



2/3/10 (2)

Town of Acton Recreation Department

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Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director

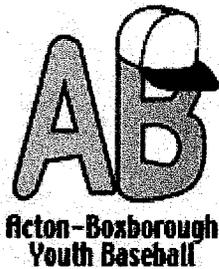
Date: February 3, 2010
To: Steve Ledoux, Town Manager
CC: Tom Tidman, Natural Resources Director
From: Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director
RE: Gift Acceptance – ABYB Veterans Field Scoreboard Replacement

President Sanjay Khosla from Acton-Boxborough Youth Baseball is requesting gift acceptance of a new scoreboard for Veterans Field. In addition, he would like the Board's approval to display signage from Legends Sporting Goods on the scoreboard, a sponsor who funded ½ the cost of the scoreboard replacement. The dimensions of the advertising panel are 120 inches x 13 1/16 inches. ABYB is currently authorized by the Board of Selectmen to collect fees from sponsors for advertising signs, which are displayed on fencing opposite the main parking lot. The funds ABYB receives from the sign revenue help to defray the cost of maintaining Veteran's and Jones fields.

ABYB spent over \$40,000 each year for the past four years on field maintenance, improvements and development. This does not include the "soft cost" of thousands of hours of volunteer labor on the fields. In addition to the regular maintenance of fields before and after practices and games and the ongoing requirement of supplies and equipment, ABYB has organized "field days" where their constituents work to rehab and improve field conditions over and above regular maintenance.

ABYB honors an agreement that was made with the Recreation Dept. in 2003 to pay electrical costs associated with lighting the Veterans ball fields, fertilizing, grub control and seeding, replacement of infield mix, lining fields for games and practices and all other maintenance not already covered by town staff. ABYB has also stepped up the care that is taken to groom the fields by doing seasonal reconstruction and having teams follow a maintenance policy.

I recommend that the signboard gift be accepted and permission granted to include sponsorship signage from Legends. Please refer to Mr. Khosla's letter, which is attached.



December 8, 2009

Acton Board of Selectmen
c/o Town Hall, 472 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720

Dear Board of Selectmen,

Acton-Boxborough Youth Baseball recently purchased and installed a new digital scoreboard at the twin baseball fields at 2A/27 (Veteran's Field). The existing one had been in place since the fields were built in 2001 and had been damaged beyond repair. Veteran's Field is used by ABYB for its spring, summer and fall seasons, and the scoreboard is used extensively by our "Majors Division" consisting of 11 and 12 year old youth athletes. As Veteran's Field also has lighting and the popular "Green Monster" on field #1, it is host to a variety of summer tournaments that bring up to 20 neighboring town teams to Acton. The need for a new scoreboard was important because of the field's wide usage and appeal.

The cost of the new Santech scoreboard was approximately \$4,700. The installation was done by a baseball volunteer, Lawton Read, who probably invested two weekends of his time to install the new equipment. Also, as we display local business signage at Veteran's Field to help defray the thousands of dollars that ABYB invests in local fields every year, I would also like to have a local sponsor displayed above the scoreboard to help defray the cost that ABYB spent on the new equipment. Legends Sporting Goods is willing to contribute half the cost of the new equipment, and would be displayed for a period of three years.

I hope you will accept this gift to the Town and allow the sponsor to be displayed as well.

Sincerely,

Sanjay Khosla
President
Acton-Boxborough Youth Baseball