

## **April 7, Open House Minutes**

### **Summit Community Center**

#### **Youth Programming:**

- Henry Bassman – Community programs does a great job. The dances used to be the highlight at the Rec Center. The way you've expanded is terrific. Oldest grandson has done camps and so many other programs. Wonderful to see what is offered.
  - Playground maintenance need attention– Tatlock climbing wall needs to be repaired.
  - Police presence needs to be at every major event. Summit relays was a disaster. There were traffic issues and public urination. There were dangerous and unappreciated actions. Tickets not sufficient. Cars should be booted if on hydrant.

#### **Parks:**

- Leslie Salcedo – Question has to do with lower HS field. Now that it will be turfed. What is plan for the lower field. Asked at Planning Board.

Mark: Baseball Softball/Boys and Girl LAX, Field Hockey

Weekday: HS Gets priority, will probably be there until dark

Weekends HS will be 8-12, then rec programs.

Leslie: Park Users park cars in our (412 Morris Ave) parking lot and this is a safety issue. It is upsetting that BOE didn't need to do traffic study. Morris Ave is a parking lot and they are parking in our lot. The gate is supposed to be locked, but I think that the gats will remain open and it is a fear.

Mark: For our DCP programs we will tell them to park in the High school Lot

Leslie: I must call to tell the permitted users to park appropriately. If the DCP is renting out, it is the DCP responsibility to instruct on how to park properly. Sports parents shouldn't be inconveniencing us. I called Derek Jess to report kids jumping fence and Derek Jess has not responded.

Mayor Fagan: Gate needs to be locked. If there is no access they should park in upper lot.

#### **Playgrounds:**

Michelle: I don't know which PTO president you spoke with. Maybe don't currently engage the Washington PTO at all. Personally, I do not think it is the right thing to do as it is a public playground.

Mark: When I took over in 2019, a top priority was playgrounds in town. We have a plan and I know it is taking time.

David: Fundraising is happening with all playgrounds. Perhaps ask PTA to distribute info.

## **Tatlock:**

Henry: There have been discussions about how the original agreement was temporary, indefinite.

"If we had ever intended to put light on Tatlock we would have put conduit but we didn't" 2014 – Pat Hurley (as part of bleachers project) stated there was no community desire to put lights in.

Months ago, spoke with David and he mentioned that there was a subcommittee. Was there a neighbor on this committee?

David: We have gone on record saying this is a flaw in our process. In the future there will be at least a rep. We have confirmed with City Clerk that is in rights.

## **Michelle Kalmanson:**

We have been trying to express to DCP and council for two months that Tatlock is a free for all and we can't handle the additional stress permanent stadium lighting would add to our neighborhood. The response? Call the police if you see something. So living in Tatlock it is my responsibility to Tell the police that a caravan of reps from Nike and New Balance have taken it upon themselves to use the pedestrian paths between the upper field and the field house to drive down to the track at 3:05 when the children at Washington have just been dismissed for the day and are playing and running all over the area

Tell the police when fire hydrants are blocked, cars are parked in NO PARKING zones and driveways are blocked.

It's also my job to tell you that parking needs to be restricted on event days on streets like Sheridan and Hartley as they can not support two way traffic with cars parked on both sides of the street It's also our job to call the police when the buses have completely blocked the traffic from moving through Butler, creating chaos and dangerous situations for everyone on the street.

Some people may want lights, but the Tatlock neighborhood NEEDS to be protected from the dangers we witnessed yesterday. No one's want should supersede our safety. Period.

The lights need to be removed from the 2025 budget, all future budgets and all conversations should be shut down. We should not be talking about lights at all until the city figures out how to keep us safe during the events we already have during the day time.

Mark: About two weeks ago an email was sent about cars driving. We are speaking to Aaron Schrager about putting bollards in to stop cars from going in. TD put a boulder in by Lewis and Aubrey. We are going to make sure no one can do down that driveway.

Jocelyn: Will a neighbor be added to the light's subcommittee.

Answer: Yes.

Jocelyn: Will the Boosters meeting stay in line with plan?

