

## Community Preservation Act Committee- Proposal Request Form for FY 2019

**Project Title: MILL RIVER BASEBALL FIELDS: PROJECT COMPLETION**

**CPA funding category:** Check all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Housing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Open Space
<input type="checkbox"/>	Historic Preservation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Recreation

**Amount of CPA Funds Requested:** \$44,550

**Submitting Entity:** Amherst Baseball, Inc.

**Contact Person:** Jonathan Kane

**Phone:** (413) 341-5464

**Email:** [amherstbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:amherstbaseball@gmail.com)

**Please complete this form in its entirety and include the following in your proposal.**

**Overview of Proposal:** Please describe your project and your feasibility analysis.

### Background

Amherst Baseball, Inc. ("AB") is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization managed by a 19-person volunteer Board of Directors. It is the successor to an unincorporated youth baseball organization that began operating in Amherst in 1952. Following Stan Ziomek's retirement in 2012 after 60 years of running the organization, the Board of Directors made a commitment to improving the safety and quality of the public baseball fields of Amherst.

The first prong of its commitment was to take responsibility for maintenance of the baseball diamonds it used. To that end, AB entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Amherst ("Town") whereby AB agreed to maintain fields at Mill River, Kiwanis Field, Community Field and at Amherst Regional Middle School. AB invested \$7,500 in lawn mowers, an infield groomer and a large trailer to transport the equipment where it was needed. It has also invested annually in buying soils and infield conditioner, and has organized volunteer work days to put the fields in playing condition for the season. Prior to the Memorandum of Understanding, AB depended on the DPW to manage the baseball fields at the Town's expense.

The second prong of its commitment was to work closely with the Town to present a proposal to the Community Preservation Act Committee for FY2016 to completely reconstruct the two baseball fields at Mill River.

### FY2016 CPAC Proposal

AB's proposal to reconstruct the Mill River fields with Community Preservation Act funds in the amount of \$127,351 was approved by Town Meeting in Spring 2015. Thereafter, AB (as the applicant) and the Town (as owner) obtained approvals from the Conservation Commission, Design Review Board and the Planning Board to complete the Site Plan review process, and the Town contracted with North Turf, Inc. of North Attleboro, MA to manage the project.

Over the next two years, the infields of both Mill River baseball diamonds were excavated and the replaced with an appropriate sand base, infield mix and sod. New pitching mounts (complying with Little League standards) were installed and

one of the fields was converted from a standard size Little League field to an Intermediate Division field (largely for safety considerations). The existing dugout areas on both fields, which had deteriorated fencing and large unprotected areas, were removed and new shade structures on Field 2 (matching the shade structures at the pool) were constructed. On Field 1, the dugouts were removed and concrete pads installed but shade structures were not installed. The work was completed in April 2017.

*FY2019 CPAC Proposal*

AB now returns to CPAC to finish the job that was started three years ago. When AB put together its proposal, it was not anticipated that the contract would be subject to public procurement laws. Because public works pay a prevailing wage that is significantly higher than private contracts, only a portion of the project was completed. For reference, the table below illustrates the approved elements of the project and the outcome for each:

<b><i>REQUEST TO CPAC</i></b>	<b><i>OUTCOME</i></b>
Reconstruction of two infields	Completed with CPAC funds
Installation of water lines to both fields	Completed with AB funds
Installation of electrical service to both fields	Not completed
Construction of 4 dugouts with shade structures	2 dugouts were completed with CPAC funds; 2 dugouts were partially completed with CPAC funds – no shade structures were installed on Field 1
Removal and replacement of two batting cages	Not completed
Replacement of fence protectors	Completed with AB funds

The current proposal requests funds to accomplish the following goals:

- Purchase and install shade structures for Field 1 - ***\$17,850***

The FY2016 CPAC funds ran out before the second set of shade structures could be purchased and installed. Shade structures were installed on Field 2 (closer to the parking lot), but the CPAC funds only allowed the dugout pad and fencing to be installed on Field 1. We are seeking \$13,000 for the shade structures (and delivery), which is the cost of the shade structures installed on Field 2 [See Exhibit A]. We anticipate tax to be approximately \$850 and installation, including drilling holes in the concrete pads for footings, to cost \$4,000.

