



TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD

Recreation & Parks Department



Recreation and Parks Meeting Minutes

10/21/2014

NOTE: The following is a **summary** of matters submitted at a meeting of the Recreation and Parks Commission in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 39 and the Massachusetts Open Meeting Laws. Meetings are often recorded and tapes used as an aid.

- 1) **Call to order:** Chip called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.
- 2) **Attendance:**
 - a) Present (constituting a quorum): Chip, Linda, Jerry, Sam, and Derek.
 - b) Absent: None.
- 3) **Minutes of last meeting:** **Motion** made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 9/30/14 meeting; all in favor.
- 4) **Reports:**
 - a) Devereux Beach: Bill James attended to discuss how beach operations went overall this past season. Discussion included lifeguards and maintenance staff; scheduling; job performance and evaluations; equipment; task checklists; paddleboard; parking, parking lot islands, and parking fees; storm damage to sidewalks; pavilions; beach garage maintenance; bathrooms; trash, concession stand operations, policing property at night, park police, lighting the playground & pavilions, and vacation blackout dates. After discussion:
 - i) **Motion** made and seconded to raise weekend parking fees to \$15 and possibly weekday fees to \$10 pending negotiation with the Finance Committee to allow all additional fees to come directly to the Department for beach maintenance and improvements; all in favor.
 - ii) Tim & Bill will coordinate the following: grounds and sidewalk maintenance this fall with Highway Department; meeting with Pete Dearborn regarding pavilions; contacting the Town Administrator regarding beach garage maintenance funds; and winterizing the bathrooms by November 1st.
 - iii) Board agreed concession stand tenants must follow Commission policies as the contract states.
 - b) Tim (see copy). Addendum:
 - i) Pam Boyd has taken over as interim director of COA.
 - ii) Board must approve any events at the new beach playground; the Family Fund has no authority over the property.
 - iii) Recommended John Morris for the open Groundskeeper position; **Motion** made and seconded to approve; all in favor.
 - iv) There is no public water access to the dog park.
 - v) Discussion of Don Morgan's proposal (see attached). Tim is checking to see if it's doable, and Don will attend a future meeting if the Finance Department rules the donation for a seasonal employee to be hired is legal.
 - c) Travis (see copy). No addendum.
- 5) **Old Business:**
 - a) Big Belly trash compactors: Tim is still in the midst of discussions with company and Board of Health regarding software renewals.
 - b) Paddle Board: Chip reports Wayne is no longer involved with the company. Chip contacted Becky and she agreed that the old RFP is useless and a new one with specific language is good; she will need the language to put it together by the beginning of the year. Travis provided a list of SUP programming ideas he would like to do (attached). Board also asked Travis to contact the Charles River group and tell them to Cease and Desist as they are using the property illegally without proper permits. Linda also mentioned these programs are getting the boating community up in arms as hazards to navigation. Board also asked Travis to list specifically what programs he wants to see offered to be incorporated in the RFP. Board agreed \$6000.00 is a good minimum bid; Tim will try and get some information about what other communities ask for similar bids.

MARBLEHEAD COMMUNITY CENTER

www.marblehead.org

10 HUMPHREY STREET

MARBLEHEAD, MASSACHUSETTS 01945-1906

TELEPHONE: (781) 631-3350

FAX: (781) 639-3420

- c) School Department: Sam reported the meeting with the Superintendent went well. Items discussed included the electronic backpack, website links, Tuesday open meetings, sports, youth leagues, sports committee, school coaches, and the lack of funds to fix the drainage behind the High School. Sam is looking into meeting with the school maintenance manager to discuss options for drainage.