Kevin: I have never talked to the Boosters. Given the visibility of Tatlock Lights, they asked me to come speak. Was 4/17 now 5/9. They can't come to community meetings. I represent wards 1 and 2. The same message that is given at the community meetings will be the same.

Jocelyn: Was anyone from DCP at Tatlock yesterday?

Answer: No.

Kevin: Bob Pawlowski and Kevin Smallwood drove by. Reported to police. Believe that tickets were issued. Requested that all busses be sent to the HS after pick up and drop off.

Michelle: No there weren't busses. The tickets were issued after the neighbors started calling.

Officer at field had to leave post to start patrolling. All the busses in lots came back at the same time before the kids were ready. The busses refused to move when kids weren't ready. Police got stuck. Believes is lawsuit waiting the happen. Busses shouldn't be released until the players are ready.

Kevin: Was it like this last year?

Michelle: Wasn't there last year. There were moments things were good, but then went very bad.

Teresa Cowing: Parking signs would go a long way. Hartley needs them.

Michelle: Sheridan, too.

Teresa Cowing: How is Capital Budget decided on.

- Boards (DCP + FUF)
- Department
- Council
- Finance Committee

Teresa: Everything ends up going to Council?

Answer: Yes.

Henry: All we need is an angry driver and could lead to a tragedy. We need more police presence.

Mayor: I will bring to safety committee that for larger events that we need to have police officers. Set a threshold where an officer will be needed.

Henry: Next event you need is graduation.

Mayor: Are there other events besides home football games, graduation and Summit relays that are problematic?

Henry: Who knows what will happen if field use is expanded. Added Lacrosse and Soccer. There used to be a band concert that also drew people. The city should know.

Michelle: Some scrimmages bring just as much traffic.

Mark: How was traffic with youth games?

Michelle: Not noticeable.

## **Other:**

Leslie: Can you explain more about Fields Restoration Committee.

Mark: We are looking to possibly change.

Currently:

- Users who pay fees.
- Sports Presidents
- DCP Board Reps
- Dan Healey

Then goes to Executive

- 2 BOE
- 2 Council
- Superintendent
- DCS Director

It seems like people effected by fields aren't in the committee. Shouldn't people living around field be involved.

Mayor: It is more of a maintenance/upkeep issue.

Leslie: Planning Board said no lights are at the lower field. There was a question about conduits on the lower field. Resolution says that 200' needs to be noticed if lights will go on.

Henry: People pay to use the fields? How much revenue per year? How much projected if lights?

Mark: 100-125K per year is generated

Lights would be the same – because they pay by the user.

Practice 1x per week pay the same as 5x per week. It is based on the registrations to the groups.

Chris: FUF developed to provide better maintenance on the fields. Was meant to supplement the City budget each year.

Henry: If group A pays a fixed amount, but they play different places and different times, does this matter?

Chris: No it doesn't matter. The City has one inventory that all of the Field User Fees are paid out of for both BOE and City Fields. We've reached a point of having the field users working cooperatively through this fund.

Henry: Does a league that uses multiple fields pay more per capita?

Chris: It is a flat fee.

Henry: Has is been raised commensurate with inflation?

Chris: This year it is going from \$20 to \$30. First increase in 21 years.

Henry: What people are required to pay should be based upon usage with the wear and tear that they impose. People become more careful. Some of the over commitment of fields could be resolved if people were more thoughtful.

Mayor: If a program has 50 kids, it is \$20 per kids

If a program has 600 kids, it is still \$20 per kid.

Chris: This is not the only source of funds to maintain fields. The operating budget pays. The SBSL does a tremendous amount of volunteer work. BB infields are most highly maintained fields. In history BB has provided coaches to rake, fill holes and clean.

Henry: My comment speaks to field space and not having the resources. People need to be incentivized to use only what they need.

David: An extensive survey is being done now. An error in the Tatlock process we had was not having a case for need. This is what we are exploring now.

Kevin: The leagues generate funds to make sure they no player is turned away. The more we charge leagues for field usage results in more they need to charge.

Leslie: Are you reaching out to extra groups for lower high school field?

Mark: No.