

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

**Minutes of Meeting
March 2, 2020**

PRESENT: Christopher J. Gerstel, Cynthia J. Chaston, Michelle S. Geddes
Stacey Mulroy, Angela O'Connor, Kristen Wright

ABSENT: Matthew M. Toolan, David C. DiCicco

Mr. Gerstel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the Rosemary Recreation Complex.
Mr. Gerstel welcomed the new Park and Recreation Director Stacey Mulroy.

1. Minutes of Meeting – February 10, 2020

Ms. Chaston made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 meeting. Mr. Gerstel seconded the motion and it passed, 2-0-1.

4H. Meeting Dates

Mr. Gerstel moved discussion item H forward on the agenda. Mr. Gerstel stated he would like the Commission to get back to their normal meeting schedule. The Commission set the following meeting dates: March 9, March 23, April 13, April 27, May 4, May 18, June 8, June 22. The May 4th meeting will take place at 6:30pm at Town Hall prior to the beginning of the Annual Town Meeting.

2. Director's Report

The Commission reviewed the written report.

3. Program Report

The Commission reviewed the written report.

4A. Rosemary Recreation Removal Project Update

Ms. O'Connor stated that there has been some delays in the work and the contractor is awaiting some testing. The Park and Recreation staff will be talking to the Town Engineer and the Director of Conservation about any impact on the end date to not impact the Pool Opening Operation. Mr. Gerstel stated that the Commission would like an more accurate time line no later than April 6th.

4B. School Admin. Building Working Group Meeting Update

Mr. Gerstel stated that there is not update from the working group but that during the last meeting it appeared that the Hillside location was the first choice

4C. CPC Project Updates

Mr. Gerstel updated the Commission on the Park and Recreation projects being reviewed by the CPC. He stated that the CPC is preparing for the public meeting that will be held on March 11th.

4D. Recap: Select Board Meeting RE: Nike Site

Ms. O'Connor and Ms. Wright discussed the ideas that were presented to the Select Board at the Nike Site. They noted that there were many youth hockey players in Powers Hall and they saw several of the seasonal staff show up in support of the idea of an ice skating rink. Other residents discussed the importance of having both the Dog Park and the Needham Community Farm remain at the Nike Site. Additionally, the Conservation Committee and residents wanted to see improvements to the site to encourage passive recreation. Mr. Gerstel thanked Ms. O'Connor and Ms. Wright for attending the meeting on the behalf of the Commission and the Department.

4E. Walker Pond Working Group

Mr. Gerstel and Ms. Chaston stated that the group should consist of a member of the Park and Recreation Commission, a member of the Conservation Commission, the Town Engineer, a member of the Walker Pond Watershed Association, a member of the Board of Health and the Superintendent of Parks and Forestry. Ms. Mulroy will reach out to the groups and arrange a meeting.

4F. 2020 Pool Season

Ms. Wright stated that the Bid for the Pool Start-Up Procedures was posted last week. Ms. O'Connor stated that she is still working on gathering a list of Repairs & Maintenance items for the facility. Ms. O'Connor stated that the Pools would close at 6:45pm on the weekends. Mr. Gerstel stated that they can discuss the hours of operation further at the next Commission meeting. Ms. O'Connor gave an updating on staffing and Ms. Wright gave an update on membership sales.

4G. Project Updates

Ms. Wright discussed the new signs installed at DeFazio. Ms. O'Connor discussed the dock project. More updates will be discussed at the next Commission meeting. Ms. Mulroy stated that the camp property buildings were being taken down by DPW this week.

5A. Fees: Summer

The Commission discussed the memo regarding recommended program fees.

Ms. Chaston moved to approve the fees as presented. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

5B. Special Event Requests

Needham Fire Wellness Initiative

Ms. Chaston moved to approve the Special Event Request for the Needham Fire Wellness Initiative. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

Needham Police Jr. Academy

Ms. Geddes moved to approve the Special Event Request for the Needham Police Jr. Academy. Ms. Chaston seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

Parent Talk – Barn Babies

Ms. Chaston moved to approve the Special Event Request for the Parent Talk Barn Babies Event. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

Williams PTC Spring Carnival

Ms. Chaston moved to defer the approval of the Special Event Request for the Williams PTC Spring Carnival. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

Needham Baseball & Softball On-Field Training

Ms. Chaston moved to approve the Special Event Request for the Needham Baseball & Softball On-Field Training. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

Needham Baseball & Softball Coaches Challenge

Ms. Chaston moved to approve the Special Event Request for the Needham Baseball & Softball Coaches Challenge with the understand that the Commission would be notified of the finalized dates as soon as they are available. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

Needham Baseball & Softball Little League World Series

Ms. Chaston moved to approve the Special Event Request for the Needham Baseball & Softball Little League World Series. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously, 3 – 0.

6. Items Not Reasonable Anticipated by Chair within 48 Hours

None presented.

7. Topics for Future Agenda

Mr. Gerstel stated that he would like an updated on the dredging project.

8. Adjournment

Ms. Chaston moved to adjourn the March 2, 2020 Park and Recreation Commission meeting at 9:09pm. Ms. Geddes seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 9:09pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Wright
Administrative Specialist