6) **New Business:**

a) Correspondence (see attached):

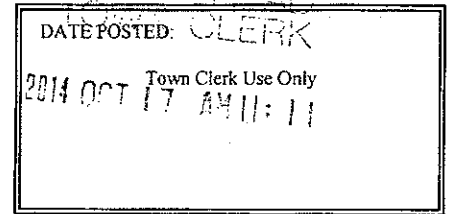
- i) Quonset hut application-Dave Haley: **Motion** made and seconded to approve; all in favor.
- ii) Piper Field E-mail: The Board took offense to this message and discussed the several inaccuracies. Discussion included the fact that there is NO agreement in place for this department to pick up trash and do constant maintenance on the field; that is supposed to be the responsibility of the school custodians, and the field maintenance was supposed to be outsourced. This department's original responsibilities on school grounds are to cut the grass and empty the barrels along the athletic fields as part of the trash route. Tim walked the field and found coffee cups, water bottles, and sunflower seeds all over the perimeter which the department is not responsible for cleaning up and the teams and coaches are not supposed to be bringing onto the field. Board agreed that the acting Athletic Director is the creator of this issue. Chip asked Tim to send a message to the acting AD regarding the inaccuracies and inappropriateness of this message and ask that all future requests for maintenance be made in writing with enough lead time to schedule the work. Chip also asked Tim to schedule a meeting with Chip, Derek, Peter and Tim to discuss field maintenance.
- iii) Fit Girls Run Club: Request to use Hopkin's: **Motion** made and seconded to allow pending no scheduling conflicts; all in favor.
- iv) Dog Park permit: **Motion** made and seconded to approve as requested; all in favor.

b) Chip:

- i) Advertising: Requested Travis contact the Reporter to see about advertising like the YMCA and JCC have.
- ii) Plaque for beach playground: Department will need to pay for it. Board agreed it will be similar to the one at Gerry playground and mention all groups involved: Shattuck Fund, Family Fund, Recreation & Parks, and the Disabilities Commission.
- iii) Memorial Park Benches: Cal Titus is going to install them Halloween week; Tim is coordinating.

- 7) **Timekeeping**: Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 PM. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Wednesday November 5, 2014 and will be posted when confirmed.

Attachments: Meeting Notice and Agenda; Reports with attachments (2); Permit requests (3); E-mail from school AD office.



MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

POSTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF MGL 30A §§18-25

Recreation & Parks Commission

Name of Board/Committee

Address of Meeting: 10 Humphrey Street, Marblehead MA. 01945 Room: Conference

Tuesday
Day of week

October
Month

21
Date

2014
Year

7:30 PM
Time

Agenda or Topics to be discussed listed below (That the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed)

1. Approval of past meeting minutes
2. Reports: Superintendent/Recreation Supervisor; Foreman
3. Topics:
 - a. Quonset Hut Permit Application - David Haley
 - b. 2014 Beach Review - Billy James
 - c. Paddle Board Discussion
 - d. Follow up from School Department Meeting - Sam Ganglani
 - e. Correspondence
5. Next meeting: TBD

THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Chairperson Chip Osborne

Posted by: Recreation & Parks Department

Date: October 17, 2014

Marblehead Recreation & Parks Commission Meeting
October 21, 2014
Superintendent's Report

Devereux Beach

Install of playground started this week. MHD police sweeps area at night with sno-fencing protecting areas. Making daily site visits.

Piper Field

Park workers took care of leaves on field today.

Fort Sewall Project

Becky Curran who presented details of the project will now be going to selectmen's meeting tomorrow night.

Overall Park Work

Leaf collecting as needed around town
Cutting grass/lining fields as needed

Punch List

Present Punch list that will be used across department

Park Maintenance Hire

Present John Morris; Step 1

Dog Park

Met with Suzanne Sickler last week to discuss various upgrades to the dog park.

Don Morgan

Don would like to discuss a possible collaboration between Marblehead Conservancy and Recreation & Parks. I've contacted the town administrator as to the legality of this.

Timothy Short

From: Don Morgan <don.morgan@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, October 16, 2014 2:47 PM
To: Chip Osborne; Timothy Short
Cc: Dick Marcy; Bob French
Subject: A collaboration?

