

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

**Minutes of Meeting
November 9, 2015**

PRESENT: David C. DiCicco, Chairman
Matthew M. Toolan, Vice Chairman
Christopher J. Gerstel, Member
Michael J. Retzky, Member
Patricia M. Carey, Director
Robyn G. Fink, Assistant Director

ABSENT: Cynthia J. Chaston, Member

GUESTS: *YMCA Board:* Janet Jankowiak

Mr. DiCicco called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM in the Charles River Room at the Public Service Administration Building (PSAB).

- 1. Minutes of Meeting: October 19, 2015 and October 25, 2015:** Mr. Toolan made a motion to approve the minutes of the meetings of October 19, 2015 and October 25, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Retzky, and the minutes were approved unanimously.
- 2. Director's Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report. Ms. Carey supplied a break-down of class sizes for the Needham Public School. Mr. Toolan and Mr. Gerstel congratulated Parks and Forestry Superintendent Edward Olsen on receiving the Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce's Commitment to Community Award.
- 3. Program Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report. Ms. Fink highlighted the upcoming TGIF Night with Bubble Soccer. She also reported that 520 lbs of trash were collected at the November 7th Town-Wide Clean-Up.
- 4. Discussion Items**
 - a. Rosemary Pool Design and Pool Design Advisory Committee:** Ms. Carey gave a pool design update. She noted that BH+A is working on concepts for the building and for the parking lot. The current new pools concept would require 10 toilets each per women's room and men's room, so the building options will use that as a starting point. The Commission's goal for parking spaces is currently at 80 spaces. BH+A will be providing schematics for a lower parking lot with about 70 spaces and an upper lot with about 30 spaces. The small lower level lot could possibly have an alternate use, i.e. half basketball court. The large grass triangle could be used to add another 30 parking spaces but a retaining wall would need to be added which would increase cost. BH+A is currently working on adding a sidewalk and a circular drop-off. It will need to be determined if an elevator and

internal stairs will be required between the two floors. Ms. Carey noted that each current level of the building is about 3,000 square feet. BH+A is looking at whether everything can fit within those two floors, or if some small additions might be needed. For the upstairs multi-purpose room, Ms. Carey would be looking to see the entrance, storage, a small kitchen area, a small office area, and restrooms as a minimum. BH+A will work on a variety of options, including a cost comparison to building a new structure. They will also look for possible future expansion area, either as additional programming space or Town office space. The first drafts of concepts will be presented at the November 16th PPBC meeting, and all Commission members are welcome to attend. Mr. DiCicco asked that any ideas on amenities be sent to Ms. Carey so the Commission can create a goals list. Mr. Toolan and Mr. Gerstel will review the information with the Pool Design Advisory Committee, and begin a discussion on amenities. Ms. Carey suggested that an FAQ list of questions be developed, so residents can easily get up-to-date and accurate information.

- b. **Hillside School:** Ms. Carey reported that the Town is now doing some final investigations on the Central Avenue property. A number of tests had been done prior to making an offer on the property, but additional work needs to be done prior to the actual sale.
- c. **Chambers Cove Update:** Ms. Carey reported that the Conservation Commission will not require a permit for the placement of a stone and two benches, with the understanding that there is no excavation. Ms. Carey will notify the installer in writing, and insure that he coordinates the installation with herself and Parks and Forestry Superintendent Ed Olsen.
- d. **Projects Update: Newman, Eastman, Mills, Rail Trail, Aqueduct Trail:** The finishing crew is slated to start this week at Newman. The amphitheater concrete has been poured. The contractor is starting the stone dust paths that are part of the Eastman trail. At Mills, the outfield is complete except for one piece of sod. The pavers are mostly completed. At the Rail Trail, the fencing work is scheduled to begin within the week, and then the stone dust surface will be placed. The two road crossings will be done at the end of the project. Ms. Carey has been meeting with MWRA, Olin College and Babson College on details to set up a pedestrian path on the Sudbury Aqueduct as it goes through their properties.
- e. **FY '17 Operating and Capital Budgets:** Ms. Carey noted that there are no major changes to the operating budget submission. Later this week, the budget will be reviewed by the Town Manager.
- f. **Harold J.A. Street, III, Trust:** Ms. Carey would like for some of the money to be used for closed barrels at Cricket to prevent people from dumping household trash and yard clippings.

5. Action Items

A. None Presented

6. Topics for Future Agendas: Field Use Policy and Goals and Liaisons for the Commission

7. Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Toolan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Retzky and the meeting adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Fink, CPRP
Assistant Director