

To Mayor and Ross Town Council
From: Pat Thompson, Interim Town Manager
Re: Temporary Little League and T Ball Fields for 2012
Date: February 3, 2012

I. Project Summary

The Town Council authorization of temporary field locations on the Ross Common for Little League and T Ball for the spring season which begins late February 2012.

II. Discussion

In October 2010 the Council considered temporary locations on the Ross Common for both Little League and T Ball in 2011, see Attachment 1. The Ross School reconstruction project and the new Gymnasium necessitated having the permanent Little League field dismantled and relocated during construction. The permanent field for Little League will be taken up again this spring following the weatherization of the fields. The temporary field locations from last year are shown on Attachment 2. These locations worked for the teams last year and could be designated again for the same use by the Council. The season runs through the end of May.

III. Recommendation

The Council should review the map and designate the approved temporary field locations for 2012.

Attachments:

Minutes from Oct. 14, 2010 Council Meeting re. Temporary Ball fields
Map of Ross Common with Ball fields

camp for women. They hope more will come and support Ross Recreation by participating in one of their many enriching activities.

Ross Rec Director Riley then requested that the Council consider the following:

- Health insurance - explore the idea of joining the Town's CalPERS pool (11 employees)
- Board of Directors request to change the bylaws (range of 9 to 12)
- Approval of new slate for Board of Directors
- Consider temporary field for T-Ball and long-term acceptance for this concept to bring back more ages for baseball to Ross Common
- Consider new path from the street to the new Ross Recreation office to prevent the slipping and sliding in the mud.

Council Member Hunter is curious about the total deferred revenues, if it is a different season, money is accepted and then taken out. Ross Recreation Director Riley responded in the affirmative. Monies are deferred over to the next fiscal year.

Ross Rec Director Riley explained that a temporary field would cost around \$7,000 to \$12,000 and they plan to install the field in February. Town Manager Broad indicated that a financial contribution and changes to the bylaws cannot be acted on tonight. The Council can consider and take action on a second baseball field.

Mayor Pro Tempore Small stated if this program is handled through Ross Valley Little League, then there should be a contribution from Ross Valley Little League towards this equipment because they are collecting the funds. Ross Valley Little League representative noted that the final financials will be determined. They intend to fully field the equipment and are willing to contribute. Mayor Pro Tempore Small asked Ross Valley Little League to outline their cost. Ross Valley Little League representative plans to start registration November 15th and will come back with the financials on November 4th. They want to bring the kids back to their community rather than Twin Cities.

Council Member Strauss asked staff if there was one or two backstops. Ross Rec Director Riley responded that there have always been two backstops. The size of the current rookie field is a temporary solution. Council Member Strauss recommended that they determine a permanent location. Mayor Martin pointed out that they are figuring out the best layout before spending funds. Ross Rec Director Riley concurred.

Mayor Pro Tempore Small believed having the two fields however configured is very doable. Also, this will provide more activity for the downtown merchants. She further recommended looking at the best way of maximizing.

Council Member Strauss believed it would make sense to install a chain link fence rather than spend \$12,000 for a temporary facility. Ross Valley Little League representative agreed to contribute building the facility and equipment.

Mayor Pro Tempore Small asked if the school is responsible to pay for the backstop. Council Member Strauss noted that the school wants the backstop back to the most recent historical location along with the grass. Mayor Pro Tempore Small recommended coordination.

Council Member Strauss desired a sit down meeting with the School Board to understand the sequence of the events. School Board Member Bob Dickinson noted that the school will restore the Common to its original condition. He must see if the school can purchase the backstop and accelerate the restoration of the Common for the purposes of putting in the backstop. Council Member Strauss believed a construction fence would hinder that restoration. If all they need is a simple fence that can be done in the location proposed with a small amount of money and then deal with the bigger picture when ready.

Mayor Martin opened the public hearing on this item, and seeing no one wishing to speak, the Mayor closed the public portion and brought the matter back to the Council for discussion and action.

The Council unanimously agreed to approve a request by Ross Recreation to allow a second baseball field on the Ross Common for Little League T-Ball use for five and six year-olds. The field will require a small backstop and some sod removal for the bases, and equipment will be removable.

Mayor Martin asked for a motion.

Mayor Pro Tempore Small moved and Council Member Hunter seconded, to approve the request from Ross Rec to allow a second baseball field on the Ross Common for Little League T-Ball. Motion carried unanimously.

Ross Rec Director Riley asked the Council about the pathway. Council Member Strauss believed the path is part of the school's responsibility. The Public Works Committee agreed to review. School Board Member Dickinson indicated that the school will not have a problem restoring the path, but it is on Town property and the school will not do anything without permission. Ross Rec Director Riley agreed to attend the next meeting on October 27th.

16. Town Council consideration/action on Circle Drive Residents letter that Park and Circle Drive are publically maintained roadways.

Public Works Director Mel Jarjoura explained that staff is not aware of a Town Council resolution to accept either Circle Drive into the Town's street system. Based on Town Attorney Hadden Roth's explanation of the law outlined in the staff report, unless such resolutions are uncovered, it would not appear the history of Circle Drive supports it being a publicly maintained roadway.

Town Attorney Hadden Roth indicated that the law provides that "*acceptance into a street system must be made by formal resolution*" and a street cannot be considered a publicly maintained roadway by implication or common law methods. The certificate page of the Assessor's map shows the Town Clerk did not accept Circle and Park Drives on behalf of the public when the streets were created in 1915.

Council Member Russell desired to know the financial situation in regard to public and private streets. Council Member Hunter indicated that there are several. It will set a precedent for every other private road in Town.

