

Community Fields Project Fund- Raising Event

Westford Friends of Lacrosse presents

COMEDY NIGHT

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008

7 pm, Westford Regency Hotel

Featuring Comedians
John Turco and Paul Keenan

50/50 Raffle, Treasure Box Auction
Cash Bar available

Tickets: \$40 per person

To purchase tickets contact Jim Geraghty at
James.Geraghty@morganstanley.com or 617-480-8877

Some content may not be appropriate for young children.

COMMUNITY FIELDS PROJECT--- Background

- Initiative to put 3 artificial turf fields in Westford by end of 2008
- 2 at Nutting Road (part of East Boston Camps) 1 at Westford Academy High School
- Total cost is about \$2.5 - \$2.8 million
- Community Preservation Committee funding of \$960k approved at May 07 Town Meeting (thanks for coming out to vote) – can only be used for 2 fields at Nutting
- Remaining cost of Nutting is about \$700k
- Cost of High School field is about \$800k
- Total funds still needed \$1.5 million approx
- WYSA and Westford LAX have made significant headway on about \$300k of this
- Remaining gap is about \$1.2m – need massive fund-raising for this
- As parents, we want to work with the High School to get the 3rd field in but we also do not want to delay the installation of the 2 fields which have a goal of August 08
- Expect to hear quite a bit about fund-raising activities this winter

Thanks for your continued support!

COMMUNITY FIELDS PROJECT



Westford Town Meeting – Article 14

Why support the Community Fields Project?

1. Town meeting has already voted to allocate the Nutting Road parcel to Recreation. Grass or turf fields are going to be built on the Nutting Road parcel.
2. The Community Preservation Committy is willing to contribute funds for "New Turf". 50% of these funds come from the State.
3. Turf is cheaper over the long run and will provide a 4 season recreation environment. The town of Lexington spends \$5,000 annually to maintain their 3 "New Turf" fields. It costs Westford's Recreation Department (with the help of the Youth Sports) \$12,000 per grass field.

4. Value: \$480,000 of Westford Tax dollars is leveraging 3 New Turf Fields in Westford. The balance will come from private fundraising (\$1,040,000) and \$480,000 from the state match to the CPC funds.

What is the Community Fields Project?

Westford parents and Westford Recreation have submitted an application to CPA for \$960,000.00 as partial funding for a community effort to build 3 new turf fields:

- 2 at the Nutting Road site (Recreation portion of the EBC purchase)
- 1 to replace the WA Alumni Field with turf

Total cost of project \$2.1 Million, broken down as follows:

- CPA \$960,000 (Needs approval vote at Town Meeting May 5th)
- Individual & corporate \$695,000
- Youth Groups \$300,000
- Youth & WA Booster events \$145,000

Community Preservation Application process

- Application approved unanimously by the Committee
- Committee will present its recommendations to TM for majority vote of approval
- CPA funds can **ONLY** be used for Open Space, Recreation, Affordable Housing, & Historical Preservation
- Nutting Road site was approved as Recreation site for fields at past Town Meeting in a unanimous vote of @ 800 residents
- CPA funds can be used for this project as fields are on town owned land
- Committee strongly supports this project as Recreation has not had many projects funded to date and does not intend to come back to the committee for several years
- Project meets CPC criteria as it serves a great number of residents and has support of Conservation, Schools, Youth groups and Recreation.

Additional Reasons for "New Turf" fields for Westford:

- Growth of town has created need for additional field space (Recreation estimate for population and usage increase is 13 new fields; looking to add 2 and retrofit 1)
- Turf can be used continuously as it's available rain or shine
- Turf use will prolong life of natural fields, allowing rest time
- Expanded use means additional user fees to cover maintenance costs
- Special maintenance equipment is included in cost of the field
- Fields can be used for community events, passive recreation
- Nutting site is environmentally sensitive; perfect site for turf as no need for chemical applications
- Use of CPA funds cuts cost in half, i.e. \$480,00.00, as state matches our funds each year
- CPA funds won't be used until all fundraising is complete for the project