

MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION HELD  
JANUARY 17, 1955

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Ira M. Conant  
Mr. James E. Murphy  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

The minutes of the December meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Budget Report.

The New Equipment account for 1955 has been reduced by \$475.00. An authorized transfer of \$425.00 from 1954 Maintenance to New Equipment has made it possible to purchase the Kut-Kwick Brush Cutter in 1954.

It will also be reduced by the recommendation of a 3-mower hitch instead of a 5-mower hitch for the Toro machine.

2. Proposed Tot Lot at Christina and Goddard Streets.  
The Recreation Commission has been advised to seek permission through the Board of Aldermen to use this land for Recreation purposes.

It was suggested that this land be held on a temporary basis.

The cost of development would be between \$2000 and \$2500. This will include grading, stone dust base, sand box, junglegym and slide.

It was proposed that some fencing would be necessary.

3. Proposed Land Taking at Stephens Place.

The Assessed value of this land is \$3200.00. This land should be taken by eminent domain, but it was agreed that no action shall be taken prior to April 1, 1955.

4. Pine Street Dump.

The City owned land is valued at \$10,000. The Martin Moran land is valued at \$150.00, and the Margaret Maloney land is valued at \$500.00. The Mayor has indicated that there is a possibility of Industrial Growth in this area. The suggestion has been made that we consider the use of Scribner's Swamp. This land may not be filled in for 20 years. Auburndale playground might be enlarged by acquiring land near the tennis courts, This area is too far from the River Street Section.

5. Construction Program.

A recommendation for the construction of Albemarle Road, playground side, in the amount of \$31,000 - is before Public Works Committee. The Committee feels that a finished street may become a raceway. It is indicated that some compromise plan will be agreed upon. It was recommended that bridges be constructed over Cheesecake Brook.

6. Construction Needs.

A letter has been submitted to Mayor Whitmore indicating our needs. Review has been made of the record of building construction. Our principal requests deal with the need for a Field House at Albemarle Playground and an adequate Maintenance shop.

A letter recommending grounds construction has already been forwarded to Mayor Whitmore.

7. Request for action in regard to restrictions on team membership in the Basketball League.

The Sporal Club, a team of deaf mutes, request permission to add 5 players to their roster who are not residents of Newton.

It was voted that the decision shall be made by the team managers of this particular league, National A, in a meeting with Mr. Johnson.

The decision in regard to this matter shall not be constructed as binding beyond this season and shall not be considered as a departure from the rule presently in effect.

8. A report of the joint meeting with the Newton Park Commission is filed and recorded as a joint meeting report.

Respectfully submitted,

Special meeting with Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr., in regard to the use of certain lands at Newton Centre Playground as a site for a proposed Mason-Rice School.

Mayor Whitmore had assumed that the School Department had discussed this matter with the Recreation Commission.

There is a hearing before the legislative committee of Cities and Towns on January 19th for permissive legislation to transfer this land to school use.

City Engineer, Mr. Schiavone and other engineers have indicated that this land is suitable for this construction. The land taking would include the storage yard, archery range and possibly the site of the caretaker's residence.

The School Department has studied the possible alternate sites. This site seems to be the central location.

What are the factors governing future expansion to meet the increase in school population?

Can buildings of the suggested type be built under the present building code?

What happened to the original planning for school construction on the site of M.D.C. land on Pleasant Street?

(Are these other locations on Newton Centre Playground?) *aut  
C&G*

Are there other locations on Newton Centre Playground?

Would it not be advisable to make further study?

Are there possibilities on Langley Road or Weeks Jr. High playground?

After the discussion Mayor Whitmore withdrew with the request that he be informed of the Commission's decision.

The Commission voted 6-0 in opposition to this proposed use of Newton Centre playground land for a school site.

The objections expressed as follows were transmitted to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. on January 24, 1955.

1. This action may set a precedent for future demands by the School Department for the use of playgrounds for school sites. Such action will deplete our available playground space far below the minimum requirements for a city the size of Newton.
2. Alternate sites have not been considered.
3. The proposed location is hazardous because of the brooks (drains) running through the playground and because of the narrow streets adjacent to the proposed site, namely Pleasant Street and Tyler Terrace.
4. The pupil enrollment at this proposed new school must still face the traffic hazards of Newton Centre Square in going to and from school.
5. The Recreation Department should receive some judgment in usable funds, should such a bill be proposed.

6. The Recreation Commission submits that legislation or action of this type should be mutually agreed upon between the departments concerned before any bill is submitted to the General Court for action.

Mayor Whitmore requests expression of the opinion of the Recreation Commission in regard to finishing Countryside School Play area.

This play area is part of the school grounds and as such should be constructed from Bonded Money for School and School yard Construction.

The Commission recommends that this school yard construction be completed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

REPORT OF JOINT MEETING

Newton Recreation Commission  
Newton Park Commission

January 17, 1955

Mr. William Hopkins stated that the Newton Park Commission was a newly created department which had been functioning only since last summer and would like to have the benefit of the advice and experience of the Recreation Commission in determining their program of organization and function as a Park Commission.

The members of the Park Commission already have made an extensive paper study of the Park Land areas of the City which are considered to come under their jurisdiction, namely, triangles, school landscaping and parks.

How should these facilities be classified and what plan shall be drawn for extending the control of the Park Commission over those areas which do not specifically come under the jurisdiction of some other department?

What parks do we have and how shall we develop a Park System?

Mr. Johnson - We do not have parks which lend themselves to passive recreation. There is considerable land in Newton along the Charles River which is owned and controlled by the M.D.C. which could be developed. Newton Playground areas adjacent to the Charles River are too small to be developed as Parks. There is some slight

possibility at the Auburndale Playground but even that would require taking of more land.

