



**Town of Redding, Connecticut**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 13, 2004

AMENDED COPY

Present: Ketcham, Miller, Takacs  
Others: 12 member of the public  
Media: Redding Pilot

Mrs. Ketcham called the December 13, 2004 meeting to order at 7:38 pm in the Hearing Room.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion: move to approve the minutes of November 15, 2004 as submitted. Takacs, Miller.  
Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: move to approve the minutes of November 22, 2004 as corrected. Miller, Takacs.  
Approved. Unanimous.

Corrections: minutes approved were of October 18, not October 15, 2004; page 1, under Georgetown Village Restoration discussion, committee makeup would include a representative of the Planning Commission.

Motion: move to approve the minutes of December 3, 2004 as submitted. Takacs, Ketcham.  
Approved. 2-0-1. Mrs. Miller abstained.

**FIELD USAGE REPORT, UPDATED**

The Fields Usage Committee presented their updated Field Usage Report. Joe Dolan walked the Selectmen through the report and explained how the data was collected, analyzed and presented. The report is a summary of the field time requested by the various user groups compared with the available space and time.

A long discussion of the use of fields, the various user groups and the various options followed. Members of the Field Use Committee and the public added comments.

Mr. Takacs reviewed some options considered by the Fields Use Committee:

1. Use of existing fields, with installation of AstroTurf. This provides a field that has better drainage, does not take as long to dry out so there is more playing time available, and easier maintenance than grass.
2. Lights: lights would provide use of fields after dark, more playing time.
3. West Redding Firehouse field: this is dependent upon availability.

4. Joel Barlow High School fields: dependent on availability.
5. New fields

There was further discussion on the concept of going forward with a study of the North Woods of the Sunset Hill property. Mrs. Ketcham suggested a RFP (Request for Proposal) be drawn up as a first step. Mr. Hocker stated that he has some experience in writing RFP and would begin work on one. Mr. Takacs will work with the subcommittee and Mr. Hayes to go forward with the RFP. The group will come back to the Board of Selectmen with a RFP proposal.

Mrs. Ketcham will contact the Redding Fire Department to open discussion to work together on the use of their facility for fields.

The Redding Boys' and Girls' Club (Mr. Hocker) will begin working to increase the number of games allowed to be played from three to four.

The subcommittee will also update the costs of lights and Astroturf on the JRMS fields.

#### AGENDA ADDITION

Motion: That the Redding Board of Selectmen add to the agenda a discussion and possible action on a donation to the Redding Park & Recreation Department. Takacs, Miller. Approved. Unanimous.

#### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON A DONATION TO PARK AND RECREATION

Rob Blick, Park and Recreation Director, reported a resident has offered to donate a year old ice rink. He described the unit, how and where it would be used, and the maintenance. Mr. Blick had consulted with the Town Attorney who recommended signage indicating, "unsupervised, skate at your own risk" and a sign to indicate when the rink was usable.

After some discussion, the Selectmen asked Mr. Blick to check with other towns that have this type of facility and get information on their experience. There was agreement that pending the information gathered, that Mr. Blick and Mrs. Ketcham would make the final decision on acceptance of the donation.

#### GOVERNMENT ACCESS TV CHANNEL INITIATIVE

Bob Moran reported on the government access TV channel. Channel 79 is now available for broadcasting from the Community Center. Mr. Moran also reported that JRMS has a drop and could begin using the educational channel, 78. Mr. Moran has contacted both JRMS and Barlow regarding use. Mr. Crowley (JBHS) is interested in becoming involved and has students interested. Two Capstone projects are planned to be "on air." Mr. Moran has also contacted the Mark Twain Library regarding what activities & events could be filmed and broadcasted.

Mr. Moran suggested that town board and commission meetings could also be filmed for broadcast. He will continue to work on how the government and educational access channels can be used to provide information to the residents of Redding.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Speed bumps: Mrs. Ketcham reported the bumps have been installed.

2. Joel Barlow Referendum, Mrs. Ketcham suggested the Board of Selectmen “letter to the editor” be sent to the Easton Courier.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: move to executive session to discuss contract negotiations with Police Chief. Miller, Takacs. Approved. Unanimous.

The meeting recessed at 10:20 pm.

#### RECONVENE

The Chair reconvened the meeting in public session at 11:00 pm. No action was taken.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The chair adjourned the meeting at 11:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Maday, Recording Secretary

FILED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL