

3/26/25 Recreational Space Committee Meeting Notes

6:00 PM (Zoom Call)

Attendees: Lise Bofinger; Mary Olson, Carla Gauthier, Kris Tyler, Nancy Stowell, Peter Carter, and Elaine Carter

Overview of Meeting

Renamed committee to Recreational Space Committee (from Multiuse Space Community)

Election of Officers:

Chairperson: Lise Bofinger

Vice Chairperson: Mary Olson

Secretary: Carla Gauthier

Decisions as a committee made:

Meeting length is set at one hour

A quorum is set at seven people

We will have a committee that “speaks at will”

Decisions will be made by majority vote, and we will strive for consensus

The Committee Tasks: (within one year of origination)

Propose a multiuse site(s)

Recommend a selection of the type of activities on the site(s)

Create options that fit all parameters

Provide select board with a plan/recommendation to have one option approved by select board to explore funding and property owner consent

Items to be aware of in this committee:

- The townspeople overwhelmingly would not like to add to the costs of the town
- What townspeople would like in an activity space
- Any options must appeal to homeowners/townspeople
- How to help community accept change to the existing site
- Grants (rural enhancement for sports) that focus on getting people into creating active lifestyles should be looked into
- Driving message of how to beautify Weld through a multiuse space and invite greater use.
- Are there restrictions (state) in adapting the current tennis court space? To be considered: IS recreational space in the current tennis court area required to be 35 feet from the brook, and is the current clay court considered a hard impenetrable surface? If so, what can it be replaced with. Is clay considered a hard impenetrable surface?
- How to connect with One School Street (maybe build a bridge to combine two lots).

Two Areas to Pursue in Possible Multiuse Recreational Spaces:

1. Where the tennis courts/playground equipment currently are
2. By the town sheds (near ballfield)

Items being looked into for next meeting

- Creating Natural landscape space / natural activity space in tennis court space if recreational space is relocated to the town shed area. Cost of natural playscape areas (Lise will look into this)
- Is the town shed / ball field location an option?
- Are there any grants available for improving rural spaces around fitness and sports?