Edmands Park was deeded to the City of Newton with one section designated for Playground and one section designated for Park. There has been mutual cooperation between Forestry Superintendent and Recreation Commissioner in gradual restoration of this area.

*Edmands  
Park -*

The Recreation Department is spread beyond playground maintenance and program and is responsible for maintenance of school yards and does not promote program on certain school yards during the school year.

The Forestry Division maintains all plantings and walkways and lawns at all of our schools. Mr. Eugene Drennan can give complete information on these areas.

Some years ago, Mr. Johnson inquired of Mr. Joseph Bartlett, City Solicitor, if the Recreation Commission had the authority to act as a Park Commission. This question was asked because certain M.D.C. holdings in Newton were being sold to private owners. Mr. Bartlett ruled that we did not have the authority of a Park Commission.

#### Hammond's Pond.

This area is a Great Pond and as such is open to the use of all. Since the last sale of land in this area to Cabot, Cabot and Forbes, there is no right of way to the Pond so any person who used the Pond became a trespasser on Private Land.

Park Commission has map which indicates right of way along the edge of the pond near fireplace areas.

What steps should be taken to protect this area and who should take these steps?

Mr. Johnson indicated that M.D.C. had notified the Newton Police Dept. that protection in the Hammond Pond Area was now a Newton Police Problem.

Cabot, Cabot and Forbes had purchased land in this area to be developed for Commercial Purposes. Newton Board of Aldermen re-zoned this area for Single Residence Home Construction.

There is a bill before the Legislature to have this land returned to M.D.C.

What is the status of M.D.C. land on the other side of Hammond Parkway?

There are still 23 acres belonging to M.D.C. Considerable land is owned privately. The land recently purchased by Temple Mishkan Tefila from M.D.C. may be more than is needed by the Temple and they may seek to dispose of the excess land to the City of Newton. The plans for building construction by the Temple are still not certain and they may relocate their buildings.

This total area affords opportunity for Park Development.

Mr. William B. Marquis raised the question as to differentiation between Parks and Playgrounds. Some areas are named "Parks" and some "Playground". The term "Park" does not necessarily mean that an area is specifically Park. It may mean "Playground."

Mr. Marquis made the comment that cities comparable in size to Newton throughout the country as a rule have large City Parks. Newton has none. The Riverside Golf Course and Cold Spring (a portion designated for schools) are the largest available areas. There is some fringe area along the Charles River at Newton Upper Falls and Newton Lower Falls. These areas may lend themselves to Park development.

Mr. Hopkins - "Which areas can be developed as parks?"

Mr. Johnson - 1. Edmonds Park and it should be controlled through one department.

2. Auburndale Playground. Some land can be recovered between the Causeway and Forest Grove Road. Additional land can be acquired toward the Waltham line. The present development tends more to playground use and program.

3. Private land bordering on Hammond Parkway as well as M.D.C. Land.

4. Park land area adjacent to the Cold Spring Playground.

Mr. Hopkins - "Has a survey been made and a plan developed for Park and/or Recreation Growth in Newton?"

Mr. Johnson - The Playground System in Newton was the result of careful planning and development under the leadership of Mr. Ernst Hermann, our first Playground Commissioner who retired in 1939. Only a few new areas have been developed since that time and most of them in connection with new school construction. Several years ago, the Recreation Commission submitted a plan for the sale of certain Playground Lands to the Board of Aldermen for study. The Board of Aldermen indicated that they could not justify the sale of these lands at this time until we were more certain of the future growth or the stabilization of growth of the City.

Mr. Conant - "What are the criteria used when we create Parks or develop lands for Park use?"

Mr. Johnson - "A Park System might help to slow people down from the mad tempo of present day living. Waltham is fortunate in having Prospect Hill Park. Sometimes people have to be educated to use Parks."

Does density of population govern the size and class of Parks?

Park development ties in with roadways, highways, natural resources (beaches and lakes) and an expanding community. The Park System of Westchester County, New York is an outgrowth of the Highway system in New York City.

Mr. Marquis - "Edmands Park can be developed with a drive-around and a walk network. It need not have play facilities as such."

Mr. Hopkins - "Would the Recreation Commission participate in a survey of Park and Park/Playground needs for the City of Newton?"

Two important problems were presented by Mr. Johnson relative to the Park and Playground needs of the community.

1. The need for following a definite program of expansion of facilities to keep pace with a rapidly growing community. This means coordinated planning for all facilities.

2. Misuse of Public Property. There is an attitude on the part of the public that this is ours, therefore we can do as we please. Your community is constantly trying to meet the growing needs of the city and its population. In spite of this, there is much vandalism.

Mr. Hopkins - "Can the Park Commission be of help to the Recreation Commission, perhaps, in the case of M.D.C. lands?"

Mr. Johnson - "A Park Commission with certain well defined powers will help to alleviate the burden on Recreation. Park Planning must be a coordinated adjunct to Recreation and Street Planning.

Respectfully submitted,

MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION HELD  
FEBRUARY 21, 1955

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

All members were present.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved with the addition of the six reasons given by the Commission in opposition to the use of certain described land on Newton Centre Playground for a school site and as stated in the Commissioner's letter to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. dated January 24, 1955.

There was a brief report on the joint meeting with the members of the Finance Committee and Mr. Harold Gores and Mr. William Clark of the School Department relative to the above proposed legislative action.

It would appear that there is considerable uncertainty as to location, desirability and need for a school at this area at present.

Mr. Matt Jones, Jr. informed the Recreation Commissioner subsequent to January 24, 1955 that an amendment had been offered to the Legislative Bill requesting authority to select some site of equal size on the Newton Centre Playground for the proposed school.