- Remove and replace two batting cages - ***\$13,700***

The current batting cages are extremely narrow and constructed with chain link sides attached to thick steel poles and the roof is also made of chain link. These cages are extremely unsafe and non-compliant with any baseball safety standards. Balls hit inside the cage careen off the fence and poles and regularly strike the children hitting or the coaches pitching. Modern batting cages are constructed with heavy duty netting that absorbs the speed of the baseball and does not deflect the ball back inside the cage. The netting is removed over the winter, preserving their life. The batting cage frames cost \$1,550 each and the nets cost \$1,300 each, resulting in a total cost of materials of \$5,700 [See Exhibit B]. Freight and tax is expected to be \$1,000 based on previous experience. Installation is expected to cost approximately \$2,000. Additional expense will be incurred in removing the existing chain link fences and repairing the outfield fence where the batting cages were removed. Based on the cost of the fence repairs AB paid for in 2017, we expect the fence repair expense to be \$5,000. As we did at the High School and Middle School, AB will organize volunteer labor to construct the cages on-site.

- Install irrigation system for maintenance of fields - ***\$13,000***

AB paid for the installation of water lines to the fields, which was crucial in order for AB to be able to maintain the investment of CPA funds in the new infields. To ensure that the water is regularly used, AB now requests funds to install an irrigation system so that the fields can be watered on a regular schedule without the need for volunteers to bring out lengthy hoses across long distances in order to water the fields. We received a quote of \$3,764 for this work per field (not prevailing wage), so we anticipate a cost of \$5,000 per field with prevailing wage (25% increase) [See Exhibit C]. The electrical controls for the irrigation system must be installed and connected to the existing electrical service, which we anticipate will cost \$3,000.

**Describe how your request meets the CPA criteria:**

**1. Description of funding needed, including:**

**a. Documentation of cost estimates, budget**

Cost estimates for each element of the proposal are attached.

**b. Other sources of funding, e.g., grants, self-funding, fund-raising**

In recent years, AB spent \$8,000 on lawn mowers, an infield grooming machine and a trailer to transport the machines to the different ballfields, and each year we spend several thousand dollars on maintenance and repair of the fields and equipment. AB volunteers give countless hours of time mowing, weeding and preparing fields for play. With the expenses of running the baseball program and maintaining the fields, AB has a limited capacity to fund capital improvements, and it is for this reason that AB applied to the CPAC for the major expense of reconstructing the Mill River Fields.

Stimulated by the FY2016 CPAC funds, and thanks to generous donations made to AB in memory of Stan Ziomek when he passed away in July of 2016, AB significantly increased its investment in its fields this past year. The following table illustrates AB's financial commitment in 2017:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST</u>
Mill River – aerate and dress infield	\$1,650
Mill River – replace broken fence gate and fence repairs	\$2,000
Mill River – installation of water lines	\$2,600
Mill River – mound and plate tarps and fence guards	\$1,400
Community Field – rebuild pitcher's mound and plate	\$9,000
Community Field – batting cage and tarps	\$4,250
Middle School Field – infield soil and conditioner	\$2,350
Middle School Field – batting cage	\$4,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,250</b>

**c. Timeline on how CPA funds would be spent, including over multiple years**

Because the project is weather-sensitive, the funds would be spent in the Fall after the funds are approved. The work cannot be done if the ground is frozen, nor is it convenient to undertake the work during baseball season when the fields might not be able to be used.

**2. Urgency of the Project, if any.**

The safety concerns regarding the batting cages should be addressed as soon as possible. The narrow chain link fences are a danger to all who use these areas, whether part of an organized AB event or otherwise.

The ability to irrigate the fields is also of critical importance. In order to maintain the newly constructed infields and new sod that was part of the prior CPAC-funded project, AB needs a way to ensure the fields get regular water. Although our dedicated volunteers watered the fields by hand this summer and fall, the process of carrying hoses from the Mill River garage across a significant distance, hooking up the hoses, and watering both fields can take well over an hour each time. The supply of volunteers is simply not sufficient to be able to provide this amount of attention to the fields several times per week (and daily during the hottest and driest weeks). An automated watering system would be the best way to ensure that the recent investment in the baseball fields is protected.

**3. Estimated timeline from receipt of funds to Project completion.**

All work should be able to be completed within a two-month period in the Fall following receipt of funds. If for some reason the project incurs delays, the work may need to be postponed to the following Fall.

**4. Acquisition or preservation of threatened resources.**

N/A

**5. Population(s) to be served by the Project.**

AB offers Little League baseball at the Mill River baseball fields for ages 7 to 13. All children (no gender restrictions) are eligible to play. In the age groups that use the Mill River fields, approximately 120 to 140 children participate on Amherst teams, and many children from other cities and towns travel to Mill River to play the Amherst teams. The Mill River fields are public and can be used by anyone when not in use by AB. It is a common sight to see families and young adults using the fields during the warm weather months.

