

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

**Minutes of Meeting
March 11, 2013**

- PRESENT:** Michael J. Retzky, Chairman
Thomas M. Jacob, Member
David C. DiCicco, Member
Andrea L. Shorthose, Member
Patricia M. Carey, Director
Karen A. Peirce, Assistant Director
- ABSENT:** Cynthia J. Chaston, Vice Chairman
- GUESTS:** Bill Lenahan, Mike Lenahan, Lenahan's Landscaping
Bill Monahan, Marc Stiller, Needham Baseball and Softball
Bill Gallagher, Needham Frisbee Club
Jen Kelly, Charles River YMCA
John Kingston, Needham Junior Football
Sabatino Sodano, Needham Soccer Club

The meeting convened at 7:05PM in the Charles River Room at the Public Services Administration Building.

1. **Minutes of Meeting:** Mr. Jacob made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2013 meeting. Mr. DiCicco seconded the motion and the minutes of the February 25, 2013 meeting was approved unanimously.
2. **Director's Report:** Submitted in writing prior to the meeting. Mr. Jacob asked about the Mills restrooms. Ms. Carey reported that she is researching modular units. If modular units are installed the former restrooms will become storage. Ms. Carey mentioned the Town is working on a cleaning contract for the public restrooms.
3. **Assistant Director's Report:** Ms. Peirce reported the following:
 - The main focus is on summer planning and hiring.
 - March 12th and 13th Ms. Peirce and Recreation Supervisor Nicole DiCicco will attend the MRPA Conference. Ms. Carey will attend on the 13th only.
4. **Discussion Items:**
 - A. **FY 14 Operating and Capital Budgets:** None Presented.
 - B. **Rosemary Pool:** Ms. Carey and Mr. Jacob attended the recent PPBC meeting and will attend the March 21st working group meeting. They will report at the next Commission meeting how the Rosemary Pool Feasibility Study is progressing.
 - C. **PPBC:** Mr. Retzky reported that Roy Schifilliti has been appointed to the PPBC.

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D. Community Preservation Proposals: Ms. Carey shared the preliminary funding concepts for the Community Preservation projects that will be discussed with representatives of the different boards at an upcoming working group meeting. The CPC public hearing will be held on March 13th.

E. Proposed Rail Trail: Ms. Carey reported the Bay Colony Rail Trail hosted a public workshop on March 4th with approximately 60 people attending. Breakout groups were offered to discuss all issues and questions related to the proposed project. Representatives from Fay, Spofford and Thorndike were present and will review the information gathered at the meeting for the final report. Mr. Jacob reviewed the discussions held with representatives from Needham, Newton, Dover and Medfield that was held on March 2nd. Representative Garlick will assist with communication with NSTAR regarding trail access in Needham Junction near the NSTAR property.

F. Greene's Field Project: Ms. Carey reported the Greene's Field Committee is finalizing decisions on the project with the Board of Selectmen. The Committee will be going out to bid very soon. The basketball court will remain in the same location and will be used for pick up basketball only. As with past practice, no outdoor basketball courts will be permitted for organized use.

G. Trail Projects: Ms. Peirce reported the next Trails Advisory Group meeting will be held on March 19th. She will be interviewing a new trail steward in the near future.

H. 7:30 PM Discussion with Memorial Park Trustees and Sports Organizations-Field Maintenance Fee: No member of the Trustees was able to attend the meeting. Mr. Retzky reviewed the memo that was sent to all of the sports organizations regarding the field maintenance fee. An increase in field maintenance fees could help bridge the gap to help keep up with all the field maintenance needs. Implementing an increased field maintenance fee July 1, 2013 could be difficult for groups that register in the spring for fall sports. A spring 2014 start date would be more reasonable for the groups to be able budget adequately. Mr. Jacob indicated he would support a \$5 increase because he does not want to see the fields become unsafe but would prefer this increase to be covered by the tax revenue. Mr. DiCicco agreed with Mr. Jacob and is encouraged that the Town Manager has been supportive of former field projects and the proposed Newman Field renovation project. Ms. Carey noted that the sports groups report their registration numbers on the honor system. Team rosters have not been required. She also noted a field resting schedule may need to be implemented by the Parks and Forestry Superintendent. Representatives from the sports groups noted a \$5 increase is reasonable but also asked if \$5 increase would be enough. Mr. Retzky replied that there are assurances that the budget will not be cut by the amount collected and there is no desire to burden the sports groups with a larger increase. A \$5 increase per person will almost close the budget gap. Sports group representatives were supportive of the fee increase but would not want it implemented until January 2014. Mike Lenahan asked about a new fertilizer program. Ms. Carey explained that all the tier 3 fields are using an all organic cost free fertilizer material. Tier 1 & 2 fields are almost all organic with a slight synthetic component. The Parks and Forestry Superintendent always takes into account economic and reasonable alternatives for field maintenance. He has met with the Board of Health and they are impressed that he limits the amount of pesticides to only when necessary, in