1. 1955 Budget Report

	1954	1955 Expended Dept.	1955 Request Allowed by Mayor
Recreation Commissioner	6839.45	6956.00	6956.00
Supervisors	16325.80	19624.00	19624.00
Full Time Directors	9860.69	10305.00	10305.00
Part Time Directors	58137.20	65180.00	65180.00
Clerical Assistance	5255.99	6224.23	6224.23
Temporary Clerks	640.65	860.00	860.00
Office Expense	1178.23	1365.00	1365.00
Auto Maintenance	3146.23	4275.00	4275.00
Maintenance	84393.02	93146.40	92816.40
Replacement of Equipment	6402.62	7400.00	7000.00
Care & Alterations of Elementary School Grounds	8936.13	13500.00	13300.00
Travel Expense and/or Convention Expense	236.68	500.00	500.00
School Department Transfer	4278.97	4500.00	4400.00
New Equipment	3322.00	9970.00	9445.00
Neighborhood Centre Expense	1490.59	1500.00	1500.00

	1954 Expended	1955 Dept. Request	1955 Allowed by Mayor
Fencing & Backstops	6150.90	3550.00	3550.00
New Bleachers	-----	2376.00	2376.00
Shelter Houses New Construct.	1972.00	--	--
High School Baseball Diamond	4600.00		
Special Appr'n-Fire Loss	1177.90		
Little League-Welcome Home			
	224345.05	251231.63	249676.63

Inquiry was made as to possible reduction that might be made by Finance.

Mr. Johnson explained that the items requiring salesmanship were in the control items of Maintenance, Part-Time Directors, Auto Maintenance and New Equipment. Present trends show the need for the increase requested in these control accounts.

The budget Hearing before the Finance Committee is scheduled for Saturday, March 5, 1955 at 8:00 P.M.

## 2. Building Program.

Under the heading of Public Building Bonds Expenditures, Mr. Willard S. Pratt has submitted the estimates and approvals for the following Buildings projects for the Recreation Department during the year 1955.

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| a. Albemarle Playground Field House   | \$40,000.00 |
| b. Auburndale Playground - Modernize and enlarge present Building   | 35,000.00   |
| c. Bullough's Pond-New Warming House toilets and check room   | 40,000.00   |
| d. Edmands Park - New Building to provide toilet and storage facility. Also to provide picnic shelter and drinking fountain | 15,000.00   |

The request for an adequate Maintenance Shop and storage yard estimated at	100,000.00
was disapproved at this time.	

The total approved for Buildings Bonds for the Recreation Department is	130,000.00
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3. Interdepartment Expenditures from Bonded Money and/or from Revenue which have been approved by the Mayor are listed as follows:

From School Building Bonds

- a. Bowen School - complete construction of Kindergarten Play area
- b. Countryside School - new playground
- c. Beethoven School - new playground

From Revenue (Some carried over from 1954)

- a. Davis School - Reconstruct Playground . \$20,500.00
- b. F. A. Day Junior High - Resurface entire Playground 12,000.00
- c. West Newton Common - Remove Tennis Court Regrade, loam and seed area 4,500.00
- d. Lyons Playground - Extend drain from Forest Grove toward Causeway 2,000.00  
(It is intended to bring in fill as it becomes available to reclaim this entire area to the Causeway)
- e. Upper Falls Playground - Close Entrance on Pennsylvania Ave. Remove gravel in back of backstop. Loam, Grade and seed approximately 100 sq. yds. 1,000.00
- f. Richardson Playground - Construct Bituminous concrete walk from Allen Ave. to Beethoven Ave. 1,000.00

Ten Year Street Bonds.

- a. Albemarle Road at Playground from Craft Street to Watertown St. and to include curbing and sidewalk 31,000.00
- b. Montclair Playground (Moffatt Road) Sometimes called Lincoln Playground. To Construct Street from Beacon Street to Moffatt Road 25,000.00

#### 4. Winter Program:

Skating started at Burr Playground on January 5. We had skating at six flooded areas and 3 ponds.

Attendance through January 29th was over 45,000 at a supervision cost of \$1520.00. We had 26 consecutive days of skating at Ware's Cove.

#### Basketball.

Three major league teams with 26 teams playing 5 nights per week. There are six persons assigned to work each night. Attendance since the first Monday in January has been close to 5000.

Two teenage leagues have been active at Hawthorn and Newton Centre on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and all day on Saturday. There have been 18 teams represented.

Boys Craft at 4 schools one afternoon a week with average attendance of 20 boys per class.

Neighborhood Center Program has functioned at 13 Centers with a staff of 24 Instructors assigned from 1 to 4 sessions each week.

The program as follows:

Social Dancing	9 Classes
Handicraft (Girls)	8 Classes
Adult Program	
Furniture Refinishing	1 Class
Metalcraft	2 Classes
Townline Pottery	2 Classes
Mother's Groups	2 Classes
<u>Indoor Games</u>	
Hawthorn	
Lincoln Eliot	
Newton Centre	
Burr Playground	

#### Publicity

"The Hut" - Bi-weekly News of Newton Centre.  
 Regular Items in Local Papers  
 Pictures of Activities  
 Article on Send-off Party for Tenley Albright

General Costs for Supervision and program are up \$1000 over a similar period in 1954. Some of this increase is due to the more extensive skating program.

5. The Sporal Club (Deaf Mute Basketball Team) has been granted two Players not resident in Newton. They will be in the Playoffs.

6. Request for Land at Christina St. and Goddard St. has been forwarded to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

7. March Meeting is scheduled for March 21.

8. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD  
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1955

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

All members were present except Mr. James E. Murphy. Mr. Murphy had called to inform us that he was unable to attend.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as recorded.

The minutes of the January meeting have been amended to include the 6 objections offered by the members of the Commission to the use of the Newton Centre Playground for school purposes.

