

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING
March 8, 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
	John Hrones	Needham Track Club
	Mark Miskin, Ben Cole	Needham Soccer Club
	Anne Cimini, Carey Stenberg	Needham Girls Lacrosse
	Chris Lynch	Needham Boys Lacrosse
	Mike Retsky	Needham Junior Football

The meeting convened at 7:00 PM in the Charles River Room in the Public Services Administration Building.

- 1. Minutes of Meeting of February 8, 2010:** Mrs. Chaston made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8, 2010 meeting. Mr. Nadler amended the minutes by adding the following to page 4. D. DeFazio Storage Building Update. Ms Carey will contact Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick to set up a meeting to discuss the *Commissioners concerns regarding the size and location of the building*. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robey and the motion was approved as amended.
- 2. Correspondence:** None Presented.
- 3. Assistant Director's Report:** Ms. Peirce announced that she has conducted two summer staff interviews electronically using Skype software. One interviewee was in Spain and the other in Colorado. She indicated all the summer contracts have been distributed to returning staff. She will attend the MRPA Annual Meeting on March 10, 2010 in Quincy.
- 4. Discussion Items:**
 - A. Special Event Requests:**
 - (a) Girls Lacrosse:** Anne Cimani the new President of Girls Lacrosse and Carey Stenberg Past President of 13 years gave an overview of the program. Currently there are 260 girls registered compared to 190 last year. The program is designed for second to eighth grade girls. They have enrolled 40 new second

graders. The sport seems to be growing in Needham and within the league. Needham does not have a U9 team but they have started a 2nd grade team that has skills training sessions and in town games. The teams are arranged by grade: 3rd & 4th, 5th & 6th, 7th & 8th with 2-3 coaches for each team. Currently there are 20 girls on the wait list. Teams have 2 practices a week and games on Sundays. The program runs for 8 weeks. High School coaches Beth O'Brien and David Wainwright have run clinics for the players and the coaches. They are involved in the Metro Lacrosse league that provides players from Needham to play youth in the inner city. They have players in the Elite League and the CORE League. They provide scholarships to high school students who volunteer and scholarships to lacrosse camps.

(b) Rocket Lacrosse: Anne Cimani and Carey Stenberg reviewed the Rocket Lacrosse Program. The High School varsity coach and assistant coach provide lacrosse opportunities for boys and girls. The fee is \$250. There will be a EMTon site and the participants will be reminded about hydration. There will be no sound amplification.

Request #1: Memorial Park, June 28-June 30, 9:00-2:00 and Thursday July 1 9:00-12:00 for rising 3rd grade to 9th grade.

Morning skills and drills and afternoon round robin games.

Rocket Lacrosse is not incorporated at this time

Request # 2: Prep Program for rising 7th to 9th grade boys from 9:00-2:00PM Preparing to play at the high school level. July 19- July 22, ½ day on Thursday.

Request #3: Prep Program for rising 7th -9th grade boys 5:00-7:00PM. This would be the first time running this program. No dates listed.

Carey Stenberg will re-submit the requests as 2 separate special events

(c) Needham Soccer Club: Needham Soccer Club field scheduler Ben Cole and Executive Director Mark Miskin gave an overview of the program. In 1967 the Needham Soccer Club was combined with Wellesley for fall soccer. In 1969 Needham Boys Soccer Club was created having developmental in-town play in the fall and elite travel teams in the spring. The program grew and in 1973 girls were allowed to join the Needham Soccer Club. The Memorial Day Soccer Tournament was started in 1972 and will host the 34th tournament this year. 965 children are registered for the spring session and 1000 are registered for the fall session for U9-U19. Needham Soccer Club is working to find a place for St. Bart's Soccer as they have lost their space due to construction at the church. They have also worked with Young Girl's Soccer to provide field space and coach training clinics.

Special Event Request: Clinic for 175 Needham players at DeFazio Field August 9-13 and August 16-19, 2010

Coaches: Dave Wainwright and Jay Steeves

8:00-11:00AM ages 8-12 3:30-7:00PM ages 13-18 Fee: \$225

They will provide hydration breaks, schedule of events and will have tents available for shade. They will have an EMT on site and no sound amplification. There will be signs directing players to restrooms and where to enter the field. The Soccer Club understands that Football Camp is looking to use the field on August 19th from 4:00-9:00PM and they will try to accommodate the Football Camp. Mark Miskin will send an updated special event request to Ms. Carey.

(d) Boys Lacrosse: Chris Lynch spoke on behalf of the Needham Boys Lacrosse Program. The Boys Lacrosse Program is run for boys in first to eighth grades. U-9=small ball focus, practice oriented, cross field play
U-11= full field small ball focus, skill based, 1 MBYL
U-13= 2 MBYL, the skill level is spread amongst 3 teams.
U-15 =2 MBYL, the skill level is spread amongst 3 teams.
5th grade, no tryouts,
6th, 7th, and 8th have tryouts run by the high school coach
8th grade TPL

Special Event Request: For the past 3 years TPL Friday Night Under the Lights League games were played away. Last year Boys Lacrosse hosted Friday night games in Needham but worked with the Soccer Club to use the field when they were at away games. This year four Friday nights will be scheduled in Needham- April 16, 30, May 7 & 14 and possibly June 4. 6 teams play 3 games during the Friday night games. The Needham team will be at all the home games and a Needham Boys Lacrosse Team Administrator will be assigned to be on site at all times. No sound amplification will be used. Chris Lynch will send Ms. Carey the name of the designated Team Administrator.

