

Park and Recreation Commission Meeting
July 22nd, 2024 @ 7:00pm

Present: Christopher Gerstel (Chair), Michelle Geddes (Vice-Chair), Cynthia Chaston (Member) via Zoom, Dina Hannigan (Member), James Rosenbaum (Member), Hannah Corrigan (Assistant Director),

Absent: Stacey Mulroy (Director)

Call to Order

Mr. Gerstel called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, July 22nd, 2024.

1. **Open Forum Public Comment**

None.

2. **Meeting Guests**

None.

3. **Chair's Update**

None.

4. **Director's Report**

The Rosemary Lap Pool has reopened following drainage and cleanup resulting from broken glass. Fall field permitting requests are now open and we hope to have the schedule ready as soon as possible.

We have tentatively scheduled the first Public Meeting regarding the Active Recreation Feasibility Study for Monday, September 9th at 6:00pm. Cataldo will begin construction at Claxton Field in the coming weeks and the field will be closed this upcoming week. The Planning Board has approved the Needham High School tennis court renovation proposal.

5. **Discussion Items**

Chris said we are still in limbo regarding the specific field light policy, contingent on finalization from Stacey and the Memorial Trustees. We are also still in the process of finalizing our dog policy, but Chris reiterated that we are firm on not allowing dogs in playgrounds. Hannah wanted to remind folks that dogs are not allowed at Memorial Park, even when Arts in the Parks concerts are taking place.

Hannah said we are still working on final playground updates before the schoolyear begins, with Mitchell being the focal point. The department is still looking for folks to assist with the spreading of mulch. James brought attention to the faulty water bubblers throughout Town, under the impression we would be replacing them with filling stations. Hannah replied we are working to take inventory of which fountains we have governance over. Once that list is compiled, we will begin taking steps to address the under-utilized fountains.

Hannah has been reaching out to other municipalities to see how they run their Trails maintenance programs. She has created a fillable online form to report trail conditions but would like to continue finding areas of improvement for our trail maintenance.

6. Action Items & Approvals

6A. Special Event Approvals

ICON Community Picnic

Motion: Dina

Second: Michelle

Vote: 5-0, contingent on no exclusive use

Denial of Russian School of Mathematics Party

Motion: Dina

Second: Michelle

Vote: 5-0

Denial of Scherneck Property Services Picnic

Motion: Chris

Second: James

Vote: 4-0

6B. Policy Approvals

None.

6C. Fee Approvals

None.

6D. Previous Meetings' Minutes

None.

7. Issues Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair within 48 Hours

None.

8. Topics for Future Meetings

Fee proposals for 2025 Special Events.

9. Next Meetings

- Monday, August 26th, 2024
- Monday, September 9th, 2024
- Monday, September 23rd, 2024
- Monday, October 14th, 2024

10. Adjournment of Business Meeting

Motion: Chris

Second: Michelle

Vote: 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm, July 22nd, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominic Stanganelli

Administrative Assistant

Draft