

TOWN OF NEEDHAM TRUSTEES OF MEMORIAL PARK

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, May 14, 2015 – 7:00 PM – Memorial Park Building

PRESENT: John Gallelo, Chairman; Jim Healy, Clerk; Mark Forbes; Chuck Mangine; and Bill Topham

ABSENT: Matt Borrelli, BOS designee

GUESTS: Sam Hart and Steve Rosenstock (Needham Exchange Club) and Talia Shapiro, Haley Bowse, Grace Li, and Renato Huezo-Rosetes (Needham High School students)

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Gallelo at 7:02 PM. A quorum was declared.

The Minutes of the 3/2/15 and 4/8/15 meetings were reviewed, and a Motion was made and seconded to approve each set of minutes – Voted in favor 5-0.

The Trustees discussed a proposed “Memo” to be sent to the Needham Board of Selectmen seeking a “Parking Regulation” for the Memorial Park lot (memo attached hereto). Because of the serious parking issues at the lot, the Trustees requested the Board of Selectmen to implement traffic regulations to:

1. Expand the no parking area in front of the Memorial Park Building to match what is actually striped on the ground;
2. Designate the other striped areas as “No Parking” (this will be helpful to make sure no one is parking in front of the gates into the field and in ways that block access); and
3. Restrict parking only to designated spaces.

The Trustees also asked the BOS to consult with the Needham Fire Department concerning whether any “fire lanes” need to be laid out and striped. A Motion was made and seconded to send the proposed Memo to the BOS – Voted in favor 5-0.

Motions were made and seconded to approve the following four (4) Special Event / Waiver Requests that were first discussed at the 3/2/15 meeting:

- Needham Exchange Club – to use the Park for the annual July 4th festivities, from 7/2/15 to 7/5/15. Voted in favor 5-0.

- 128 Lacrosse Club – to use the turf field for practice on eight (8) days from 6/23/15 to 7/21/15. Voted in favor 5-0.
- Rocket Lacrosse – to use the turf field for a girls clinic on three (3) days from 6/29/15 to 7/1/15 (not in conflict with the dates and times of the above Request). Voted in favor 5-0.
- Needham American Legion Post #14 Baseball to use the 90' baseball diamond:
 - To run tryouts on eight (8) Sundays, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm, from 4/12/15 to 5/31/15;
 - For games and practices from 6/7 to 8/1/15;
 - And to operate the field lights on 6/12, 6/19, 6/26, 7/10 and 7/17/15.
 - All Voted in favor 4-0, with Gallelo abstaining.

New Business:

1. Needham Exchange Club submitted an amended Special Event Request to leave the field lights on pass the 10:00 deadline on 7/3/15 to allow for the clean-up of the field area after the annual fireworks display. As is the Trustees practice, we will vote this request at the next Trustees meeting on 6/11/15.
2. Needham Soccer Club submitted an amended Special Event Request to leave the field lights on until 10:00 pm on both Friday and Saturday nights, 5/22 and 5/23. Because these dates occur before our next Trustees meeting, a Motion was made and seconded to both approve this request and also to waive the two-meeting requirement to take up votes. Voted in favor 5-0.
3. Wellesley Amateur Radio submitted a Special Event Request to run its annual ARRL Field Day in the gazebo and surrounding grassy area – but not on the playing fields. We will vote this request at the next Trustees meeting on 6/11/15.
4. NHS senior student, Talia Shapiro, who is taking the class, “Greater Boston Project”, requested to place a “Big Belly” solar-powered trash can at the Park. Shapiro stated they would like to purchase a “double” trash can that costs \$4,200, but they have only raised approximately \$250 so far. The Trustees stated they were generally in favor of this concept, especially considering the ongoing problem with large amounts of trash left on the ground in the Park area, but the Trustees needed a lot more information, including the following:
 - Given that Talia is a graduating senior – as are all of the students working on this project, who is going to manage same after graduation in three weeks?

