

TOWN OF NEEDHAM TRUSTEES OF MEMORIAL PARK

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, September 19, 2018 – 7:00 PM – PSAB (Charles River Room)

PRESENT: John Gallelo, Chair; Mark Forbes, Vice Chair; Jim Healy, Clerk; Chuck Mangine; Bill Topham; Dan Matthews – BOS Chair / Representative to TMP

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Mike Retzky – Public Facilities, Construction Division; NHS Principal Aaron Sicotte and Asst. Athletic Director Mike Jackson; Dave DiCicco, Park and Rec Representative; Doug Fox and Al Calcagni, Needham Jr. Football; Ed Olsen, Parks and Forestry; Greg Smith, RTS Superintendent; Mark Koeck, Big Belly Receptacles Representative

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gallelo at 7:05 pm. A quorum was declared.

Retzky gave a presentation on the status of the Fieldhouse building project and asked for permission to install an electric pole on the corner of the Park property, near the entrance to Rosemary Street. Once the pole is installed, the wiring will travel underground to the building. The neighbors have no objection. Healy moved to approve same, Matthews seconded, and it passed 6-0.

Healy was not able to attend the prior meeting on August 15, and accordingly Matthews took notes for the minutes. However, these have not yet been distributed to the membership, and accordingly, no minutes for that meeting have yet been approved. Also, it is not yet clear if the minutes of the July 18 meeting were approved at the August 15 meeting.

The Trustees met with Sicotte and Jackson. Gallelo reminded NHS that no repairs or maintenance should be made to the Parks grounds without Trustee and Ed Olsen's prior approval. Healy asked for communication and collaboration with respect to student parking and trash left at the Park. Sicotte stated he would send a communication to the students concerning both issues. Matthews urged synergy and mutual cooperation.

Olsen advised the synthetic turf is scheduled for replacement and an Article concerning same would be on the May 2019 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Olsen stated that funding for this project has previously been set aside in the Athletic Facility Improvement Fund overseen by Town Meeting. Olsen will attend a future Trustees meeting to discuss same.

We discussed the poor trash situation around the rectangular field in early September. Calcagni and Fox advised that when they arrived at the field for a Jr. Football day, the trash barrels were already over-flowing, and no dumpster had yet been placed at the Park because of the construction project. Retzky stated he will drop off a dumpster. Topham said there is no accountability from the Town and the RTS for this ongoing trash problem, and the RTS doesn't empty the barrels unless they are full to the brim, which Topham says is wrong. Matthews said he will discuss this with the Town Manager and communicate with the RTS. Smith stated the packer operator empties all barrels on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and in the future, they will include Memorial Park in the "Saturday Supplemental Service." Smith also stated his staff will monitor the dumpster on Saturday mornings after a Friday night NHS football game. Gallelo reminded Smith to also empty the barrel on the Pickering Street Extension, near the 90' baseball diamond.

The Trustees discussed the "big belly" trash receptacle pilot program – the barrels are placed on 4x6 concrete pads. Healy made a motion to approve 6 barrels on a pilot program only and excluding the gazebo area – the Motion passed 6-0.

The Trustees once again discussed the issue of food trucks at the Park. We made a distinction between confections (the "ice cream man") and "food" trucks. Healy continues to advocate for Needham "brick and mortar" businesses to be given the opportunity to sell food at the Park, before food trucks are considered. Topham agreed. However, during the time of the construction project only, the Trustees may favorably consider the use of food trucks, but they must obtain prior approval from the Trustees.

The Trustees began a discussion of potential "naming" in the new fieldhouse – perhaps naming the "Trustees Meeting Room" in honor of someone. Matthews cautioned the Trustees to take their time in considering this matter, and the Trustees agreed this was just a first discussion and will be brought up again at future meetings.

Needham Flag Football is considering donating an AED box to the Park – the Trustees need a lot more information about same and this will be raised at a future meeting.

A Motion to Adjourn was made, seconded, and approved 6–0 at 8:31 PM.

END OF MINUTES.

The next Trustees meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, October 17, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., at a location to be posted. Healy stated he has a work commitment that night and is unable to attend this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Healy, Trustee and Clerk