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accordance with the IPM policy. Mr. Retzky thanked the sports group representatives for attending the meeting. The Commissioners will discuss increasing the field maintenance fee at the next Commission meeting.

I. Spring/Summer Field Scheduling: Ms. Carey reported the field scheduling for spring and summer is just about done. She is waiting on some information from a few groups, including Needham High Athletics..

5. Action Items

A. Hillside/Mitchell Pre-Feasibility Study (Cricket): Ms. Carey announced the School Committee will discussing this topic at their meeting on March 30th.

B. Request: Christopher and Leigh Ling Camp Property Tree Removal: The Commission reviewed the request to remove four trees at the camp property, adjacent to a new home. The homeowners are concerned that the trees could potentially hit their home in a storm. Parks and Forestry Superintendent Ed Olsen has inspected the tree and deemed them not to be in imminent danger, but could pose a problem in the future. Mike Lenahan from Lenahan's Landscaping agreed with the memo from the Parks and Forestry Superintendent regarding the trees at the Camp Property. Mr. Jacob made a motion to grant permission to the homeowner Leigh Ling to remove the 4 identified trees under the supervision of the Parks and Forestry Superintendent. Mr. DiCicco seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously. Mr. Lenahan indicated that hardwood trees are being crowded out by the pine trees and by opening up the space it creates a better forest.

C. Set summer Program Fees: Mr. Jacob made a motion to approve the Summer 2013 Program Fees (Appendix A) as presented by the Director, Assistant Director and Recreation Supervisor. Mr. DiCicco seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

D. Reschedule March 25th Meeting: The Commission will not meet on March 25th, in observance of Passover. Ms. Carey will send meeting date options and poll the Commission members about a potential replacement meeting. She will send out an email to all the Commissioners.

6. Topics for Future Agendas: None presented.

7. Adjournment: Mr. Jacob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. DiCicco and approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Peirce, CPRP
Assistant Director

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APPENDIX A

GENERAL FUND Rosemary Pool	Approved Fees for 2012	Recommended Fees for 2013	Number of Classes		Approved Fees for 2013
RESIDENT SEASON BADGES					
Early Bird Individual	\$85.00	\$90.00			\$90.00
Early Bird Family	\$175.00	\$180.00			\$180.00
Early Bird Senior	\$45.00	\$45.00			\$45.00
Individual	\$105.00	\$110.00			\$110.00
Family	\$210.00	\$215.00			\$215.00
Senior	\$55.00	\$55.00			\$55.00
NON-RESIDENT SEASON BADGES					
Individual	\$155.00	\$160.00			\$160.00
Family	\$305.00	\$310.00			\$310.00
Senior	\$80.00	\$80.00			\$80.00
RESIDENT DAILY PASSES					
Daily	\$6.00	\$6.00			\$6.00
Daily after 6PM	\$3.00	\$3.00			\$3.00
Senior Daily	\$3.00	\$3.00			\$3.00
Senior Daily after 6PM	\$1.50	\$1.50			\$1.50
Guest Pass Booklet	\$50.00	\$50.00			\$50.00
NON-RESIDENT DAILY PASSES					
Daily	\$8.00	\$8.00			\$8.00
Daily after 6PM	\$3.00	\$3.00			\$3.00
Senior Daily	\$4.00	\$4.00			\$4.00
Senior Daily after 6PM	\$1.50	\$1.50			\$1.50
Guest Pass Booklet	\$70.00	\$70.00			\$70.00
SWIMMING LESSON SESSIONS					
w/ Season Pool Badge	\$30.00	\$35.00	10 classes		\$35.00
w/o Season Pool Badge	\$60.00	same	10 classes		\$60.00
ADAPTIVE AQUATICS					
w/ Season Pool Badge	\$30.00	\$35.00	10 classes		\$35.00
w/o Season Pool Badge	\$60.00	same	10 classes		\$60.00
INDIVIDUAL SWIMMING LESSONS					
w/ Season Pool Badge	\$20.00	same	1 class		\$20.00
w/o Season Pool Badge	\$25.00	same	1 class		\$25.00

