

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

Minutes of Meeting

August 8, 2022

Attended: Chris Gerstel, Cynthia Chaston, Frederica Lalonde

Absent: Michelle Geddes, Dina Hannigan

Staff: Stacey Mulroy, Fabien Desrouleaux, Derek Moreau

Guests: Ed Olson, Cass Chroust, Andrew Baker, Steve Deroian, Holly Clarke

Call to Order (CTO)

Mr. Gerstel Called the meeting to order at 6:30pm on August 8, 2022.

1. Open Forum

None present.

2. Chair's Update

Mr. Gerstel explained that Mr. Olsen, Mr. Chroust will Present on Claxton and Mcleod updates and provide walkthrough of the time frame of the presentation.

3. Claxton Update

Mr. Chroust started the presentation with speaking about:

- Existing Conditions
- Site History
- Proposed Plans

Existing Conditions

Two Fields (Claxton 1&2)

Playground that has since been removed

Public Comment:

What can be improved for the Facility? How do we do the improvement?

Site History

Mr. Chroust said the following:

Weston & Sampson Environment Engineers went out and found issues with the waste materials coming up from the soil.

Shallow Test Pits (21 test pits) dug to 2 feet deep with at least 10-12 inches of clean topsoil

The Test Pits helped design the approach to continuing the project.

The plan is to remove the topsoil and place a weather barrier and then replace the topsoil and add 6" of new soil.

- a. Proposed Plan
- b. Earth Plan
 - a. New Seating
 - b. Walkways
 - c. New Light Fixtures
 - d. Movable Fence
 - e. Battery Cage
 - f. Canopy Cover for Dugout

Commissioner Questions:

Cynthia – What is happening with the Quarry Area?

Chris – Path to the Bathroom? Is it ADA Accessible?

Frederica- What is the technical reason for building the structures?

Public Comment – Involving the light post that is in play on Claxton 1.

What is the safety we will implement to avoid injuries?

4. Mcleod Update

Mr. Olsen began his presentation on Mcleod Field.

- Existing Conditions
- Plans
- Construction Timeline

Existing Conditions

- a. Fully irrigated system
- b. Advantages and Disadvantages of Pushing Field Forward
- c. Electrical Aspects

Commissioner Comment:

Can you move any items such as batting cage, dugout, or spectator seating?

Public Comment:

Is there any plan for possible storage for field equipment and care materials?

Are there any possible changes that can be made for the field Layout?

Are there any changes that can be made to the location of where Medflight lands?

Constrictions Timeline:

Town meeting 2023 – Project Next Summer

Both could be brought to CPC

5. Chair's Report

Mr. Gerstel welcomed new Commissioner Frederica Lalonde.

6. Director's Report

- Arts in the Park
- Rosemary Pool
 - Pool Breakdown
 - Needham Sharks Swim Team (9-0)
 - Pool (situational)
 - Pool Notices (Open Extensions) open until August 28
- Park Ranger Position

7. Additional Discussion Items

- Commissioner Updates
 - None presented
- Outdoor Bathrooms & Porta- Potties
 - Park and Recreation hopes to add more Porta-Potties
- Capital Projects
 - Discussion began about project and will be discussed at future time.
- CPC
 - None presented
- Playgrounds
 - Playground Usage
 - Claxton Space Possibilities
- Facilities
 - (Claxton) Skate Park possibilities

8. Action Items & Approvals

Pickleball Policy – Adopt as Amended Pilot Policy

Motion – Cynthia Chaston

2nd – Chris Gerstel

3-0 Unanimous

9. Topics For Future Meetings

- Special Event Request for YMCA Gala.
- Discuss Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Project Submissions.

10. Issues Not Reasonably Anticipated

None Presented.

11. Next Meetings

- Monday, August 22, 2022
- Monday, September 12, 2022
- Monday, September 26, 2022

12. Adjournment of Business Meeting

Motion – Cynthia Chaston

2nd – Chris Gerstel

3-0 Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned at 8:58pm on August 8, 2022

Respectfully Submitted.

Derek Moreau Jr.

Administrative Specialist