

RECREATION NEEDS STUDY COMMITTEE – January 19, 2011
BARKHAMSTED TOWN HALL

Attendees: Dawn Bobinski; Karen Cersoli; Chris Dropick; Donna Labbe; Dave Moulton; Don Stein; Julie Sullivan

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. Discussion centered on the following issues:

- MDC Greenwoods property – the action was taken by Don Stein to contact the Greenwoods Commission and MDC management about the possibility of developing rec fields on that property.
- Stanclift Cove – priority was to work with the MDC or the Cove Commission to expand the area to allow a field for kids to play ball and to install canoe/kayak racks at the Cove where people could leave their boats.
- Seniors needs include housing and expansion of the parking lot and kitchen at the Senior Center to accommodate the number of folks who take advantage of the meals and other programs at the center.
- A resident of town has suggested that a bridge from West River Road to the island by the CCC bridge abutments would be a fitting tribute to Walt Landgraf for his contributions to the town. This bridge would enable more access to the river, building recreational opportunities to fish, picnic or otherwise use the river.
- Fundraising needs were discussed, including approaching the Northwest Community Foundation or restarting sales of the Barkhamsted Heritage book that was published a number of years ago.

Other priorities were included, but not in priority order:

- Lighted playing fields, but concern was expressed over zoning and neighbor issues, cost and whether there were grants available for this purpose
- Strategies for acquiring property that could be used for playing fields;
- Feasibility of adding a multi-purpose room onto the school that would become the gym, accompanied by conversion of the current gym/auditorium into additional classroom space
- Use of town garage meeting space
- Acquisition of property for seniors housing
- Finding volunteers to work on these issues, some of which could be time consuming

Don Stein took an action to write a draft proposal to be presented to the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to solicit feedback from those boards as well as the general public.

The next meeting date was set for February 9, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman