

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
February 22, 2010**

**PRESENT:** Brian S. Nadler, Chairman  
Philip V. Robey, Vice-Chairman  
Cynthia J. Chaston, Member  
Christopher R. Dollase, Member  
Thomas M. Jacob, Member  
Patricia M. Carey, Director  
Karen A. Peirce, Assistant Director

**GUESTS:** Bob Cohen, Resident  
Mike Retsky, Needham Sports Council  
David DiCicco, Memorial Park Trustee

The meeting convened at 7:00 PM in the Newman School Conference Room.

1. **Minutes of Meeting of February 8, 2010:** None Presented.
2. **Correspondence:** None Presented.
3. **Assistant Director's Report:** Ms. Peirce announced that all the February School Vacation Week programs were full and everything ran very well. The Ballet Program has started meeting at North Hill and it has been positive move for the program to be held in a more appropriate setting. She is working on scheduling a senior exercise class there starting in March. Planning for summer is on going.
4. **Action Items:**
  - A. **Special Event Requests: Bay State Football Camp:** Dave DiCicco explained the Football Camp is run by the former Natick High School Football Coach for local high school football players. The camp also gives youth coaches the opportunity to attend and learn how to run the drills for youth programs. A majority of the Needham High School players attended in the past. Noticing a conflict with a Soccer Club request Mr. DiCicco asked if Conroy Field at DeFazio Park would be available. A decision on this request has been deferred until the next meeting.

Needham Soccer Club Pre Season Clinic-The Commissioners had some questions regarding signage, hydration on the synthetic turf, fees being charged, a detailed schedule of events and what type of amplification would be used. A decision on this request has been deferred until the next meeting.

Boys Lacrosse Friday Night Games- The Commissioners had questions about the specific schedule and dates, how many groups and how many actual games would be held in Needham. A decision on this request has been deferred until the next meeting.

Rocket Lacrosse- The Commissioners had questions about the inclement weather plan and schedule of activities. A decision on this request has been deferred until the next meeting.

A decision was made to invite the Needham Soccer and Boys Lacrosse and Girls Lacrosse representatives to the next Commission meeting to clarify the remaining questions before permits are issued. Mr. Nadler suggested Ms. Carey find out what other towns are charging for field use.

## **5. Discussion Items:**

**A. Director's Report:** Submitted in writing prior to the meeting. Mr. Nadler asked if Ms. Carey knew if the Senior Center Exploratory Committee would be interviewing the user groups. Ms. Carey will inquire and get back to the Commissioners.

**B. Field Construction Update:** Mr. Retsky announced a punch list of items remain to be completed. There are still some permitting issues with the sign for Founders Field. Parks and Forestry Superintendent Lance Remsen will speak to the Building Inspector regarding the needed information to finalize the permit. Mr. Retsky is working with RAD to find out when they will be coming back to complete the punch list projects at DeFazio and Memorial.

**C. DeFazio Storage Building Update:** Ms. Carey met with Parks and Forestry Superintendent Lance Remsen, Assistant Parks and Forestry Superintendent Kevin Naughton, Town Engineer Tony DelGaizo, and Steve Nadeau from the Engineering Department to discuss the location of the storage building at DeFazio Park. She indicated the building would be placed between Small Diamond and the Carleton Pavilion. She indicated this placement would not interfere with drainage or irrigation. Mr. Jacob shared a letter from Track Club Coordinators Dennis Carboni and John Hrones sent to Sports Council President Bruce Herman regarding the storage building. The Commissioners expressed concern over the size and the placement of the building. Mr. Retsky suggested staking out the area to see how much space it will cover. Mr. Nadler will contact the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen who also oversee the property to inform them of the storage building and ask for their opinion of the size and placement of the storage building. He will also attend an upcoming staff meeting on the project, which isn't currently schedule.

**D. Field Scheduling Update:** Mr. DiCicco, Mrs. Chaston, Ms Carey, and Mr. Nadler met with Micah Hauben, the High School Athletic Director to get additional information on the High School requests. They are getting closer to finalizing the schedule but there are still some conflicts. Ms. Carey will talk to the groups about the conflicts. It was suggested that the Commissioners review the Park and Recreation and Memorial Park Trustee field scheduling policies.

**E. Senior Center Feasibility Study:** The PPBC has voted to hire Bargmann Hendrie and Archetype to do the feasibility study for the senior center. Ms. Carey and Mr. Nadler will consult to figure out the best approach to share the Commissions recommendations.

**F. Private Open Space Parcels of Value:** Mrs. Chaston will represent the Park and Recreation Commission at a meeting discussing possible purchases of private open space parcels on March 4<sup>th</sup> along with Mr. Robey and Ms. Carey. It was suggested that the Commissioners create a priority list of parcels that are located next to fields or open areas that could benefit the town if acquired. Ms. Carey announced that George Guinta informed her that the owner of the parcel of land on Nehoiden St. is trying to create 3 housing lots and provide pedestrian access to the Camp Property. Mr. Nadler would like to see an easement in the driveway for access to the Camp Property. Ms. Carey will get additional information.

**G. Commission Important Issues:** Mrs. Chaston has submitted her name to be considered as a member of the Volante Land Parcel Committee.

**H. Other Business:** Mr. Robey announced that the Gillette Stadium turf field is being replaced. Mr. Dollase announced it was being replaced as an upgrade not because of any problem or defect. Mr. Nadler recommended creating a committee of 2 Commission members, Memorial Park Trustee, and Ms. Carey to review the field policies and the process. He would like this to be completed by June 30, 2010.

6. **Adjournment:** Mr. Dollase made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45PM. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chaston and the meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Peirce, CPRP, CTRS  
Assistant Director