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GENERAL FUND Summer Programs	Approved Fees for 2012	Recommended Fees for 2013	Number of Classes		Approved Fees for 2013
Mini-Evergreen	\$85.00	\$90.00	1 week		\$90.00
Cricketeer Adventure					
Half Day	\$80.00	\$85.00	1 week		\$85.00
Full Day	\$135.00	\$140.00	1 week		\$140.00
Summer Playground					
Resident Individual Season Pass	\$170.00	\$175.00	8 weeks		\$175.00
Resident Family Season Passes	\$400.00	\$425.00	8 weeks		\$425.00
Resident 5-Day Pass	\$85.00	same	5 days		\$85.00
NON-Resident Individual Season Pass	\$245.00	\$250.00	8 weeks		\$250.00
NON-Resident Family Season Passes	\$600.00	\$625.00	8 weeks		\$625.00
NON-Resident 5-Day Pass	\$110.00	same	5 days		\$110.00
Sports Specialties	\$135.00	\$140.00	1 week		\$140.00
Outdoor Living Adventure					
Half Day	\$80.00	\$85.00	1 week		\$85.00
Full Day	\$135.00	\$140.00	1 week		\$140.00
Program Volunteer	\$35.00	same	15 hours minimum		\$35.00
Rosemary Pool Instructor Aide					
w/ Season Pool Badge	\$0.00	same	15 hours minimum		\$0.00
w/o Season Pool Badge	\$35.00	same	15 hours minimum		\$35.00
REVOLVING FUND Youth, Adult & Senior Programs	Summer Fee 2012 Total including \$ for general fund	Recommended Fee 2013	Number of Classes	General Fund	Approved Fees for 2013
KidzArt	\$85.00	\$90.00	1 week	\$5.00	\$90.00
Kids Night Out	\$16.00	same	1 night	N/A	\$16.00
Kids Off Broadway	\$135.00	\$140.00	1 week	\$5.00	\$140.00
Youth Canoe and Kayak Camp	\$220.00	\$220.00	1 week	\$5.00	\$220.00
Event-Full! Programs	\$50.00	same	1 class	\$5.00	\$50.00
Quickstart Tennis Lessons	\$60.00	same	1 week	\$5.00	\$60.00
Needham Tennis Academy					
Half Day (9am-1pm)	\$160.00	same	1 week	\$5.00	\$160.00
Full Day (9am-4pm)	\$240.00	same	1 week	\$5.00	\$240.00
Totally Tennis	\$120.00	same	4 days	\$5.00	\$120.00
Adult Tennis Lesson	\$75.00	same	5 classes	\$5.00	\$75.00
Adult Tennis League					

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w/ Tennis Pass	\$55.00	same	10 weeks	\$5.00	\$55.00
w/o Tennis Pass	\$85.00	same	10 weeks	\$5.00	\$85.00
SUB w/ Tennis Pass	\$15.00	same	N/A	N/A	\$15.00
SUB w/o Tennis Pass	\$25.00	same	N/A	N/A	\$25.00
Junior Golf Lessons	\$100.00	same	5 classes	\$5.00	\$100.00
Adult Golf Lessons	\$110.00	same	5 classes	\$5.00	\$110.00
Senior Exercise	\$25.00	same	9 classes	\$5.00	\$25.00
Senior Golf					
Registration <i>(Includes Greens Fees for 8 Rounds)</i>	\$188.00	same	11 weeks	\$5.00	\$188.00
Each Additional Round <i>(past 8)</i>	\$21.00	same	3 max	\$5.00	\$21.00