- How realistic is it that you will be able to raise the full \$4,200 – perhaps it makes more sense for Talia to return to the Trustees once they have raised a more substantial sum.
- Beyond the initial purchase price, how much will it cost to service, repair and maintain the trash can, and who will be responsible for this work and the related costs – has Talia spoken to Greg Smith, the Town's new RTS Director about this project?
- Who will be responsible for emptying the trash can?
- This may require the students making a gift to the Town/Trustees – have they talked with the Town about this, and is the Town willing to take on all future maintenance, care and repairs – including the cost of same?

Given all of these unanswered questions, this matter was tabled for the present time.

5. NHS senior students, Haley Bowse, Grace Li, and Renato Huezo-Rosetes, who are also taking the class, "Greater Boston Project", requested to hold a "Rocket Pride" event near the concession stand at the 1st NHS Girls Lacrosse playoff game. The event seeks to promote school spirit. They would like to use three grilles to serve hamburgers and hot dogs and also sell tee-shirts that students can paint to show their Rocket pride. The Trustees were generally in favor of this request, but only on the following conditions:

- They must provide the Trustees with a minimum of five adult parents who will supervise the entire event, from start-up to clean-up – please Chairman Gallelo with their names, addresses and cell phone numbers.
- They must contact Needham's Board of Health to determine if any permits are needed or other regulations must be followed, and then email Chairman Gallelo with the results.

The Trustees stated the students can use the concession stand, and we also suggested they contact the Touchdown Club (Bud Sumner) for assistance about grilles. The Trustees voted in favor 5-0 to allow Chairman Gallelo to later approve this event without another formal Trustees meeting if the students meet all of the above conditions.

6. The Trustees discussed the results of the recently adjourned Annual Town Meeting. The following Warrant Articles related to Memorial Park were approved – our Revolving Fund; \$20,000 for a renovated Gateway Garden; and a substantial sum of money set aside in a Reserve Fund for future work on the Memorial Park building and the synthetic turf playing field. A question was raised whether the 9/11 dedicated plaques will remain in the garden as part of the renovation. This matter will be further reviewed.
7. Chairman Gallelo questioned the current balance in our Revolving Fund – the Town's Finance Director, Dave Davison, had previously reported the balance is only \$603. Gallelo believes this is wrong – or someone has used some of the funds that were in that account. Healy will request an accounting for the last 5-

10 years. Gallelo also wants to know what happened to the Kyle Shapiro gift that was supposed to go to Memorial Park and/or the 90 foot baseball diamond. Healy will also inquire about this matter.

8. Flags were purchased from our FY' 15 budget appropriation of \$750. However, Bill Topham reported the American flags are the wrong size and the POW flags had no grommets. Nevertheless, we are still okay for the upcoming Memorial Day proceedings on May 25. Chairman Gallelo and Clerk Healy will reach out to the Town to resolve the issues with this budget year's flags and to ask that the Trustees procure the flags for next budget year.
9. The ongoing saga of excessive amounts of trash being thrown on the ground was again discussed. The Trustees also received complaints from the Needham Tennis Club and an Oakland Avenue resident concerning trash blowing about and ending up against the fence between the tennis courts and the playing fields.
10. Gallelo wants to know if all of the trash cans are being picked up 3x/week, which we believe is the protocol. Healy will email the Town Manager about this issue and may suggest a meeting with the Town's new RTS Director, Greg Smith.
11. Forbes reports the fencing around Admiral Gracey way is in need for repair. Healy will advise the Town.
12. Healy reported on the "field opening" policy information provided by Patty Carey. The Trustees agree with the Summer Season and Fall Season, but may not agree with the Spring Season – the Trustees believe that any start date before April 1 by the High School needs to require consent of the Trustees. Healy will contact Patty Carey to further discuss.

A Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved 5 – 0 at 8:22 pm.

Next Trustees meeting is Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 7:00 pm, at Memorial Park

END OF MINUTES.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Healy, Trustee and Clerk