Chip & Tim, at our Marblehead Conservancy Trails Committee meeting last night we discussed our continuing inability to do all the projects we want to do. We send out Trail Crews twice a week, every week, all year long usually consisting of 3-6 people. We average well over 1,000 man hours every year.

One of the ideas we discussed was an arrangement with you (Rec & Park). Our initial thought is that we would fund a seasonal worker (June-August?) for your department who would work on our projects. However, it might be more flexible than that - you could deploy our worker with yours, just so we get the total hours we paid for. The projects we that might be most suitable for this kind of arrangement would be some of our routine maintenance tasks like trimming weeds & brush from the sides of trails, mowing some small meadows and spreading wood chips. We can train people for these tasks fairly easily. We can provide most if not all tools & equipment; although you may have some more productive ones or more of them (e.g. we only have one Stihl string trimmer).

If you are interested, we would like to meet with you to flush this out a little more.

One of the issues is supervision on the job. We can't provide it, although we can provide trailing and site maps about where to do the work.

This will all take place in town owned properties and we assume town insurance would cover your workers.

Do your workers log hours on projects?

What would a worker cost? What overhead costs would be included?

Don Morgan



Please consider the environment before printing this email

Travis Farley

Recreation Supervisor, Town of Marblehead

Tuesday, October 21st, 2014

Recreation Supervisor Report

Programming Updates

- Programs coming to a close in the next few weeks:
 - o Junior Soccer League, Karate, Mini & Multi Sports Session I, and Parent & Child T-Ball/Soccer
- Program Updates from last few weeks include:
 - Pickleball: Continues stream of 10-12 people
 - Indoor Park & Play: 3 Families last Friday
 - Pumpkin Party: 13 families enrolled
 - Halloween Home Decoration Contest: 5 homes enrolled
- Pumpkin Party moved to Community Center

Upcoming/New Programs:

- Indoor Park & Play: On Friday, 10/31/14 we will be having our the characters from Frozen come
- Program starting in coming weeks include:
 - o Youth Guitar Lessons, Mini Sports & Multi Sports Session II, Adult Zumba, Intro to Theatre, Floor Hockey
- Programs Starting in December
 - o Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, and High School Futsal
- Special Events in December
 - o Polar Express Movie on Saturday, 12/6/14 after parade
- New Programs added to our Winter Booklet Include:
 - o Improv Class, April Vacation Programming, Tuesdays at the Museum, Splat Science & Superhero Science, Adult Spinning, World Wide Sports through Knucklebones, Friday night movies
- New Special Events in Winter/Spring Catalogue
 - o Valentines for Vets, Paint & Sip Night at Gerry5, BU Men's Hockey vs. UND, Leprechaun Hunt.

Facility & Parks

- Bought Sails to Doyles in Salem, MA

Other:

- Advertising
 - o Twitter – started at 15 followers and now up to 45
 - o Tim & I met with MHTV last week to plug upcoming events
 - o Will be doing a monthly newsletter starting in January
 - o Marblehead Reporter will be at Pumpkin Party

Hammond Nature Center

- Met with Scott Santino from Audobon last week to discuss after school programs at Hammond Nature Center
- Meeting with Christine Deane (Park Ranger at Endicott Park) runs a Little Explorer program in Danvers

Programming Offered at Little Harbor Boathouse

Summer Paddle Fun

Session 1: June 29th – July 2nd (Mon-Thur)

Session 2: July 6th – July 9th (Mon – Thur)

Session 3: July 13th – July 16th (Mon – Thur)

Session 4: July 20th – July 23rd (Mon – Thur)

Session 5: July 27th – July 30th (Mon – Thur)

Session 6: August 3rd – August 6th (Mon – Thur)

Session 7: August 10th – August 13th (Mon – Thur)

Time: 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm

Sunrise Paddle

Session 1: Tues & Thur, June 30th – July 23rd

Session 2: Tues & Thur, July 28th – August 20th

Time: 6am-7:15am

Sunset Paddle

Session 1: Tues & Thur, June 30th – July 23rd

Session 2: Tues & Thur, July 28th – August 20th

Time: 6am-7:15am

SUP Program at Riverhead Beach

Intro to SUP

This beginner level course will provide you with the basic equipment knowledge, paddling concepts, and confidence to efficiently explore this exciting sport. You will soon discover that you are having a blast while providing your body a great outdoor workout.