1. Basketball League Final Playoffs are to begin on Monday, March 21st, 1955, and to continue each night until the champions are determined. The series is the best two out of three games.

2. City Land at Goddard and Christina Streets.

It is expected that the Board of Aldermen will approve our request that this land be reserved for recreation purposes.

3. Permit Requests.

a. Suburban Insurance Softball League. It was voted to grant a permit for one night a week, since this League is organized in Boston Insurance firms.

b. St. Sebastian Country Day School. This permit to be granted at the discretion of the Commissioner.

c. Christian Service Brigade. A one day use for a Track and Field Meet. This permit to be granted for the use of Newton Upper Falls.

d. Sacred Heart School Newton Centre Playground was granted for baseball practise and games, except Sunday games.

e. St. Mary of Carmen Society requests use of the Hawthorn Playground for July 13, 14, 15 and 16. Reference was made to the vote of the Commission in 1947 and 1949. The Commission voted to refuse the permit and to abide by the vote in 1947 and 1949.

4. Baseball Team Insurance.

The National Recreation Association has secured the essential forms and data. Recommends insurance plan.

This matter was left for consideration by the Law Department and for action by individual teams.

5. Spring Playground Schedule.

15 grounds were covered in 1954. There are a possible 21 areas for 1955. It was recommended that our guides be the budget figures approved, and the needs of particular districts.

6. Figure Skating Club.

There was some discussion on the advisability of organizing a figure skating club. Costs were to be met by the members and the skating area to be contracted for out of membership funds.

Plans for this development should depend on the cooperation of interested groups and leaders.

7. Playground Development Projects (School Playgrounds)

Plans for construction have been coordinated between the Commissioner and the Engineering Department.

The grounds to be constructed are located at:

Bowen School  
Beethoven School  
Countryside School  
Davis School

These plans have been approved by the City Engineer, the Recreation Commissioner and have been submitted to the School Committee for approval.

A letter recommending construction will be forwarded to Mr. Willard S. Prett, Commissioner of Public Works.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD  
MONDAY, April 18, 1955

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

All members were present.

The Minutes of the March meeting were approved as recorded.

(1) Final budget appropriations as passed by the Board of Aldermen were reviewed.

The total budget was increased \$11,125.98 over the total expended in 1954.

The total departmental request was reduced by \$16,031.40.

Of the increase of \$11,125.98, the following items were, in effect, fixed items over which we could exercise no control.

Salary - John E. Leary - returned from Navy Service	\$4906.00
Salary Increases - 9 employees at \$156 ea.	1409.00
Wage Increases - Hourly Paid Workers	832.00
One new laborer - expansion of facilities	3257.28
Approved increases for Part-Time Directors over 1954 expenditures (minimum rate-\$6.00/day	3862.80
	<u>\$14,267.08</u>

These figures would indicate that even with more recreational areas to provide for and with more equipment necessary for maintenance, the maintenance and service budget has actually been reduced by \$3,141.10.

The Commission generally indicated that we may well have to request additional appropriation before the end of the year.

(2) Play area - Goddard and Christina Streets.

There have been several telephone calls protesting against the construction of a Tot-Lot Play Area at this location. The opposition has been advised to direct their letter of opposition to the Commissioner for consideration and possible action.

The original favorable petitioners are to be advised as to the opposition and are to be requested to discuss the situation with this group to see if a workable program can be agreed upon.

Pending this meeting, the Recreation Commission will not move toward any public hearing.

## (3) Spring Schedules.

14 Playgrounds were opened on Friday, April 15 for out-door activity. Three more areas may be opened after vacation week. The Neighborhood Centers are nearing the end of their program and will finish up the first week in May.

Our costs for supervision since January 1, 1955 are approximately \$1800 over the expenditures in 1954. We are at present averaging about \$100/week more on supervision than in 1954.

## (4) Baseball Leagues

Present indications as a result of preliminary meetings indicate the following line-up.

American Division	6 - 8 Teams
National Division "A"	8 Teams
National Division "B"	10 Teams
International - 2 Divisions	8 - 10 Teams each
Softball League	8 - 10 Teams

These leagues are organized as Newton City Leagues and are an important part of the Recreation Program.

There are to be 5 Little Leagues in 1955. Each league has four teams plus a planned minor league organization. These leagues require use of little league diamonds throughout the city.

## (5) Building Plans.

## Albemarle Playground Building.

There was a study of the Building or Field House at Brimmer and May School.

As a result of general discussion as to requirements and needs, it was suggested that the Commissioner request survey, study and recommended plans from the Public Buildings Commissioner to be presented at our next regular meeting if possible.

## Bulloughs Pond Building

There was study made of the plans originally submitted in 1923 and 1926.

General discussion followed and it was recommended that the Public Buildings Commissioner be requested to take steps to formulate plans for a desirable structure at this location to be presented at our next meeting if possible.

(6) Acquisition of Land area at Stephens Place.

There is available land undeveloped off Winchester Street. Housing development is a definite possibility.

After discussion, it was deemed advisable to coordinate our needs with probable developments by the School Department in this area.

The Commissioner was instructed to discuss this matter with the School Department previous to the next meeting.

(7) Unfinished Business

Newton Centre Playground - There was some discussion relative to the outcome of the demands for the use of a certain part of Newton Centre Playground for a new Mason School.

The Commission will be ready to discuss the problem with the Mayor's Advisory Committee at their convenience.

(8) Communications

Mrs. Charles Hovey of Chestnut Hill and a member of the Governing Board of Community Recreation Service of Boston, Mass. has requested that we seriously consider contracting for the C.R.S. Stagemobile for use on our Summer Playgrounds. Fees are \$75.00 per day - 2 Performances.

Messrs. Stein and Flumere, Basketball coaches at Brandeis University have proposed a Basketball Clinic for one week at a fee of \$125/man.