**6. How will the CPA investment in your property, facility or project be maintained over time?**

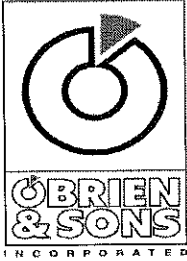
Pursuant to its Memorandum of Understanding with the Town, from April through October, AB mows and trims the fields at Mill River. AB also grooms the infields before and after each use and regularly waters the fields. AB purchased, with its own funds, tarps for the pitching mounds and home plate areas for both fields to preserve moisture and protect these areas from the elements. AB owns its own field maintenance equipment.

**7. Which relevant Town committees and/or commissions are you working with?**

AB is working closely with Town staff, as it did for the prior application, and on December 5, 2017, the LSSE Commission voted to support the proposal.

**8. Other information regarding the Project deemed necessary for CPAC.**

See narrative above.



**M.E. O'Brien & Sons, Inc.**  
93 West Street – P.O. Box 650 / Medfield, MA 02052  
Phone: 508-359-4200 / Fax: 508-359-2817  
SDO CERTIFIED WBE (MA ONLY)

**REVISED QUOTE**

**Date:** October 6, 2016  
**Job:** Mill River Baseball  
**Location:** Amherst, MA  
**Salesman:** Andrew C. Berger, CPSI / jaf (Andy\_Berger@obrienandsons.com)  
**Attention:** Nate Malloy – Planning / malloyn@amherstma.gov

We are pleased to offer our quotation on the following for the above subject job:

<u>QTY</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>As Manufactured by Shade Systems, Inc.</u>		
2 Ea.	12' x 22' Offset "T" Cantilever Shade System, 8' entry, with turn-n-slide system	\$5,594.00	\$11,188.00
		Less MHEC B14 Discount	<u>- 336.00</u>
		Sub-Total	\$10,852.00
		Shipping	<u>2,134.00</u>
		<b>Total Furnished and Delivered for (2)</b>	<b>\$12,986.00</b>
	For MA Engineered Drawings . . . . .	<b>ADD⇒</b>	<b>\$600.00</b>
	For MA Engineered Calculations. . . . .	<b>ADD⇒</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>

<b>Date:</b> _____	<b>Signature of Approval:</b> _____
<b>PO# (if any):</b> _____	<b>Printed Name:</b> _____
<b>Copy of tax exempt certificate REQUIRED with order.</b>	
<b>Bill to name:</b> _____	
<b>Bill to address:</b> _____	
<b>Ship to name:</b> _____	
<b>Ship to address:</b> _____	
<b>24-hr. before delivery Contact Name &amp; Phone #:</b> _____	

**SEE IMPORTANT NOTES ON PAGE 2.**

Re: Mill River Baseball  
Amherst, MA  
October 6, 2016

Page 2 of 2

**\*\*PLEASE READ – IMPORTANT NOTES – PLEASE READ\*\***

- Contractor/Customer is responsible for quantity, color, and product confirmation.
- Prices based on quantities listed. Any change to quantities may impact prices quoted.
- M.E. O'Brien & Sons is NOT responsible for plan take-offs. All quantities, square footages, thicknesses, etc. are the responsibility of the purchaser. Confirm and double check quantities quoted. It is the responsibility of the purchaser to approve/purchase items "per plan".
- Prices are quoted for 2016, are firm for 30 days only and are subject to review thereafter.
- Prices are for materials only unless otherwise noted.
- Prices do NOT include off-loading, lift-gate (lift-gate is an additional charge) or inside delivery.
- Prices do NOT include sales tax, assembly or installation.
- Shade Systems fabric must be removed should winds be expected to exceed 90 mph.
- Standard manufacturer's design, colors, specifications, and construction apply.
- If ordered, inspect entire delivery carefully, making note on delivery receipt of ANY damage so a freight claim can be filed if damage is discovered after opening package(s).
- Retainage does not apply.
- Shade Systems are NOT returnable.
- Our terms are: to be arranged.
- Allow 8 to 12 weeks for delivery of materials after receipt of order and architectural approval if required.

