Town of Needham Board of Selectmen

Policy Number:	BOS-DIS-003
Policy:	Naming of Facilities and Placement of Materials
Date Approved:	April 13, 2005
Date Revised:	May 11, 2010
Approved:	Chairman, Board of Selectman

Policy:

- 1. The Board of Selectmen is responsible for the naming (or renaming) of any facilities located on parcels of land under the jurisdiction of the Board. A facility is defined as a building, portion of a building, driveway, intersection, walkway, or other parcel or portion of a parcel of land and places or natural features contained therein. Once a facility has been named, renaming will be approved only in extraordinary circumstances.
- 2. The Board of Selectmen is responsible for approval of the placement of memorial objects, artwork, signs or other fixtures on parcels of land under the jurisdiction of the Board. Examples include, but are not limited to, plaques, memorial or ornamental signs, sculptures, banners, benches, trees or other plantings, fountains, detached structures, and walls.

Procedure:

- 1. A proposal to name a facility must be submitted in writing to the Board of Selectmen and must include a summary outlining the merits of the proposal. The proponent or his or her designee will present the request to the Board of Selectmen at a regularly scheduled meeting. The Board will vote on the proposal no sooner than the next regularly scheduled meeting, after allowing a period of time for public comment. The Board of Selectmen may appoint a committee to assist with its review of any proposal.
- A proposal for the placement of a memorial object, piece of artwork, sign, or other fixture
 must be submitted in writing to the Board of Selectmen and must include a summary
 outlining the merits of the proposal. The Board will vote on the proposal at a regularly
 scheduled meeting.
- 3. The Board of Selectmen shall review existing facility names to avoid duplication, confusing similarity or inappropriateness.
- 4. Approval of the placement of a memorial object, artwork, sign or other fixture will only be made after a determination by the Board of Selectmen that the proposal will not: limit physical access to the site; endanger the peace or safety of the public; interfere with any utility or access thereto; be limited by unacceptable special restrictions, conditions or

covenants; or create a significant budgetary obligation on the Town for which no provision has been made.

- 5. Donation of funds, memorial objects, artwork, signs, fixtures, or in-kind services must be formally accepted by the Board of Selectmen in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws.
- 6. Requests for naming of facilities or placement of memorials on land not under the jurisdiction of the Board will be referred to the appropriate Board.