



Minutes Meeting #1
Bellingham High School
Turf Fields Phase 2 Planning Committee
Monday, November 4, 2019

Curtis Lawyer, Director of Capital Projects welcomed committee members and they introduced themselves. He reviewed the work of the 2015-16 High School Turf Fields Advisory Group and explained that the 25-member committee established several standards associated with all new turf fields in the district that also apply to the Phase 2 fields at Bellingham High School. He also explained the committee's purpose, basis for establishment and their decision-making ability.

The committee plans three meetings, and there will be a neighborhood/Community Project open house after our work is complete. Committee work will complete by November 25.

Project architect, Jeff Burke from DA Hogan and Associates reviewed the scope of the project including:

- Synthetic Turf Baseball Field
- Synthetic Turf Softball Field
- Synthetic Turf Multipurpose field, (football practice, soccer, lacrosse)
- Consideration of a perimeter track
- Field lighting
- Fencing/Netting
- Bullpens
- Batting cages
- Storage
- Spectator amenities/bleachers
- Restroom/concession area

Jeff shared four different concept plans with all the components in place. Plans are established with the baseball and softball fields as they have required orientation and space constraints, with other elements being provided in addition to these constraints. All plans proposed are similar but show components in different areas.

Committee members asked questions and made suggestions related to the project:

- A rubberized track, (without an absolute length), outside the field of play with 6-8' fence was presented in Option 1. A warning track was also considered. The group made the decision to maintain track and field activities off site, with students being bussed. The consensus was that a track in the space available was inadequate for the track program. Safety concerns were also raised about having a track in close proximity to the other programs, requiring additional supervision and restricted use in areas where multiple activities would occur near each other.

- The group discussed turf color and striping.
 - The 2-tone turf is installed in 5 yd intervals and provides a great opportunity for training of multiple sports. It is helpful for football practices, is a great training tool for baseball, teaching fundamentals of throwing, and additionally satisfies the marching band's need.
 - For the multipurpose field, it was suggested to consider the use of temporary paint for striping. (Ex. 3-month paint, 6month, 1-year paint). Fields can be painted in the fall and summer depending on sport usage. When it's time to change, the striping will have worn (or can be scrubbed off) and won't be as prominent.
- The committee discussed re-orienting or flipping the locations of the baseball and softball fields. The group was generally favorable to re-orienting the fields.
- Scoreboards will be provided for the baseball and softball fields and will need to be multipurpose to support soccer as well.
- It was suggested that there doesn't need to be a logo on the phase 2 multi-purpose field but to consider a logo between the mound and second base at each of the baseball field and softball field.
- A sixth tennis court with lighting is being considered but is proposed as a separate project done in conjunction with additional court(s) being considered at Squalicum High School. The tennis court project would be phased, with one high school being addressed at a time.
- An additional standalone multipurpose building was requested and discussed.
 - It would be for school use, after school use and community use.
 - It is not part of the scope of this project but could be considered in a future expansion.
- Fencing will be included. Jeff explained that there are limitations in the height of the fencing.
- Water access was discussed. Potable water is planned to be provided at the exterior of the concession building.
- Single storage that is centralized was considered but may be inconvenient to drag equipment and supplies across the fields. Individual storage areas are preferred, with each sport having their own area. (20' x 20' storage areas are planned with a roll-up garage door and separate single door).

It was decided as a group that Jeff will generate a revised plan (or plans), with a similar layout to option 4 incorporating alternating turf panel colors and the other support elements per the locations noted in options 3 or 4.

Meeting adjourned 12:00p.m.

Next meeting Monday, November 18, 10:30a.m.-12:00p.m.