This proposal was turned down by the Commissioner and he referred the gentlemen to the Newton School Dept.

Respectfully submitted,

## SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION

Held on May 4, 1955

Meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the proposed legislation in the General Court to allow for the construction of a new Mason School on the site of the Newton Centre Playground.

All members were present.

Others present:

Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer  
Members - Newton Planning Board  
Mr. William Hopkins  
Mr. William B. Marquis  
Mr. Karl H. Brock  
Mr. Stanley Merrill  
Mr. Joseph Skinner

Members - Mayor's Advisory Committee on Construction of  
Public Buildings

Mr. William J. Kirk, Chairman  
Mr. Ernest A. Dockstader  
Mr. Kentaro Tsutsumi

Mr. Dockstader of the Mayor's Advisory Committee began the discussion by explaining the purpose of the study by the Mayor's Advisory Committee. He indicated that this committee was advisory only and had no powers to enforce any action. This committee was requested to find a new site for a school to meet the needs of the Mason-Rice School District.

The plan to use a portion of the Newton Centre Playground is based on the prospect of adequate play space with controlled school activity centralized in the area of the School. It is expected that such a school will fulfill all future requirements for this area.

Various (2) types of layouts were placed on a scale map showing the approximate locations of such a school building.

Mr. Dockstader indicated the prospect of gaining more satisfactory play area due to the necessity of covering the drainage brook and flume adjacent to the proposed school site.

Mr. Conant asked who made the plan and who originated the plan as to location of this proposed building?

Mr. Hopkins explained that several alternate sites had been considered and that no suitable area could be found.

There was discussion of the original opposition points expressed by the Recreation Commission in a letter to the Mayor dated Jan. 17, 1955.

Mayor Whitmore explained the procedure which had been followed in submitting the proposed bill to the Legislature and also explained that such a bill had to be submitted before January 1, 1955 in order to assure legislative consideration of the bill during this year.

The bill was sent to the Legislature, was reported favorably by the Committee on Cities and was passed by the General Court.

The bill was then presented to the Newton Board of Aldermen and the Claims and Rules Committee who in turn referred the bill to the Recreation Commission for action.

Mayor Whitmore personally certified that there is no intent to take from control by the Recreation Commission any great part of the Newton Centre Playground and it is not his intent that the Playground shall become the particular use area for the proposed new school.

Mr. Kirk again explained the function of the Mayor's Advisory Committee. This committee was asked to survey the sites where a new school could be constructed. This has been the sole function of the Committee in this instance. Other sites have been considered and it is inadvisable to consider those sites further. This site offers an opportunity for the greatest service to the greatest number of people.

Mr. Marquis of the Planning Board asked if this site was selected because there was no available undeveloped land elsewhere. If this land were not available, the city would have to purchase or take land where a great many houses were located?

Mayor Whitmore stated that the School will be built only after serious consideration of all the factors involved. The sale of the old school and property will help to finance the new school. Eventually there must be a new High School. This is a question of what is best for the City.

Mr. Skinner inquired as to the minimum land requirements for a school playground. Could we build a school with no recreation area?

Mr. Johnson indicated that present standards call for five acres as a minimum site for an elementary school plant.

Mr. Johnson raised several questions.

- 1 - Will the brook be covered?
- 2 - What happens to the caretaker's house?
- 3 - Will the school department expect to take over the Newton Centre Playground as their own?

4 - Will the so-called after-school activities program of the school restrict the use of the Playground as a Community Playground?

Mayor Whitmore indicated that the Newton Centre Playground would remain a Community Playground and that the School might well include facilities leading to extended Recreation Program and Activities.

Mr. Johnson asked if construction and planning might include facilities generally essential to a Community Recreation Program.

Mrs. West asked if the present playground house would be torn down. Originally it had been promised that the House would be torn down when total plans for the area were formulated. Also what was the reaction of the trustees of the Bray Estate?

Mayor Whitmore indicated agreement by the Trustees of the Bray Estate and that disposition of the Playground House would be for the Recreation Commission to decide.

Mr. Hopkins asked if there were further points to consider?

Mr. Johnson stated that perhaps all the pros and cons of the immediate problem had been answered but there was definitely a question as to method and program of action. When any action of our government concerns two departments the issues and problems should be discussed in joint meeting and agreement reached as to proper procedure. With the appointment of Mr. Willard S. Pratt as coordinator of projects and program involving two or more departments some of these issues will be taken care of. We do have a concern about the effects in other cities when bites have been taken out of Park Lands and we are seriously concerned about the loss of a Park-Playground area.

Mr. Dockstader asked if a school plan which included an adequate recreational gymnasium and special work rooms and perhaps a caretaker's quarters, would compensate for the loss of the physical area.

The additional cost of such facilities would amount to \$50,000 to \$75,000.

Mr. Murphy asked if this planned school would take care of future needs of the area and cited the addition to Franklin School and the proposed addition to Peirce School as examples of encroachment on plan areas.

Mr. Dockstader indicated that it seems common sense and a proper way to get a school building to include those facilities essential to community recreation.

Mayor Whitmore stated that any program will have to be sold to the Finance Committee. He could not agree that extra money

for these facilities would be granted. We will need the cooperative thinking of the Advisory Committee, Planning Board and Recreation Commission to sell the plan. Even the School Department might not give the Recreation a franchise for use of the facilities.

Mr. Johnson explained that the School Dept. had always cooperated in granting the use of School Buildings for Recreational Use.

There being no further discussion, the joint meeting of the groups concerned was adjourned.

The Recreation Commission proceeded to its Special Meeting called for this date. Major McCarthy, Chairman presided.

1 - Minutes of the April Meeting were approved as recorded.

