and parking area, and would preserve the view shed. The use of CPF funds for this purchase may be possible.

Pavilion Group Grill

We installed a new group grill on NYS Contract from Jamestown Advanced Products. This grill is specially made and does not have a utensil shelf and is 24" high rather than 36" high in an effort to reduce the chances of someone running into the grill. At present there is the temporary barrier (posts and two levels of yellow rope) around the grill. A permanent barrier around the grill would limit access from the pavilion. Is a permanent barrier needed?

Bicycle Racks from Dutchess County

The bicycle racks are now installed on slabs by the Basketball Court. Dutchess County required that the free racks be mounted on concrete slabs. Using the 5" thick concrete sidewalks removed from the front of the Town Hall met the DC mounting requirements and eliminated the expense of pouring concrete slabs.

Grant to Construct Ballfield for Disabled Players

The Red Hook Town Board applied for grants to construct a ballfield for players with special needs. Find attached the article from the Kingston Freeman.

Beam Clay for Baseball and Softball Infields

I revisited Taconic Hills High School on Saturday, 6 August to inspect their very well maintained ball fields. The Beam Clay Baseball Diamond Mix Original Premium (4mm screen) has held up well since my earlier visit in the spring. A few tons would have to be stockpiled for field repairs and a minimum of 75 tons would be required for all three infields if they all were returned to original infield measurements at a cost of \$8,400.00 to \$9,000. The existing "sand" on the infields would require removal and a tracked machine and professional operator would be required to spread the new Beam Clay.

The resized infields would require top soil to replace the area where the infield mix was removed, and the areas would require seeding or sodding. Further research into topsoil suggests that the best is from Southern Columbia at a cost of \$35.00 for the basic topsoil or \$45.00 per ton for their very best. All three fields could require 50 tons at a cost of \$1200.00 plus the cost of the Highway Department Truck and Driver.

The tracked machine and operator would cost approximately \$4,000.

Grass seed, starter fertilizer and chopped straw would cost \$600

The entire project cost estimate is \$15,000.00 and would have to be done in late August or early September to catch the best growing season for grass.

Parking Lot Light Repairs – Stanford Line Construction

On 21 July 2016, Stanford Line Construction repaired the both lights in the South Parking Lot, the single light in the North Parking Lot, and the southwest light on the Tennis Courts. I purchased the needed parts at Warren Electric on Morton Boulevard in Kingston that the electricians installed.

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Timer for North Parking Lot Light

Bob McCarthy installed a timer on one leg of the 220V line of the North Parking Lot Light. The light could not be controlled by a light sensor perhaps because it lacked a separate ground wire needed by the photo cell to work properly. I set the timer to come on at 7:00 p.m. and to go off at 7:00 a.m. As the fall approaches we can adjust the timer appropriately. Hopefully this will solve all the

Baseball/Softball Batting Cage

Little League has inquired about installing a batting cage between the North and Middle Fields. If the specifications of the batting cage are properly done, this could be a very positive addition to the park. I talked at some length with Tom Gilbert, RHCS D Varsity Softball Coach, about the batting cage, and he has very clear ideas about how to make this a durable installation that could be used by both baseball and softball players. As talks continue with Little League and the Red Hook Sports Club, I will keep everyone informed.

Pickle Ball Court Request

I received the following email from David Jutton:

Hi John, Thanks for letting me bend your ear about Pickle ball. I have attached some details about how courts can be dual use for tennis and pickle ball. For now if we can get the two north courts lined for pickle ball it would be great. We only have the platform tennis court at Bard to use and with 10-16 regular players we have more people waiting to play on scheduled nights than is practical. Andy Clark runs the adult education pickle ball program at the Jr. High and an option to move outdoors in the reasonable weather would be a help to that program as well. Pickle ball is growing fast and is very popular with "older" tennis players whose knees and personalities restrict playing time. It is low cost, fast moving and just a lot of fun. When a full renovation plan goes ahead for the tennis courts maybe some consideration could go toward dedicated pickle ball courts. Four will fit in the space of one tennis court. At any rate starting small and getting lines on a couple of tennis courts would be a great help and a big step.

Pickle ball court

base line width 20 feet

total court length 44 feet

net at half court with net height of 34 inches center and 36 inches at posts side to side no volley line marked at 7 feet from net (each side) service center line at center of court (10 feet from side) running from no volley line to base line on each side of the court.

A tennis net can be used by lowering the center to 34 inches

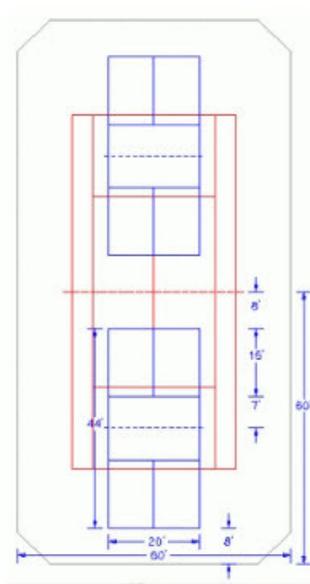
I believe that we should make the effort to create two pickle ball courts on the north two of the existing tennis courts in August. It would be interesting to see how many people would come up in the evenings to play. Tennis players would still have the two south courts for play and for use of the tennis bounce boards. Park Staff could probably paint the court with red dotted lines. If the courts get used, it would suggest that it should be included in the plans for the tennis court rebuild.

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The diagram below shows how a pickle ball court would fit on the tennis court.



Hannaford Day at the Recreation Park

On Wednesday 3 August the employees from the several Hannaford Stores in our area competed in a softball tournament at the Recreation Park. Refreshments and lunch were set up in the Pavilion. The Championship Game on the Middle Field concluded the day around 6:00 p.m.

2017 Budget Development

I am in the process of developing the budget for 2017. Budget Officer Rose Rider has informed us that we are looking at a budget cap of less than 1% - .68%. Given increased expenses in areas over which we have no control, it will be interesting to see how this affects the Recreation Budget. As in the past, I will meet with Doug Strawinski to go over all the budget items.

2016 OCFS Grant – New Fiscal Forms

Dutchess County Community and Family Services, Division of Youth Services notified us that new fiscal reporting forms will be required for grant payments. I will work all this out with Ann Conway in the business office.

2016 Accident/Incident Reports

Accident/Incident Report issues are addressed by the Supervisor, Business Manager, and Town Attorney as outlined in the Town of Red Hook Employee Handbook. This process insures that all confidentiality concerns are handled properly.