(e) Track Club: John Hrones spoke on behalf of the Needham Track Club. The program was created in the early 1980's. Currently there are 250 families involved. There are programs for children of all abilities and disabilities ages 3-14. The program is held 2 nights a week at the DeFazio Field Track. There are typically 8 activities taking place simultaneously each evening. The Needham Track Club has made contributions to the high school track program for uniforms, hurdles and other equipment. They also provide high school scholarships. The fee to participate is \$144. They donated \$10,000 towards the Field of Dreams project. This year the 20th Annual Great Bear Run will be held on May 16th. There are 7 or 8 different races for children. This year they are incorporating the Prostate Cancer Walk in the Great Bear Run.

Special Event Request:

Team All Star Meet- June 30 rain date July 1

All Star Night- July 28 rain date July 29

Mr. Hrones will review the parking plan for the special events and he will try and work out the sound to make it less intrusive on the neighborhood. He is aware of the amplification issues and will work to limit the duration and volume of the announcements at all events.

Mr. Dollase made a motion to approve the Special Event Request from Boys Lacrosse for the Friday Night Lights events with the understanding that a Needham Boys Lacrosse Team Administrator will be clearly visible and present at each Friday night event. Mr. Robey seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Mr. Dollase made a motion to approve the Special Event Request from the Needham Track Club to host a Team All Star Track Meet on June 30 and All Star Night on July 28, 2010 at the DeFazio Track. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chaston and the motion was approved.

5. Action Items:

A. Special Event Requests:

Dog Show- Mr. Dollase made a motion to approve the Needham Women's Club request to host a Dog Show on May 16, 2010 (rain date May 23) at the Claxton Quarry area. Mrs. Chaston seconded the motion and the motion was approved. Ms. Carey will find out if a licensed vendor is allowed on the property and inform the Women's club of the response.

Soccer Event Haiti Fundraiser-Mr. Dollase made a motion to deny the request to host a Haiti Fundraiser on March 28 at DeFazio Park due to lack of information and insurance coverage. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jacob and the motion to deny the request was approved. Mr. Nadler abstained from the vote.

Massachusetts State Track Invitational - The decision was deferred to the next meeting.

Knox Family Birthday Party- Mr. Dollase made a motion to deny the request to host the Knox Family Birthday Party at the Carelton Pavilion due to the lack of field space. Mrs. Chaston seconded the motion and the motion to deny the request was approved.

Bay State Football Camp- The decision was deferred to the next meeting.

B. Field Scheduling Update: Ms. Carey is working with Summer Baseball and Little League on the final scheduling. The Memorial Park Trustees have denied the Fast Pitch Softball program request to use Memorial Park. She continues to work with the High School Athletic Director to resolve the multipurpose field conflicts.

Directors Report: Submitted in writing prior to the meeting. Ms. Carey reviewed the upcoming drain down of Rosemary Pool and Lake. Parks and Forestry superintendent Lance Remsen is scheduled to retire the first week in April. Everyone is invited to attend a retirement party to be held on April 30th at the VFW Hall.

C. Possible Nehoiden Street Subdivision: Ms. Carey noted the possible subdivision construction project on Nehoiden Street could include a 3.5 foot easement to the camp property. Mr. Nadler suggested a 10 foot easement. Ms. Carey will speak to the Planning Director to see if that is a possibility.

D. Possible Open Space Parcel Acquisitions: Ms. Carey, Mrs. Chaston, and Mr. Robey attended a meeting with members from the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, Conservation Commission and Assistant Town Manager Chris Coleman and Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick. to discuss possible open space parcel acquisitions. The Conservation Commission has developed a list of potential open space parcels. Ms. Carey has started a preliminary list of land parcels that could provide more Park and Recreation open space. Mr. Nadler and Mrs. Chaston will schedule a meeting with Ms. Carey to discuss further.

E. Drainage Improvements at Rosemary Parking Lot: The Department of Environmental Protection has a few questions regarding the drainage improvement project at Rosemary Lake. Ms. Carey will schedule a meeting with the new Conservation Commission Agent Patty Barry to discuss further.

F. Senior Center Feasibility Study: The PPBC has voted to hire Bargman Hendrie and Archetype to do the feasibility study for the senior center. They contacted Ms. Carey to discuss the parking requirements needed at Rosemary Pool. Mrs. Chaston will contact Colleen Schaller and Denise Garlick from the Senior Center Feasibility Committee and Mr. Robey will contact George Kent PPBC member to let them know the Park and Recreation Commissioners would like to attend the PPBC meetings but they are held at the same time of the Park and Recreation Commission meetings. Mrs. Chaston and Mr. Dollase will monitor the minutes from the PPBC meetings.

G. Finance Committee Recommended Operating Budget: Ms Carey shared the Needham Finance Committee Fiscal Year FY2011 Draft Budget Recommendations.

H. Commission Important Issues- Round Table: None Presented.

I. Move to Public Services Administration Building: Ms. Carey reviewed the seating in the Charles River Room asking the Commissioners their opinion of the room set up for the meeting. Ms. Carey will share their input with the Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick.

J. Greene's field Playground: Ms. Carey shared a draft for a sign to be placed at Greene's Field indicating the removal of the play structure. Ms. Carey will inform the Commissioners and the public when the structure will begin to be removed.

K. Other Business: Discussed earlier in the meeting. Ms. Carey noted a meeting has been scheduled with herself, the Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, Mr. Nadler and Mrs. Chaston to discuss the status of the track equipment storage building to be located at DeFazio Park. Mr. Dollase asked for more discussion regarding field use requests from for-profit groups. Ms. Carey will schedule a meeting with Mr. Nadler, Mr. Jacob, herself and Dave Davison Assistant Town manager to discuss for-profit groups using fields.

5. Action Items:

A. Special Event Requests: Discussed earlier in the meeting.

- 6. Adjournment:** Mr. Dollase made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:16PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jacob and the meeting adjourned at 10:16PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Peirce, CPRP, CTRS
Assistant Director