SUP Fitness

This outdoor, full-body, low impact workout challenges your every muscle all while honing your balance. Class begins with a half hour of paddle instruction, followed by an hour of paddle sprints, balance challenges and strength exercises. No experience necessary.

SUP Yoga

Yoga and Stand Up Paddleboarding (SUP) just happen to go together very well. Doing yoga on a paddleboard enhances the yoga workout. The paddleboard makes a fine yoga mat and the extra balance required by being on the water intensifies the yoga routine. The peacefulness and tranquility of floating on the water combines nicely with the meditative nature of yoga.

Long Distance Stand Up Paddle Boarding Tours of Historic Marblehead

If you want to do some serious long distance Stand Up Paddle Board touring, the waterways of Marblehead are a paddlers dream come true. Sites include Boston Yacht Club, Crocker Park & Harbor, Three Cods Inn, Town Wharf, Herreschoff Castle

SUP Race Day

Ever want to try Stand Up Paddle Board Racing? BIC's One Design Race Series is the perfect opportunity to test your skills. Races will be available on the hour starting at 9. You can give it a try after taking our intro to paddling or our SUP Fitness class.

Intro to SUP Saltwater Fishing Clinic

To introduce novice to intermediate SUP anglers to the successful techniques used to effectively catch fish from a Stand Up Paddleboard in our tidal waters of Marblehead

***Little Harbor Boathouse runs a Hobie Kayak Fishing Guides Thursday – Sunday 7am-9am**

Requirements:

Experience Level – Beginner

Participants should feel comfortable in the water and must be able to swim.

Age: Recommended for ages 14 and up.

What to bring:

Swimsuits, hats, and sunscreen are recommended.

MARBLEHEAD MARINE CONSTRUCTION INC.

MARINE CONTRACTING

P.O. BOX 841 • MARBLEHEAD, MA 01945-0841

E-Mail: MheadMarine@aol.com TEL: 781-631-5280

FAX: 781-639-5039

Town of Marblehead
Commissioners Parks & Recreation
10 Humphrey St
Marblehead, MA 01945

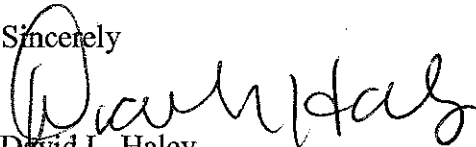
October 2, 2014

Re; Quonset hut at Ushers Winter 2014/2015

We are asking permission to assemble the Quonset hut that we had last year at Ushers? It made our repairs & construction to the floats to continue during the winds, rain & snow last winter.

I had an appointment with the Building Department to obtain a permit for the Quonset Hut on October 1, 2014 at 4:00 and have obtained the permit to put the quonset hut up. Enclosed is a check for \$500.00 as last year along with a copy of the building permit. We would like to thank you at this time for the opportunity to have it last year and hope you will grant us permission to have it again this year.

Sincerely



David L. Haley



TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD

BUILDING PERMIT

Number 22470



Date 10/1/2014 Map Parcel 9410

This permit is granted to TOWN OF MARBLEHEAD Owner / Tenant

Owner's Address 10 HUMPHREY STREET, MARBLEHEAD, MA 01945-1909

Building Location 99 OCEAN AV Zoning District SR

Builder Haley, David - Marblehead Marine Construction Inc C.S.L. # H.I.C. # n/a

Address 227 West Shore Drive Marblehead, MA, Tel. # 781-631-5280

Conservation Commission ☒ Old & Historic District ☐ Site Plan Review ☐ ZBA Special Permit ☐

Project Type Temporary Structure Construction Type Other Use Group Temporary

Proposed Work

Erect temporary 26 x 50 quanset hut on Recreation and Park property at Devereux Beach from December 2014 through June 2015, IAW ConCom Order of Conditions 40-1095, and the 8th Edition MSBC.