2 - Question - Shall the Recreation Commission approve Chap. 211 of the General Laws. Commonwealth of Mass. "An Act Authorizing the City of Newton to use for School Purposes certain Land Held by It".

Major McCarthy requested a poll of the Commission.

Mr. Johnson moved that we accept the proposed Chap. 211 of the General Laws. Commonwealth of Mass. "An Act Authorizing the City of Newton to use for School Purposes certain Land Held by It" and that we submit a letter to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. requesting that there be included in his recommendation for plans a recommendation that proper community recreation facilities be made a part of the final plan and that these facilities be available to the Recreation Department for Community Recreation Purposes.

No Second.

Mrs. West stated the proposed motion was not strong enough. It should have more teeth.

Mr. Conant offered the following amendment. "That we accept the act contingent on written assurance from the School Department that we will be supplied with facilities essential and necessary to a proper community recreation program and that we shall be consulted in the planning of those facilities.

Motion was seconded and carried.

3 - Proposed Tot Lot, Christina St. and Goddard St.

Letter of protest has been addressed to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

The protest has been referred by the Public Works Committee to the Recreation Commission for action.

A hearing must be held and the Recreation Commission has set Tuesday, June 7, 1955 at 7:45 P.M. as the date and time of hearing.

The Commissioner has been instructed to prepare and publish the call for the hearing.

4 - It was voted that Tuesday, June 7, 1955 will also be the date of our June Commission Meeting.

5 - To propose action relative to building construction at Albemarle Playground, Bulloughs Pond and Edmands Park.

There was discussion as to whether these requests should be combined in one letter or as separate requests.

Since all three items are included in the list of projects to be part of the Public Buildings Bond Program it was voted that a letter be forwarded to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. requesting that he appoint an architect to draw up plans for a Field House at Albemarle Playground a Warming House and Check House at Bulloughs Pond and a Toilet & Storage Building plus picnic shelter at Edmands Park.

6 - Mr. Johnson stated that there is a dearth of mature men for summer playground work. Slight raises have been granted to those who are in their second and third years of employment.

7 - Mr. Murphy invited the Commission to attend the opening ceremonies of the Little Leagues on Saturday and Sunday.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Roll Call Meeting of the Recreation Commission  
called on May 5, 1955. (By Phone)

Due to the fact that certain conditions stated in the original vote in the acceptance of Chapter 211 of the General Laws, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, entitled "An Act Authorizing the City of Newton To Use for School Purposes Certain Land held by it", were legally and technically disapproved by the City Solicitor, it becomes necessary to restate and revote on the proposed legislation.

(1) The Newton Recreation Department votes unanimously to accept Chapter 211 of the General Laws, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, "An Act Authorizing the City of Newton to use for School Purposes Certain Land Held by it."

(2) The Newton Recreation Commission votes as follows:

"In view of the circumstances surrounding the proposed location, planning, construction and use of the proposed new Mason School to be located at Newton Centre Playground, the Recreation Commission requests His Honor, the Mayor, to consider and to use his efforts to have included in the plans for the New Mason School, facilities which will enhance and promote the broad programs of indoor recreation and to discuss with the School Committee the inclusion of such facilities and to request its assurance that priority in their use outside of school hours be granted to the Recreation Commission. Also that the Recreation Commission be included and consulted in the development of plans for these facilities.

Further voted that a copy of this vote be sent to the Newton School Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON JUNE 7, 1955

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Ira M. Conant  
Mr. James E. Murphy  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

The meeting was called to order in the Aldermanic Chamber at 7:45 P.M. by Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman for the purpose of holding a public hearing on the petition for a Tot Lot in the Newton Highlands area specifically to use city owned land for playground purposes in Ward 5 located at the corner of Christina and Goddard Streets and bounded by land owned by Edward J. Burn.

The following spoke in favor of the petition.

Mrs. Helen Stone, 65 Bernard St.  
Mr. William E. Lowry, 49 Charlemont St.  
Mrs. Gordon Gillespie, 10 Charles River Terrace  
Mrs. George Anderson, 51 Bernard St.

The following spoke in opposition to the proposed Tot Lot.

Mr. Frank H. Woolway, 86 Goddard St.  
Mrs. Charles Badavas, 184 Christina St.  
Mr. Robert Blakeslee, 80 Goddard St.  
Mr. Charles Badavas, 184 Christina St.  
Mr. Paul Viles, 181 Christina St.

On a show of hands 30 persons were in favor of the petition and 12 were opposed. In addition 6 persons notified by note that they favored the petition.

The people in attendance at the hearing were informed that the decision of the Commission would be published in the local press within the next few days.

The hearing was adjourned.

The Commission opened its regular June meeting in the Recreation office at approximately 8:45 P.M.

The Minutes of the May meeting were approved as recorded.

1 - There was discussion of the petition for the Tot Lot at Christian and Goddard Streets.

Mr. Selden spoke very strongly in favor of a land taking off Stevens Place for a playground. Mr. Murphy suggested that

we might well withhold a decision on the Tot Lot area and work toward acquiring the larger area at Stevens Place.

A motion was made by Mr. Conant seconded by Major McCarthy that the Tot Lot be developed as originally planned. Mr. Murphy requested that he be recorded as against the Tot Lot plan. The motion was carried by a vote of 5 to 1.

It was voted to take steps to acquire the land off Stevens Place listed as property of Grace C. French.

## 2. SUMMER STAFF - Total 116

The listing of staff members was submitted to the commission. There are 7 non-resident women and 10 non-resident men. Of the women 4 are former Newton residents; 3 are Newton teachers. Of the men 1 is a former Newton resident; 2 are Newton teachers, 6 Watertown teachers; 1 is a Natick teacher. The Commission voted the approval of the staff as presented.

## 3. CONSTRUCTION OF GROUNDS PROGRAM ON SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS

Emerson School grounds are under construction, expected to be ready for seeding in late August.