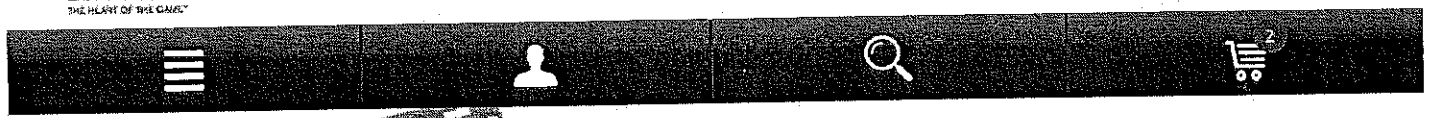
*If we can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact us.  
Thank you!*

EXHIBIT B  
(pg 1 of 2)



MY TEAM SHOP SIDELINE STORE

Catalog Quick Order



**SALE**

Buy More and Save! [see code 5N details](#)

Home / Equipment / Sports / Baseball / Softball / Tunnels & Frames / Varsity Tunnel Frames

## VARSITY TUNNEL FRAMES



Zoom

Enlarge

> be the first to review this product

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>3 Section Frame</b> SKU# 8510000	Qty	\$1,549.99 each
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Contact Us



SIDELINE STORE

EXHIBIT B  
(pg 2 of 2)

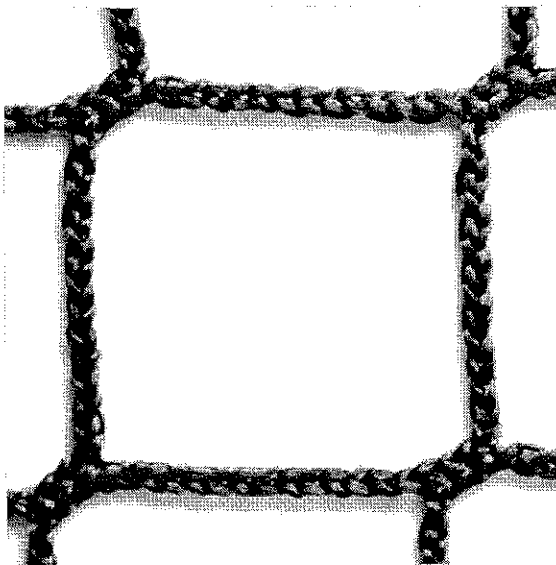
Catalog Quick Order

**SALE**

Buy More and Save! [see code SN details](#)

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## MAJOR LEAGUE BATTING TUNNEL NETS



Zoom



In Stock Ships Truck

> be the first to review this product



55'L x 12'W x 12'H  
SKU# BS45514

Qty

\$1,299.99 each

Flyer? [Add To Cart](#)

[+ Wishlist](#) [+ Compare](#) [Print](#) [Email](#)

**Key Benefits:**

- Braided Knotless 3.0 Mill HTPP





EXHIBIT C

# PROPOSAL

PO Box 10  
265 Bay Road  
Hadley, MA 01035  
(413)584-2550

DATE 11/30/2017

**TO: AMHERST LITTLE LEAGUE**  
Mill River Park  
PaulPoreda@verizon.net 413-246-9649

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WE HEREBY SUBMIT SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES For

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### ENTIRE FIELD

Provide Labor, Material and Equipment to supply and install irrigation system for entire Little League Field per diagram.

Pricing is based on typical design as shown on plan and can be adjusted based on budget

Pricing is based on tying into water line installed by us in 2017

Controller to be mounted in storage building where water source is.  
(Hardwiring of controller to electrical source by electrician)

**Total Labor, Material and equipment \$25,275.00**

### INFIELD & 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> BASE LINES ( Option A)

Provide Labor, Material and Equipment to supply and install irrigation system to infield and 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> base lines as highlighted on attachment ( in yellow)

Pricing is based on typical design as shown on plan and can be adjusted based on budget

Pricing is based on tying into water line installed by us in 2017

Controller to be mounted in storage building where water source is.  
(Hardwiring of controller to electrical source by electrician)

**Total Labor, Material and equipment \$8,185.00**

### BASE PATHS: ( Option B)

Provide labor, material & equipment to install additional irrigation in order to be able to water basepaths as highlighted on attachment ( in blue) **ADD \$1025.00 to Option A or C**

**AROUND PITCHER'S MOUND ONLY (Option C)**

Provide labor, material and equipment to install 4 heads around pitcher's mound only

**Total Labor, Material and equipment \$3,764.00**

Note:

- No Sales Tax included
- No Prevailing Wage included
- Pricing based on one field

Payment to be made as follows:

**50% Deposit to schedule, 50% due upon completion**

All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work to be completed in a professional manner according to standard practices. Any alteration or deviation from above specifications involving extra costs will be executed only upon written orders, and will become an extra charge over and above the estimate. All agreements contingent upon strikes, accidents or delays beyond our control. Owner to carry fire, tornado and other necessary insurance. Our workers are fully covered by Worker's Compensation ins.

AUTHORIZED

SIGNATURE Gregory J. Omasta

Note: This proposal may be withdrawn by us if not accepted within 30 days.

**ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSAL:** The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF ACCEPTANCE: \_\_\_\_\_

*Gregory J. Omasta*  
*Landscaping, Inc.*