

Added Item 5.3

Subject: RE: Allocation Policy for Field Diamonds and Arenas

From: Joe Seroski [mailto: [REDACTED]]

Sent: Monday, March 18, 2019 11:09 AM

To: 'Sevor, Steve'

Cc: Megan Connolly - Sports Specialist - Facility Booking; Councillor Esther Pauls; Councillor John Paul Danko; Councillor Brenda Johnson; Councilor Tom Jackson; Linda Seroski; Karen Iles; Nancy McRae

Subject: RE: Allocation Policy for Field Diamonds and Arenas

Hello Steve,

Thank you for returning my call and the conversation we had last week. I understand the policy you wish to submit to Community Service Committee. With a weeks notice, I am finding it hard to make myself available for the meeting due to my work commitment. I want to attend so I would appreciate this meeting be rescheduled with enough notice allotted to make arrangements for all to attend (user groups) and to express our concerns with the Community Service Committee.

From our conversation, I was understanding that the diamond time for the WAMSL program was not going to change this year and that the meeting for March 21 with the Community Service Committee was the first step to retain the assets (adult diamonds, ice facilities, soccer, etc) because we all believe (user groups) that our diamond time from the meetings held (Bennetto Community Centre) is grandfathered to our programs. I asked for additional diamond time as I have each year for Tuesday & Wednesdays. My request for diamonds does not only have to be for Turner Field, I will gladly except diamonds around the city if available and it meets our safety standards. I received an email from Megan to let me know I can extend the time at two diamonds to 11 pm. I explained that our program does not like playing until 11 pm as we have allot of single parents. The ladies feel uncomfortable leaving the park that late at night. We all have to go to work the next day, so finishing earlier is better for all our members. I called and talked to Megan on Friday and from my conversation she was going to talk to you with regards to our conversation. Facility Booking would like or is taking away two diamonds with lights at Turner from our program because they need to accommodate another adult user group and replace these diamonds for our program with unlit diamonds.

Steve, over the last 39 years we have built the WAMSL program. The WAMSL program has been removed from Gage Park, Montgomery Park, Woodlands Park, Olympic Park, Inch Park, etc for the youth programs and we at WAMSL lead by good examples for the community and did not complain. Furthermore, at one time we had the upper diamond at Victoria Park and I believe it was 10 years ago and the city remodeled this diamond with new fencing, players benches, shrubs with my understanding to the tune of \$25,000.00 from Parks management. The Councilor for Ward 1 decided a couple of years later to take out the diamonds and put in a community garden. Again another diamond gone from our program. At one time we had Globe Park and this park had 6 adult diamonds, 4 inside and 2 outside. Councilor Geraldine Capps received complaints from the neighbors about parking and we lost the 2 outside diamonds to a youth program. Again 2 diamonds removed from the WAMSL program. Then the waste water treatment plant was built at Globe Park and the park is now gone and we were moved to Turner Field and the Red Hill Bowl. My point is WAMSL has made numerous concessions over the years and has lead by good examples. No other adult user groups should be given diamond time from another adult user group. Once these diamonds are taken or removed from the WAMSL program, we will never get them back as you can see from my examples. The City is only putting a band aid on the problem and the solution is to add/build more diamonds.

I have met with Councilor Pauls and another meeting is set up for April 25 with Councilor's Danko, Johnson and Jackson as you are aware and also with Kara Bunn (Parks & Cemetery) to discuss these issues. The attachment, is my email reaching out to Councilor Johnson to my discussion with Councilor Pauls. Before your call last week, I discussed with the councilor what the WAMSL program was all about and I included my concerns about our time slots at Turner Field.

Steve, During my meeting with Councilor Pauls, we discussed the following:

- A.) The possibility of additional adult baseball diamonds at the south west corner, south of the cemetery,
- B.) Paving the parking lot, and
- C.) Paving the walkways from the main washroom to the upper diamonds.

I believe these improvements/upgrades will attract additional revenue through higher caliber National tournaments, better quality of experience for residents who utilize the park for exercise (Walking/running/biking) and overall safer environment to control traffic of parking vehicles. Currently, vehicles are parked haphazardly with the lack of allocated parking spots. Further, the current condition creates an excessive amount of dust and debris and does not promote an inclusive accessible environment for those with issues such as such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and scooters.

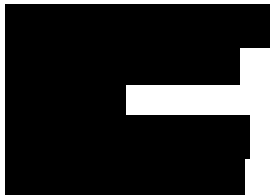
Steve, I am hoping at the April 25th meeting you can support my agenda. If you or Megan would like to meet with me prior to the April 25th, to discuss this issue, please do not hesitate contacting me.

Regards,

Joe Seroski

Wentworth Adult Mixed Slo-Pitch League

www.wamsl.com



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From: Sevor, Steve [<mailto:Steve.Sevor@hamilton.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 13, 2019 4:09 PM
Cc: Sevor, Steve
Subject: Allocation Policy for Field Diamonds and Arenas

Good afternoon everyone,

After several months of planning, various meetings and workshops, the Allocation Policy and Report will be presented to the members of the Emergency and Community Services Committee on Thursday March 21, 2019. The meeting is scheduled to start 1:30pm. The link to the agenda is attached below and is on the City Website.

<https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=f983f6f2-5afd-46de-a5c9-12db8cfa547b&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English&Item=20>

There are many items on the committee agenda, there is no set time for this agenda item to appear. I have attached the report, the respective appendices and the presentation for this report.

Should you or your organization wish to make a delegation (presentation) on the matter, please refer to the process and application form listed below:

<https://www.hamilton.ca/council-committee/council-committee-meetings/request-speak-committee-council>

I would appreciate it if you can let me know if you are thinking about sending a delegation or if someone in your organization plans to attend the meeting.

My apologies if I have missed key individuals in your organization; please share this email with them if this is the case. Thank you for your work and support over the last 18 months.

Steve

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**Steve Sevor**

Manager, Sport Services

City of Hamilton

Recreation Division | Healthy and Safe Communities Department

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