Outdoor Courts Fall Update

The Waterville Estates Village District (WEVD) Outdoor Court Committee would like to provide the community with status of work performed and up-coming tasks scheduled to be performed in the next year. The pandemic has caused many delays for contractors who are still trying to complete previously scheduled commitments. This posed challenges to the Committee to get responses and bids for the planned activities.

Racket Courts

A Request for Proposal (RFP) for racket court reconstruction was drafted, approved, and sent to Vermont Recreational Surfacing and Fencing, Lineberry Tennis, Vermont Tennis Court Surfacing and Maine Tennis & Track with a deadline of June 30th. The RFP deadline was extended to 7/30/2021 to provide additional time for the respondents to complete the RFP as the companies were completely under-staffed after re-opening. Vermont Recreational Surfacing and Fencing responded with a comprehensive proposal detailing the work to be completed.

The Committee reviewed the Vermont Recreational proposal and found it to be complete and followed up with a couple of questions. Vermont Recreational provided references for their work. References were contacted and provided favorable recommendations with praise for their work.

The Committee submitted a recommendation to the WEVD Commissioners for the August 21st meeting, that Vermont Recreational be placed under contract. The WEVD Commissioners voted in favor, and we have a signed agreement in place. The schedule of work is as follows, starting in the spring of 2022:

Completed by December 2022

Demolition; Site work including court base; Asphalt and Posts (Court needs a least 6 months of curing before final surfacing can be applied.)

Completed by Fall of 2023

Court surfacing (painting and striping, includes new half-court basketball); Installation of the equipment; Fencing and Landscaping

Half-Court Basketball Court

The existing full-court basketball court area has drainage problems with its current location and after reviewing the site, it was recommended that it needs to be addressed. Problems included water intrusion into the building as the court asphalt is paved up to the building. It was desired to get this work completed prior to paving the new half-court.

An RFP was developed and approved in May which included drainage work, paving of the new half-court, handicap access parking and installation of the basketball hoop system (MEGA

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Slam). The RFP was sent out to three companies (R&D Paving, Bryant Paving and GMI Paving) with an RFP response date for July 9th. All three companies declined the work. After contacting the companies, it was deemed that the drainage work associated with the RFP, along with installation of the basketball post, was not work the companies wanted to take on.

The Committee then asked the interim General Manager, John Scruton, to investigate other companies who would be willing to take on the drainage work. Dirt Designs by Johnson Bros. provided a bid for the drainage work which appears to be reasonable, but does not include paving. The Committee is finalizing some open questions and is working to get this approved and going. The paving companies will be re-engaged to provide a bid on the paving aspects and the Committee will investigate installation of the Mega Slam Basketball System.

Volleyball Courts

The existing volleyball court net system is not to regulation standards and has a fixed height. It was deemed that a regulation volleyball net system, which provided adjustments for both volleyball and badminton play, should be purchased and installed. A system was identified and purchased with funding from Waterville Estates Association Capital Improvement Funds. The installation method will allow for it to be easily removed and stored during the winter months. This has arrived on site and is awaiting installation.

The existing sand area also needed attention and work. The Committee researched and purchased a portable sand sifting cart. This cart will sift out the larger rocks and pine needles from the court area and provide a better barefoot playing surface.

The installation of the net poles will require volunteers as the proper installation requires a 3' to 4' footing installation with rebar, and a temporary construction of a platform while the concrete cures. Look for emails for this opportunity to volunteer!

Yours in Service the WEVD Outdoor Court Committee

Dave Ketcham (Chair)
Stan Bujalski
Maureen Patti
Dick Mayo
Bruce Marks
(Shout out to Mahdu Challagulla as she worked on the committee until May 2021)