

TOWN OF NEEDHAM TRUSTEES OF MEMORIAL PARK

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, July 17, 2019 – 7:00 PM – Public Services Administration Building

TRUSTEES PRESENT: John Gallelo, Chair; Mark Forbes, Vice Chair; Jim Healy, Clerk; Chuck Mangine; John Bulian – BOS Chair / Representative to Trustees of Memorial Park

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Bill Topham

GUESTS: Patty Carey, Park & Recreation Director; Greg Smith, RTS Director

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gallelo at 7:00 pm. A quorum was declared.

The minutes of the meeting of April 24, 2019 were approved 5-0. The minutes of the meeting of June 19, 2019 were approved 3-0-2 (Healy and Bulian abstained).

There was a lively and robust discussion of trash barrel pick-up at the Park. Gallelo showed a photograph showing a bucket (near the Pickering Street extension) overflowing with trash, with some trash left on the ground next to the barrel. Gallelo stated that he has observed this condition on a regular basis and that he, personally, has had to empty the barrels, and on some occasions, he has brought extra barrels to this location.

Smith stated that the barrels at the Park are emptied by RTS employees on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings and some barrels at certain Town locations are also emptied on Saturday morning. Smith stated that the barrels are filling up too quickly and part of the problem may be (i) the amount of materials brought to the Park by the users that end up being trash; (ii) trash brought to the barrels by residents (instead of bringing it to the RTS); and (iii) potentially some trash from the tennis court users. Gallelo said it is not resident's trash and Bulian said it is not tennis court trash.

Smith said they are about to deploy "Big Belly" trash receptacles, which don't have to be emptied as often – there is also a recycling component to these containers. There will be 5 Big Belly cans deployed at the Park, one of which will be placed at the Pickering Street extension. One potential issue is that the Big Belly cans have a small mouth, and it is possible that it may be difficult to place large hefty bags of trash inside the can.

Gallelo stated there is not enough being done, and there is never any improvement. Smith said he would report back to his Directors and see what might be able to be done to improve the situation. They will consider committing that the Pickering Street Extension is always on the Saturday Supplemental Service Schedule. They will also

consider doing spot checks during the week to see if the barrels are becoming too packed. They will also consider adding more barrels to this location and they will also examine other possible fixes.

The Trustees again reviewed the Town Manager's memo on Fieldhouse Staffing Recommendations and had no suggestions. Gallelo stated that someone needs to be able to provide "access" to the building now (even before it officially opens) and he mentioned a recent problem with a sprinkler head leak that took some time to address because no one had a key to the building. Mangine also stated that a key to the flag pole needs to be available on a regular basis – the flag was left at half-mast for one entire week.

A Special Event Request for Needham Junior Football and Cheerleading to use the fields and the building on 5 of the following dates (September 7, 14, 21 and 28; and October 5, 12, and 26) was approved 5-0. This group understands the synthetic turf field will not be ready for use until the 3rd or 4th week of August and the building won't be "open" until the end of August. They also asked for a "lights waiver" until 10:00 pm for these 5 game days, when the schedule is finalized. The Trustees have no objection, but this request cannot be approved until it has been discussed at a 2nd meeting (per ZBA Rules).

Public Facilities was able to secure a Temporary Occupancy Permit for the 1st floor of the new fieldhouse building so the Exchange Club was able to use same as part of the July 3rd and 4th activities. Well done to Mike Retzky and Steve Popper. Retzky has advised that they hope to turn over the finished building (with a full Certificate of Occupancy) on or around August 23. The Trustees gave high praise to Public Facilities, the General Contractor and Needham's taxpayers.

Healy reminded the Trustees that the Interim Rules and Regulations for Use of Memorial Park Fieldhouse were previously voted favorably on April 18, 2018 and May 3, 2018, and further that the Parking Management Plan was presented by the Town Manager to the Planning Board in a memo dated February 9, 2018. Accordingly, the Trustees believe they have fully complied with the Planning Board's "Decision" dated March 8, 2018 (Sections 3.10 and 3.11). The Trustees look to the Town Manager for any future guidance or advice.

Healy and Forbes led a discussion of the proposed Ribbon Cutting ceremony, set for Friday, September 20, 2019. This topic will be further discussed at the next Trustees meeting.

A Motion to Adjourn was made, seconded, and approved 4-0 (Gallelo had previously left the meeting) at 8:01 PM.

END OF MINUTES.

The next Trustees meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, August 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Services Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Healy, Trustee and Clerk