VIOLATION OF THE FOLLOWING TERMS WILL VOID THIS PERMIT

☐ Certified Plot Plan by Registered Land Surveyor is due within 21 days of completion of new foundation. Work performed under this permit is subject to all State and Local Building Laws now in effect or that hereafter may be enacted, and shall conform with the details of the application and submitted plans. IAW 780 CMR 105.5 this Permit shall expire in 6 months unless construction has started.

BUILDING COMMISSIONER 781-631-2220

- 1 Excavation _____
- 2 Foundation _____
- 3 Certified "As Built" _____
- 4 Rough Framing _____
- 5 Insulation _____
- 8 Final _____

PLUMBING INSPECTOR 781-639-9151

- 1 Building Drain _____ Underground _____
- 3 Rough _____
- Gas _____
- 6 Final _____

WIRE INSPECTOR 781-639-9151

- 1 Ufer Ground _____ Underground _____
- 3 Rough _____
- 3 Other Systems _____
- Service _____
- 6 Final _____

FIRE INSPECTOR 781-639-3428

- 3 Detector Permit # C- _____
- 7 Alarm _____
- Burner _____ Other _____

THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT - DO NOT LOSE IT☐ Certificate of Occupancy required - return this signed permit to the Building DepartmentReceived payment \$30.00 B ☒ F ☐ P ☐ W ☐ Receipt # 11138

Persons contracting with unregistered contractors do not have access to the guaranty fund (MGL c. 142A)

Owner or Agent X David Haley *David Haley*Building Official X Robert Ives *Robert Ives***POST THIS PERMIT IN A LOCATION VISIBLE FROM THE STREET**

Town of Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department

Application for park permit

APPLICATION date: 10/12/14	APPLICANT (name of person paying for permit): LISA SUGARMAN
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INSURANCE REQUIREMENT FOR ALL WEDDINGS & LARGE EVENTS:
(PLEASE CONTACT YOUR INSURANCE PROVIDER OR RENTAL COMPANY FOR ASSISTANCE)

★ **IMPORTANT:** A copy of a 1 million occurrence / 3 million aggregate insurance certificate naming the Town of Marblehead as an additional insured is **REQUIRED** to be provided with the request at the time of application.

EVENT Day & Date: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16	TIME OF EVENT (begin & end up to 3 hours; INCLUDES set up & clean up): 7:30 am - 10:30 am
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EVENT DESCRIPTION & expected attendance (use another page if needed):

FULL HEARTS 5K RACE TO BENEFIT THE FIT GIRLS RUN CLUB

FACILITY REQUESTED (NOTE: Any parking fees are NOT included in the permit fee):

SNACK SHED AT HOPKINS FIELD AND BATHROOMS

Available Facilities:	Devereux beach - barbeque pavilion (2 grills in season)	Devereux beach - Garfield Pavilion (2 grills in season)	Gerry Playground (on Stramski Way) (2 grills in season)	<u>Wedding ceremonies:</u> Chandler Hovey, Crocker Park, or Castle Rock	Other
Residents security deposit:	\$25.00	Due at time of application		\$100.00 fee; <u>Insurance required with ALL applications (see above);</u> No security deposit required	Fees based on request (*see note); please describe on another page
Resident fee:	\$25.00	Due upon approval			
Non - residents security deposit:	\$50.00	Due at time of application			
Non - resident fee:	\$50.00	Due upon approval			
Catered event (Clambake, etc.)	\$2 per person; minimum \$100.00 - \$50 Security Deposit				

PAYMENT: Please submit 2 separate checks made out to "The Town of Marblehead" for the security deposit and fee. The security deposit check will be destroyed once the area is checked to ensure all trash was removed from the property.

