



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Councilors

From: Rich Olson, City Manager
Bobbi White, Parks and Recreation Director

Date: April 25, 2013

Re: Various Information Requested: Knobbs Creek Partitions, Holmes Field and Mariners' Wharf

Partitions at Knobbs Creek Recreation Center:

I have contacted four dealers located in North Carolina who repair and install new partitions. Each of these also has the capability to install the whiteboard into the partition. I have also contacted two dealers in the Virginia area who do not do repairs, but will install new partitions. The two Virginia dealers DO NOT install whiteboards into the partitions.

Architectural Products and Installation (Winston Salem)
Proven Products (Wilson)
Maxson and Associates (Charlotte)
Michael Elkins Company (Greensboro)

In talking with the dealers the price to include the whiteboard into a wall panel will cost from \$100 to \$1,000 extra.

Holmes Field Renovations:

The Knobbs Creek Recreation Center and Park was built in 1976 and the entire facility was built on a landfill. Holmes Field was built in 1983-84 and named in honor of Wilton "Hester" Holmes who coached youngsters in Elizabeth City for 35 years and contributed thousands of hours to the local recreation movement. The playing area is completely irrigated and has a Musco lighting system for night play. The turf is hybrid Bermuda grass. We have severe issues with drainage and settling and have brought in surface, clay and sand to help correct these issues. However, the field continues to settle and the ground has become compacted, which adds to the drainage issues.

We estimate that it will cost approximately \$250,000 to correct these issues in the infield as well as the outfield. The entire field needs to be disked and lazard graded with new topsoil and sod and a more efficient irrigation system installed. The third base dugout is also crumbling. It is located near a drainage pond on the golf course and the concrete block is actually crumbling and needs to be demolished and re-built. Each of the dugouts are built in-ground and were modeled after the pro dugouts. The field does not have a tower or an area for the scorekeeper to see the entire baseball field. A tower can be constructed relatively easy on top of the first base dugout. We feel that we can construct the third base dugout and build a new scorekeeper's area on the first base dugout for about \$25,000.

The closest restroom to the field is located inside the front doors of the Recreation Center. In order to have restroom facilities at the field the restroom would have to be constructed and water and sewer installed with a grinder and pump station to push the waste to the sewage lines on Ward Street, which is approximately 1000 feet. It is estimated that the water and sewer infrastructure will cost \$60,000. A restroom facility can be built for \$50,000. At this time, the City has a port-a-jon located at the field. During large events such as tournaments it is not sufficient to handle the large numbers of players, coaches and spectators.

If another baseball facility can be constructed to be used by the 13-15 Little League, 13-19 American Legion, College of the Albemarle and Elizabeth City State University teams, Holmes would be used as an extra baseball practice facility.

Mariners' Wharf Pilings:

It was suggested at the budget meeting on April 15, 2013 that the Parks and Recreation Department have the boat pilings inspected for stability. I have contacted Chesapeake Bay Diving, and it is estimated that it will cost the City \$2,000 to \$4,000 to have these pilings inspected.