

STAFF REPORT

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: James Allen

Meeting Date: July 22, 2025

Report Number: 2025-135

Subject: Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond

Recommendation

THAT Council receives the Report – Greta and Titch Boswell Memorial Lions Park Ball Diamond,

AND FURTHER THAT Council provide direction on the future use of the Boswell Park land.

Executive Summary

Purpose

To seek Council's direction on the future use of the Boswell Park land

Financial Implications

None.

Report

Background

The Town has invested in two new ball diamonds on Concession 2/3. Adding two new diamonds brings our inventory to three ball diamonds

Discussion

When the ball diamond was constructed, it was built through community involvement. Since then, up until last year, it was maintained at the cost of the Grand Valley Minor Ball Association. The Boswell ball diamond does encroach on the neighbouring land and currently requires a significant financial investment for upgrades to continue its use as a ball diamond.

Staff are seeking Council's direction on the future use of the Boswell Park lands which could include:

- With upgrades continue as a ball diamond; or
- With repurposing a dog park or a children's accessible climber park.

Staff have discussed the use of the diamond with the Minor Ball Association and repurposing options with Grand Valley Lions Club and Grand Valley and District Fire Fighters Association. Discussion have identified a need for three ball diamonds given a 40% growth from 2024 to 2025 in Grand Valley Minor Ball player registration.

The Boswell Diamond will require significant funds to upgrade the park for use as a ball diamond, clay maintenance is estimated at \$10,000 to \$15,000, with additional funds required for lighting infrastructure upgrades and other necessary repairs.

Prior to any staff requesting funds, staff are seeking Council's direction on the future use of the lands.

Financial Impact

Financial Impacts are dependent upon Council's direction on future use of the lands.

Consultations

Sean Wright, Grand Valley Minor Baseball Grand Valley Lions Club Grand Valley Firefighters Association

Attachments

None

This report was submitted by

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This report was approved by Meghan Townsend Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk 519-928-5652 extension 222