APPROVAL: Applications must be made during regular business hours. Standard applications take 1 - 3 business days to approve. Only 1 standard permit for up to 3 hours of use allowed per day per applicant.

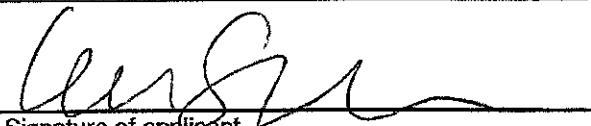
* Note: special requests determined by the Board at their next meeting, including fee amounts and any restrictions.

CANCELLATIONS / REFUNDS: requests must be in writing at least 5 business days before event (sorry, no "rain out" refunds).

RESTRICTIONS: Open fires (bonfires) and alcoholic beverages are prohibited on property under the jurisdiction of the Recreation & Parks Department (Code of the Town of Marblehead § 236-1.)

It is expressly understood and agreed that the policies of the Recreation & Parks Commission as described above are to be strictly complied with, and that the undersigned hereby assumes full responsibility for any damages to or loss of Town property in consequence of such use of the accommodations described above, and engages to make the same good without expense to the Town, and the undersigned further agrees to pay promptly such charges as may be made for the accommodations requested.

Request fee waiver(s) <u>due to hardship</u> ? (waivers determined at next Board meeting)		<input checked="" type="radio"/> YES / NO
OFFICE USE:		
Park detail required? (see detail sheet)	Police detail needed? (631-1212)	Insurance required (wedding, large event)?
YES / NO	YES / NO	YES / NO
(\$125 per unit)	\$	\$
Detail fee	Usage fee	Other fee
Dates paid and check number(s)		


Signature of applicant

LISA SUGARMAN
Name (Please print clearly)

9 STRATFORD RD. MHS
Address

781-631-1253
Telephone

Approved by:

Superintendent, Recreation & Parks Department

Date approved

10-22-14

Town of Marblehead Recreation & Parks Department

Application for park permit

APPLICATION date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em;">10/15/14</div>	APPLICANT (name of person paying for permit): <div style="font-size: 1.2em;">Suzanne Sickler for Dog Park Friends</div>
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INSURANCE REQUIREMENT FOR ALL WEDDINGS & LARGE EVENTS:
(PLEASE CONTACT YOUR INSURANCE PROVIDER OR RENTAL COMPANY FOR ASSISTANCE)

* **IMPORTANT:** A copy of a 1 million occurrence / 3 million aggregate insurance certificate naming the Town of Marblehead as an additional insured is REQUIRED to be provided with the request at the time of application.

EVENT Day & Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em;">Saturday, Oct 25th</div>	TIME OF EVENT (begin & end up to 3 hours; INCLUDES set up & clean up): <div style="font-size: 1.2em;">12 - 3 PM</div>
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EVENT DESCRIPTION & expected attendance (use another page if needed):

Annual Dog Park Halloween Party

FACILITY REQUESTED (NOTE: Any parking fees are NOT included in the permit fee):

Dog Park

Available Facilities:	Devereux beach - barbeque pavilion (2 grills in season)	Devereux beach - Garfield Pavilion (2 grills in season)	Gerry Playground (on Stramski Way) (2 grills in season)	Wedding ceremonies: Chandler Hovey, Crocker Park, or Castle Rock	Other
Residents security deposit:	\$25.00	Due at time of application		\$100.00 fee; Insurance required with ALL applications (see above); No security deposit required	Fees based on request (*see note); please describe on another page
Resident fee:	\$25.00	Due upon approval			
Non - residents security deposit:	\$50.00	Due at time of application			
Non - resident fee:	\$50.00	Due upon approval			
Catered event (Clambake, etc.)	\$2 per person; minimum \$100.00 - \$50 Security Deposit				

PAYMENT: Please submit 2 separate checks made out to "The Town of Marblehead" for the security deposit and fee. The security deposit check will be destroyed once the area is checked to ensure all trash was removed from the property.