Davis School project is under contract and work will begin with the close of school.

Spaulding school playground awaits action by the Board of Aldermen at their next meeting.

Bowen School, Countryside School and Beethoven School plans are in the hands of the Engineering Department for final grades and layout.

## 4. BUILDING PROGRAM REPORT

The meeting called by the Mayor and including the Mayor's Building Advisory Committee, Mr. Arthur Campbell, Mr. William Pratt and Mr. C. Evan Johnson discussed the building program as it affects Recreation. There seemed to be a general apathy toward the construction of Recreation building.

In regard to the Albemarle Field House question was asked if such a project would interfere with a larger project at a later date.

On the question of a Bulloughs Pond Warming House there was discussion as to the advisability of spending money for a building which would be used for such a limited time.

(NOTE: Since this meeting the Public Building Committee of the Board of Aldermen on June 27, 1955 held in committee a recommendation for the appropriation of \$3540.00 for architect's

fees for planning for an Albemarle Field House and a Bulloughs Pond Skating House.

#### 5. ST MARY OF CARMEN SOCIETY

It was voted to grant a permit to the St. Mary of Carmen Society for a fire works display and food sale to be held on the night of July 7, 1955 at Victory Field, Nonantum contingent on their securing permission from the Fire Department for the Fire works display and from the Health Department for the sale of food.

#### 6. THE UNITED STATES COMMITTEE FOR UNICEF

A committee of 3 women from UNICEF met with Mr. Johnson to inquire as to the possibility of including their trick or treat program as part of our Halloween parties. Two questions were raised:

- 1 - Are we attempting to get away from trick or treat?
- 2 - Are we getting away from the original intent of the Newton Halloween?

It was recommended that this program should be one for consideration by each party group organization and that perhaps it could best be handled through the schools.

It was voted that this matter be tabled for the present.

#### 7. NEWTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Mr. Conant and Mr. Johnson were designated as representatives of the Recreation Commission to the Newton Community Council.

The September meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 1955 at 7:45 P.M.

The meeting adjourned at 10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

RECREATION DEPARTMENT



C. EVAN JOHNSON  
COMMISSIONER

26A  
City of Newton, Massachusetts

Founded 1630 Incorporated a City 1873

City Hall

1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton Centre 59

TELEPHONE  
Blower 4-4700

COMMISSION MEMBERS

Maj. William J. McCarthy  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Ira M. Conant  
C. Evan Johnson  
James E. Murphy  
Joseph Seiden

NOTICE OF RECREATION COMMISSION HEARING

June 7, 1955

Notice is hereby given that the Recreation Commission will hold a public hearing at Newton City Hall on Tuesday evening, June 7, 1955 at 7:45 P.M. upon the following petition, under the provisions of the General Laws and Revised Ordinances of the City, viz:

"Use of City-owned land for playground Purposes in Ward 5, located at the corner of Christina and Goddard Streets and bounded by land owned by Edward J. Byrne."

C. Evan Johnson  
Recreation Commissioner



MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1955

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mr. Ira M. Conant  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

The minutes of the June 7th meeting were approved as recorded.

The September meeting had been cancelled previous to the regular scheduled meeting date.

1. Community Council - Fall Meeting.

Mr. Conant reported briefly on the Community Council meeting held on October 11, 1955 for the purpose of exploring the Recreation Problems of the City. If a survey and study can bring about coordination between the agencies and eliminate duplication, such a survey would have value. Messrs. Conant and Johnson were in favor of a survey to include the needs for development and expansion of our facilities and functions.

2. Report on Summer Program.

Number of playgrounds supervised - 30  
Inclusive dates - July 5 to August 26, 1955.  
Total Time - 8 weeks or 44 days  
Attendance - 237,225  
Inter-Playground Activity - July 5 to August 9th.  
Trips - Average per playground - 2  
Field Days - local areas only  
Baseball Games played.  
    Leagues and playgrounds - 1320  
Playground Leagues - 5  
Twilight Leagues - Baseball & Softball - 6

Total Playground attendance for the summer showed an increase, but our totals were down for the month of August due to the excessively hot summer and the polio conditions in Newton.

Dr. Henry W. Godfrey, of the Health Department recommended on August 9th that we follow the recommendations of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and cancel all trips, even within Newton, that inter-playground activity be cancelled and that each playground be a unit unto itself.

With the adoption of this program, we found ourselves to be over staffed. A meeting with the district supervisors was called and it was decided that we should ask each playground leader to accept a shorter work week for the remainder of the season. We did not restrict our program as a result of this action. We made a budget saving of approximately \$1600 which will be very valuable for our fall program. Two leaders left without giving notice. Three requested permission to resign, because they had opportunities to earn more money elsewhere. Resignations were accepted.

### 3. Report on swimming.

Number of days Crystal lake was open	-	80
Total attendance	-	43,937
Attendance June 11 to August 6		40,609
Attendance August 7 to September 5		3328
Permits Sold	-	11,283
Receipts	-	\$2,831.75

Crystal Lake was closed by order of the Health Department from August 18th to August 23rd due to Flood Damage generally. Tests were taken each day and found to be satisfactory. The closing was ordered as a precautionary measure.

### 4. Fall Program

16 playgrounds were supervised from September 5, 1955 to the opening of school on September 19th, 1955.

13 playgrounds are supervised on a part time basis at the present time. Attendance is limited at Auburndale, Horace Mann School and Boyd Park.

### 5. Indoor Schedule.

Art Metal Work	-	3 classes
Townline Pottery		2 classes
Furniture Refinishing	-	1 class
Adult Women		2 classes
Teen Age Recreation (Evenings)		3 groups
Learn to Dance		7 classes
Girls' Crafts		6 classes
Boys' Crafts		7 classes
Indoor Games		14 classes

The Commission requested that the schedule of all indoor activities be sent to each member of the Commission.

