

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

**Minutes of Meeting
April 11, 2016**

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

GUESTS: *Carter Center for Children:* Peggy McDonald
YMCA Advisory Board: Janet Jankowiak, Connie Kaufman
Community Center of Needham: Deb Whitney
Rosemary Pool Design Advisory: Carolyn Reulbach
Commission Candidate: Michelle Geddes

Mr. DiCicco called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM in the Charles River Room at the Public Service Administration Building (PSAB).

1. **Minutes of Meetings: March 28, 2016:** Mr. Toolan made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gerstel. The minutes of March 28, 2016 were approved unanimously.
2. **Director's Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report. Ms. Carey reminded the Commission of the Rosemary Trail Hike taking place Saturday, April 30, at which time a walkthrough of the Rosemary Pool Complex will be held.
3. **Program Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report.
4. **Discussion Items**
 - A. **Rosemary Recreation Complex Project and Pool Design Advisory Committee:**

Mr. Toolan reviewed the most updated plans with the Commission and the Pool Design Advisory Committee. There isn't adequate parking to create a larger building, so if there was a lateral addition, parking would also need to be increased. Offices are able to be reconfigured to accommodate growth as the building was designed with a 50 year plan. Currently the total building is at \$5 million, the pool is at \$3.7 million, and the parking and access are \$2.1 million, and the terraces at \$1.4 million. There are additional ramps needed to provide access to the pool, which would not have been needed if the pool had been elevated. Director of Public Facilities – Construction Steve Popper and Project Manager Mike Retzky met with both BH+A and VJ Associates to review the estimates. Mr. Toolan pointed out that if the dredging project coincides with the construction of the Rosemary Recreation

Complex, Alternate #5 dealing with Porta-Dam would not be needed. The estimates for the project could still change, with final estimates being submitted after the permits. Mr. Toolan noted that the Finance Committee's current questions relate to the reduction in programming if the pool sizes were reduced, whether the season rates could be raised to help cover the cost of the debt service, and the outcomes from the requested \$550,000 and whether any of the funds could assist with the design for decommissioning if the project did not move forward. Mr. DiCicco believes the emphasis at this time should be on communicating with Town Meeting members. Mr. Toolan asked to get the renderings on display in various locations. Community Center of Needham (CCN) will be putting out "5 things you need to know about Rosemary." CCN member Deb Whitney said that advocates for the project will be attending an upcoming FinCom meeting and will speak on behalf of it. A call-to-action to Town Meeting members should be conducted before Town Meeting. Director of Carter Center for Children Peggy McDonald will be holding a directors meeting at Carter Center for Children on April 26, 2016, at 3:00pm and she would like to have information to present on the project.

B. Community Preservation Projects: Ms. Carey reported that the Finance Committee has voted to recommend adoption of the CPC articles for housing specialist, Rosemary sediment removal, Memorial Park drainage, and Student Conservation Association trail projects. They voted not to recommend adoption of the request for funds for the Conservation Fund. They have not voted on the Rosemary Recreation Complex project.

C. Town Meeting Preparation: The Commission with assistance from the Pool Design Advisory Committee will make phone calls and send emails to Town Meeting members.

D. Summer Season Preparation: Ms. Fink and Recreation Supervisor Sarah Mallard are currently working on hiring staff and ordering supplies. Ms. Carey reported that the Rosemary Lake drawdown started last Friday, April 8th.

E. Norfolk County Mosquito Control: Ms. Carey reported that Norfolk County Mosquito Control is currently treating mosquito larva using targeted spraying or briquettes in catch basins. During the summer, they will treat for adult mosquitos.

5. Action Items

A. Special Event Request: Circle of Hope: Circle of Hope is requesting field usage for a first time event. Ms. Carey suggested they use the DeFazio Tot-Lot because of the extra space and the amount of traffic they will have. Mr. DiCicco requested Ms. Carey follow-up with Circle of Hope to see if they could use the DeFazio Tot-Lot and a specific date for the event.

B. Schedule 2nd April Commission Meeting: The April 25, 2016 Commission meeting will be held at 6:15PM at the Center of the Heights.

6. Topics for Future Agendas: Mrs. Chaston requested the Commission discuss food trucks and the skate park after Town Meeting.

7. Adjournment of Meeting: Mr. Toolan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gerstel and the meeting adjourned at 9:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Fink, CPRP
Assistant Director