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Request fee waiver(s) due to hardship? (waivers determined at next Board meeting) ☒ YES / ☐ NO

OFFICE USE:		
Park detail required? (see detail sheet)	Police detail needed? (631-1212)	Insurance required (wedding, large event)?
YES / NO	YES / NO	YES / NO
(\$125 per unit)	\$	\$
Detail fee	Usage fee	Other fee
Dates paid and check number(s)		

Suzanne Sickler

Signature of applicant

Suzanne Sickler

Name (Please print clearly)

6 Carol Rd

Address

978-210-6596

Telephone

Approved by:

[Signature]

Superintendent, Recreation & Parks Department

10/22/14

Date approved

Timothy Short

From: Timothy Short
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 11:35 AM
To: Norcross, Derek
Cc: co@osborneorganics.com; sganglani@aol.com; gptucker@wellington.com; selcollins@verizon.net
Subject: Re: Piper Field

I'm at Piper, walking the field right now. I spoke with Peter yesterday about taking care of the field and I'm having him meet me to go over the maintenance of the field moving forward. I'll have a full report tonight.

Tim

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 21, 2014, at 11:13 AM, Norcross, Derek <Derek.Norcross@draeger.com> wrote:

Hi,

Per below, I'd like to discuss this at tonight's meeting. We need the guys to step it up in terms of routine maintenance. Most, if not all, of the Fall teams are going to make it to the post season and have the opportunity to host home events. Let's please try to put our best foot forward.

Thanks

Derek

From: Patricia Magee [<mailto:magee.patricia@marbleheadschoools.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 11:05 AM
To: selcollins@verizon.net <selcollins@verizon.net>; Norcross, Derek; rjackson214@gmail.com <rjackson214@gmail.com>
Cc: Alex Kulevich <kulevich.alexander@marbleheadschoools.org>; Andrew O'Neill <oneill.andrew@marbleheadschoools.org>; James Rudloff <rudloff.james@marbleheadschoools.org>; scottlaramie@comcast.net <scottlaramie@comcast.net>; coachbub76@gmail.com <coachbub76@gmail.com>
Subject: Piper Field

Do you have any influence over the Rec & Park employees? Alex has made the call twice this week, asking that the leaves be raked/vacuumed off Piper Field and also using the grooming machine. My understanding from Mark was that the field was to be raked, vacuumed and machine groomed on a regular basis. I can't verify this but I have heard the field has been groomed once. I know that last week the vacuum crew came by after we called. It is the fall after all and this morning the leaves are a nice orange border around the field.

Linda - You are aware of the field conditions from your recent game on Piper. My understanding is that while the rain was definitely a down-pour during your last game, if the field had been groomed,

the water would not have puddled as it did and would have run off. Its the whole idea of having turf. The puddles remained for an extended period of time. I heard Alex ask you to speak to the groundkeepers about the maintenance of the field because when he calls the message is taken and for the most part there is where it ends.

We have the prospect of home play-offs for some of our fall sports. It would be great to have this field in tip-top playable condition for our athletes.

I know that Mark requested of all users of the field that these things should not be on the field: bottles, bottle caps, gum, candy, sunflower seeds, food, trash of any kind. Gum cannot be removed from the turf. Birds shred fibers eating sunflower seeds, food. Trash needs to be put in the barrells or the dumpster. I'm not an expert on turf but I know that maintenance on any facility and/or property must be constant. And if it is not, replacement will be in the future.

And if its not bad enough that maintenance is sparse, I have heard "well, its the visiting team." When I have guests in my home, I clean up after they leave. I think our sport teams are getting in their cars and driving away. Can you tell I am frustrated? How hard is it to do any of this?

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