

TOWN OF NEEDHAM

TRUSTEES OF MEMORIAL PARK

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 13, 2016 – 7:00 PM – Memorial Park Building

PRESENT: John Gallelo, Chair; Mark Forbes, Vice-Chair Jim Healy, Clerk; Bill Topham

ABSENT: Chuck Mangine, Matt Borrelli BOS designee, David DiCicco, Park & Recreation designee

GUEST: Kevin Naughton and Ed Olsen (DPW Parks and Forestry), Paul Robey and Sam Hart (Needham Exchange Club)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gallelo at 7:08 P.M. A quorum was declared.

The minutes of the February 11, 2016 meeting were discussed. A motion was made and seconded to amend these minutes by correcting a typographical error – “The minutes of the January 13, **2016** were approved 3-0” – the year was corrected. This motion passed 4-0, after which the amended minutes of the February 11, 2016 were passed 4-0.

The Needham Exchange Club reviewed their plans for the annual July 3rd and 4th celebration. This Special Event Request was previously discussed by the Trustees at our February 11 meeting. After this presentation and a brief discussion, the Trustees voted 4-0 to allow the Special Permit as follows:

- Needham Exchange Club – for the entire Park for the annual July 3rd and 4th Celebration, from Wednesday, June 29 until Wednesday, July 6 (all fields closed during this period); 8:00 am start each day; July 3 until 11:00 for fireworks; use of Gateway Garden sign boards 6/24 through 7/5; music amplification and electricity for lights and food tent; use of bathroom facilities and permission to install porta-potties; and use of concession room and fieldhouse.

Ed Olsen and Kevin Naughton gave an update on the Gateway Garden project. Ed has received the generous (and free) advice from Hartney Greymont (Jim Abusamra) and Gene Bollinger. The Trustees voted 4-0 to allow the removal of trees in this area and to remove the walkway to nowhere. Ed will return to our next meeting to discuss more detailed plans. Chair Gallelo asked that Ed look into the possible removal of the electric pole.

Ed then gave an update on the Memorial Field drainage project (\$310,000) that will go before Town Meeting in May – re-capture and re-direct storm water.

Action was taken on the following Special Event Requests that were previously discussed at our February 11 meeting:

- Needham American Legion Baseball – for the 90” diamond every Sunday in April and May from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. **Voted 3-0 in favor with Chair Gallelo abstaining.**
- Needham Soccer Club – for the field-turf rectangular field for the annual Memorial Day Tournament from May 27 through May 31 (will ensure no conflict with NHS sports on May 27). Request also to use bathroom facilities and concession room. Request to install porta-potties. Request also for a Waiver to use the field lights between 9:00 and 10:00 pm on both May 27 (already allowed under Special Permit) and May 28. **Voted 4-0 in favor.**
- Park & Recreation – for the Gazebo, 90’ diamond and Park building for the Arts in the Parks series, July 7, 14, 21, and 28 and August 4 and 11; from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Request for use of small sign board – to be put up on the morning of each concert and removed the next day. Sound systems belong to the musicians. Request for use of the bathrooms and the garage area (for folding chairs and music stands). **Voted 3-0 in favor with Chair Gallelo abstaining – Trustees also require Park & Recreation to provide the Trustees with a plan to monitor dogs that may be brought to the Park by guests to this event.**
- Rocket Lacrosse – for use of the field-turf rectangular field from June 22 to 24 from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm; if NHS gets out later than June 22, they request June 27 – 29. **Voted only to allow use from June 22 to 24 – as the Park’s fields will be closed on June 29 for the Exchange Club’s use.**

The Trustees again voiced their displeasure with citizens who continue to allow their pets to go on the fields, and in many instances, allowing their pets to relieve themselves on the fields. We will write to the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager concerning this issue.

There is approximately \$500 remaining in our FY 2016 budget appropriation. Trustee Topham will speak with Nikki Witham concerning requested expenditures for these funds.

New Special Event Requests

- Needham Jr. Football on Saturday, May 7, 2016 – 1:45 to 3:45. Because the event will occur before the Trustees next meeting, we vote 4-0 to waive the requirement of a 2-meeting review, and we then vote 4-0 to allow this request.
- ParentTalk for “Flicks on the Field” on August 20, 2016 (rain date of August 21), from 5:00 to 10:00 pm. Request for signage three weeks prior to the event. Need lights on Gazebo and near restrooms. Screen and speakers will be at the outfield fence and pointing towards the Library. Trustees will vote this request at our next meeting. We also require a ParentTalk representative to attend our next meeting to discuss this request.

- Needham-Wellesley Ham Radio Club – initially discussed at this meeting and will be re-discussed at our next meeting.

The Trustees discussed potentially submitting an “explanation” piece in the mailing to Town Meeting members discussing the Warrant Article that seeks to appropriate \$50,000 to conduct a feasibility study of the Memorial Park fieldhouse. The Trustees voted 4-0 to approve doing so, if allowed by the Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk.

A Motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved 4–0 at 8:10 pm. The next Trustees meeting will be on Thursday, May 12, 2016, at 7:00 pm, at Memorial Park (not May 11 because of the possibility of a 4th night of Town Meeting).

END OF MINUTES.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Healy, Trustee and Clerk