

LaVale Civic Improvement Association, Inc.

Notes of the June 25, 2018 Meeting

LaVale Library

6:30 p.m.

President Paul Yockus called the meeting to order. He introduced John Holt of the LaVale Athletic Association, who discussed a proposed 2018 Lions Field Renovation Plan. A three-page summary of the eleven proposed improvements, with a detailed description of the proposed work, and pictures of the field, had been distributed to attendees.

John Holt said that a major improvement will be to convert the existing field with 90 feet base paths, used by Hot Stove teams, to two fields with 60 feet base paths, to be used by Little League baseball and girls' softball. Cumberland Heat Fastpitch Softball, Inc. is needing practice fields during the spring and summer. West Side Hunters is in the 3rd year of football field use, and is expected to continue that use.

Another need is to solve drainage problems on the field, particularly in the infield which is bowl-shaped. The field will be regraded to ensure a consistent slope that will keep water moving off playing areas. Len Cage, of MD Department of the Environment, has met with the LAA.

John Holt reported that the LAA has replaced doors, locks, and stairway at the concession stand and is replacing the roofs on the sheds and dugouts

Improvement details: 1) Redirection of storm water flow in NE corner of the parking lot. Swale and additional blacktop curbing will be used. This curbing has been approved by Adam Patterson, an engineer employed by Allegany County. A contractor's estimate for blacktop curbing is \$800.

- 2) Regrading/resizing infield
- 3) Electric upgrade in concession building.
- 4) Dugout repair & improvements
- 5) Backstop repair/modifications.
- 6) Fence line extensions/creation of pitcher bull pen.
- 7) Establish 200 foot foul poles and install ports for two temporary outfield fences
- 8) Batting cage
- 9) Replace base ports and bases
- 10) Install sprinkler
- 11) Develop designated on-field parking and restrict vehicular access to playing areas

John Holt said that Cumberland Heat is volunteering labor for many of these projects, with cost of materials generally yet to be determined. He said that electrician Rick Twigg will rewire the concession stand for the price of materials. The temporary outfield fences, which are removable, will cost \$900 each, which LAA will pay.

Notes of the June 25, 2018 Meeting (continued)

Dick Pesta asked if some of the work could be done this year, and the rest next year, when Program Open Space money may be available. The LAA would like to do as much as possible this year. Dick Pesta asked what benefits Cumberland Heat would expect, if they provide labor and equipment. John Holt said that they would have the standard Annual Field Use Contract with LAA. They are a 501©3 organization. LAA has liability insurance, and requires groups using the field to carry insurance.

Dick Pesta presented the treasurer's report. Interest of \$36 .24 was received. Expenses paid were for mowing, electricity, painting supplies, and spraying of Lions Field, for a total of \$819.61.

Paul Yockus read a letter from Librarian John Taube, belatedly thanking us for installing new air conditioning in the meeting room of the LaVale Library in 2007.

Paul Yockus reported that Adam Patterson has promised the use of a County backhoe in placing two plastic pipes under the walking track behind the tennis courts at Lions Field, to carry away storm water.

Paul Yockus reported talking with Siera Wigfield, POS coordinator, about the possibility of a dog park feasibility study. If funded by POS, we would pay 10 % of the cost.

Linda Yockus moved, and Tina Midgarden seconded, that our association donate \$800 to the LaVale Athletic Association for water-directional asphalt curbing at Lions Field; passed.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 23, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the LaVale Library Meeting Room.