

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING
February 28, 2011**

PRESENT: Philip V. Robey, Chairman
Thomas M. Jacob, Vice Chairman
Cynthia J. Chaston, Member
Brian S. Nadler, Member
Michael J. Retzky, Member
Patricia M. Carey, Director
Karen A. Peirce, Assistant Director

GUESTS: Bob Cohen, Resident

Mr. Robey called the meeting to order in the Charles River Room at the Public Services Administration Building at 7:02 PM.

1. **Minutes of Meeting – January 24, 2011:** Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2011 meeting. Mrs. Chaston seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.
2. **Director’s Report:** Submitted in writing prior to the meeting.
3. **Assistant Director’s Report:** Ms. Peirce applied for a USTA grant for Quick Start Tennis Equipment. Grant recipients will be notified in May. She participated in two webinar sessions; Safe Routes to School to promote walking to 10 Tips for Successful Grant Proposals. Planning for the upcoming Eat Well/Be Fit Needham Springs into Action walking week will include a combined Park and Recreation and Conservation Commission Nature Walk on May 9th at Ridge Hill. Ms. Peirce is also coordinating 2 other walks for the walking week. The February School Vacation week programs were extremely well attended and successfully run with all but one program having full attendance. In her new role, Recreation Supervisor Nicole DiCicco coordinated and supervised all the programs and did a great job providing a variety of activities. Ms. Peirce is working with Ms. Carey securing and interviewing summer pool staff.
4. **Discussion Items:**
 - A. **Draft Concepts for Field Scheduling Policies:** The Commissioners discussed scheduling policies for clinics vs. invitational events and different fee structures. Mr. Nadler suggested an ala carte menu charging different fees for different facilities. Mr. Nadler will meet with Memorial Park Trustee Chairman Dave DiCicco to draft a policy for field scheduling and fees.

- B. Field Scheduling: Spring/Summer Update:** Mr. Jacob reported that he had worked out most of the scheduling conflicts for spring fields but he found an incorrect mathematical calculation which reduced the Soccer Club field allotment by one slot. He is currently working to satisfy all the requests to equitably allot as much space as possible to all the field user groups. He and Ms. Carey will continue to work on the spring field scheduling and will report back at the next Commission meeting.
- C. Trails Update:** The Trails Advisory Group met on the morning of February 28th to discuss upcoming events and review the goals of the Needham Trails Master Plan. Ms. Peirce announced a Trail Day which will be held on April 30, 2011 at Ridge Hill. She is working with the Conservation Commission to provide nature walks and lead a trail clean up from 9:30AM-12:30PM. She is currently working on Trail Steward materials such as a brochure, applications and a Trail Steward Manual. Ms. Peirce continues to attend the EPA grant Eco Explorers monthly meetings.
- D. Rosemary Pool:** Ms. Carey is working with Assistant DPW Director Bob Lewis and Parks and Forestry Superintendent Ed Olsen to develop a schedule for the draining of Rosemary Lake.

5. Action Items:

- A. Non Needham Organization Field Requests:** Mr. Nadler suggested the Park and Recreation Commission not consider any non Needham field requests at this time. Mr. Robey suggested not creating a policy at this time but consider all requests on a case by case basis. Mr. Jacob made the suggestion of connecting non Needham field requests with Needham organizations to sponsor non Needham tournaments, clinics and special events.
- B. Special Event Request:**
- Needham Cub Scouts - Mrs. Chaston made a motion to approve the request by the Needham Cub Scouts to host Rocket Day March 19, 2011(rain date 3/26/11) at Claxton Field. Mr. Nadler seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
 - Msgr. Haddad Middle School - Mrs. Chaston made a motion to approve the Msgr. Haddad Middle School request to host a Civil War reenactment of Pickett's Charge on May 26, 2011 (rain date 5/27/11) at Greene's Field. Mr. Retzky seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

- Charles River YMCA - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the Charles River YMCA request to host a Healthy Kids Day on May 7, 2011 at Greene's Field. Mrs. Chaston seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- Needham Track Club - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from the Needham Track Club to host the Needham Team Challenge Meet on June 29, 2011 (rain date 6/30/11) at DeFazio Park using the track, Founders and Conroy Fields. Mr. Retzky seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- Needham Track Club - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from the Needham Track Club to host the Needham Youth Classic on July 15 and 16, 2011 (no rain date) at DeFazio Park using the track, Founders and Conroy Fields. Mrs. Chaston seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- Needham Track Club - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from the Needham Track Club to host the Needham All-Star Meet on July 27, 2011 (rain date 7/28/11) at DeFazio Park using the track, Founders and Conroy Fields. Mr. Jacob seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- Needham Girls Softball - Mrs. Chaston made a motion to approve the request from Girls Softball to host the Playoff Games and Bar-B-Q on June 18, 2011 at Claxton Field (rain date 6/19/11). Mr. Jacob seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- Needham Boys Lacrosse - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from Needham Boys Lacrosse to host Friday Night Lights on April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 June 3, 10, at Founders Field (no rain dates). Mr. Jacob seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- Needham Soccer Club - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from Needham Soccer Club to host a Pre-season Clinic on August 8-11 and August 15-18, 2011, at DeFazio Fields #1 & #2 (no rain dates) with an additional charge of \$20 per participant. Mr. Jacob seconded the motion and the motion was approved with 4 votes. Mr. Robey voted against the motion.
- Rocket Lacrosse - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from Rocket Lacrosse to host the Prep Program June 18-21, 2011 at DeFazio Fields # 1 & # 2 (no rain dates) with an

additional charge of \$20 per participant. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chaston and the motion was approved with 4 votes. Mr. Robey voted against the motion.

- Rocket Lacrosse- Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from Rocket Lacrosse to host the Boys Summer Program June 27-30, 2011 at DeFazio Fields # 1 & # 2 (no rain dates) with an additional charge of \$20 per participant. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chaston and the motion was approved with 4 votes. Mr. Robey voted against the motion.
- Walker School - Mr. Nadler made a motion to approve the request from George H. and Irene Walker Home for Children, Inc. to host a Charity Walk on September 18, 2011(no rain date) at DeFazio Field using the parking lot, Carleton Pavilion, bathrooms, picnic area and field space between the Pavilion and Pollard Middle School. Mr. Jacob seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
- Jewish Big Brothers/Sisters- Mr. Nadler recused himself from the discussion and vote. Mrs. Chaston made a motion to not approve the request from Jewish Big Brothers/Sisters to host Yom Sport, a day of Sport for adults with disabilities from the Greater Boston area on August 28, September 11 and September 18, 2011. Mr. Jacob seconded the motion and the motion to not approve the request was approved with 4 votes.

6. Topics for Future Agendas:

128 Lacrosse

Information to be included on the Town calendar of events

- 7. Adjournment:** Mr. Nadler made a motion at 9:08PM to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Retzky and approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:08PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Peirce, CPRP
Assistant Director