### 6. Proposed Land Taking off Stephens Place.

The original proposal has been forwarded to his Honor Mayor Whitmore, Jr. The Mayor requested a survey report from the Chairman of the Board of Assessors, Mr. Sydney Holden.

A copy of this report was sent to the commissioner for study.

General discussion by the Commission followed.

It was unanimously voted to again present our request for this land taking with the recommendations that were previously offered and such additional facts as may be considered important.

7. Proposal by Carson Post, American Legion that certain land, part of or adjacent to the Thompsonville Playground be made available for the construction of a Legion Home and Community Center.

Messrs. John Carroll, Commander; William DiMuzio, Commander-elect, and Mario DiCarlo appeared to represent the Carson Post.

Mr. DiCarlo presented the case for the Carson Post.

Carson Post, American Legion is a strong factor in the life of the Thompsonville Community. Their present quarters are inadequate and in a poor location because it is so close to Route 9. The Post is anxious to remain a part of the Thompsonville Community and has made a survey of the area. A part of the Thompsonville playground, fronting on the right-of-way from Langley Road to the edge of the school property, lends itself admirably to their needs.

Mr. DiCarlo presented some sketches of a plan for this site. Basement rooms and toilets would open directly to the playground and would be designated for playground use at all times. The main building would house the auditorium and stage. The second floor of the wing would be made a game room and snack bar. The first floor wing would front on the right-of-way and would house office, parlors, reading room and kitchen.

The area required would be approximately 150' x (100' to 150') depending on final plans.

The Post would want to purchase or lease this land for a nominal sum and would so arrange the legal detail that the City of Newton would have first option on the property if the Legion ever felt that they could not maintain the home and property.

Mr. DiCarlo told of the community activities sponsored by the Legion and indicated that theirs was a cooperative effort.

The Legion committee expressed their appreciation to the Commission for a very pleasant hearing and expressed the hope that we would consider their proposal favorably. The Committee withdrew.

The Commission discussion followed.

Major McCarthy recommends that the basement level be completely isolated from the remainder of the building and that it be designated for Recreation Department use entirely.

Mr. Johnson indicated (1) Any fraternal or club organization should consider the need for income producing property (2) Carson Post will be interested in having a liqueur license.

Mrs. West: We have just recently given land away for school building purposes. Now we are asked to consider the sale of land to a Legion Post. Someone else may want to buy land owned by the playground and when do we stop?

Mr. Johnson was instructed to discuss the proposal with His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr., as to the proper procedure to follow. The Commission indicated a favorable attitude to the general plan as presented.

#### 8. Outdoor Skating - Artificial Ice.

Mr. Paul Ronty, formerly of the Boston Bruins had called on His Honor, Mayor Whitmore, to discuss the C. A. Meadows Artificial Ice Rink Program. Mr. Johnson was called in to this meeting. It was suggested that the plan be presented to the Commission.

The total cost is estimated at \$120,000 to \$150,000 for a rink 85' x 200'. Costs can be reduced by use of plastic pipe, use of level ground with no retaining wall. Level ground is essential. There can be no guarantee before January if action is taken immediately. This plan does not include lighting.

It was voted to inform the Mayor of our continuing interest in the skating program and also a proper swimming pool and that we recommend a survey study of the combined program with Albemarle playground as a possible location.

#### 9. Albemarle Playground Building.

Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. has appointed an architect to draw plans for an Albemarle playground building.

#### 10. Moffatt Road - Montclair Realty Trust Land.

An appropriation has been <sup>requested</sup> ~~made~~ for the construction of Montclair Road. *etc.*

Mr. Willard S. Pratt has suggested that the Commission confer with Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer as to development plans for the playground area.

11. School Playgrounds Construction.

No appropriation of Bonded Money has been made for Countryside School and Beethoven School. Partial appropriation was made for Bowen School.

Work is progressing at Davis School, Emerson School and Spaulding School.

12. Budget Review.

Our accounts are in good condition.

Problems for 1956

1. Pay Scale for Recreation Leaders
2. More Maintenance Personnel
3. Development and Construction

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

November meeting for discussion of the preliminary budget is scheduled for Monday, November 21st.

Respectfully submitted,

MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION SCHEDULED  
FOR NOVEMBER 21, 1955

This meeting was postponed on November 16, 1955 and by letter on November 18, 1955 to Wednesday evening, November 30, 1955 at 7:45 P.M.

By telephone discussion and Vote on Friday, November 18, 1955, the Recreation Commission voted unanimously to recommend:

That the land of the Hawthorn Playground described as Section 23, Block 13, Lot 18 on the Assessor's Books and opposite the Edwin O. Childs Recreation Center, shall be released for sale to Post #50, Italian American War Veterans for the purpose of erecting new quarters, provided there are no legal restrictions on such sale and use of land.

Respectfully submitted,

MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1955

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mr. Ira M. Conant  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Petition of George D. Carson Post #141 American Legion to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. requesting right to purchase certain area of the Thompsonville Playground for a Legion Headquarters was discussed.

A description of the property in question and a layout plan were shown.

It was explained that our favorable action on this proposal indicates our willingness to have the General Court grant permission to the city to dispose of this land if conditions of sale are mutually agreed upon between the City of Newton and the George D. Carson Post #141 American Legion.

VOTED: To recommend that certain land, part of the Thompsonville Playground and fronting on the access road from Langley Road, specifically described in a letter dated November 28, 1955 addressed to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. from the George D. Carson Post #141 American Legion and signed by Mario DiCarlo, Chairman of the Building Committee, shall be released for sale to the George D. Carson Post #141 American Legion under such conditions as shall specifically be agreed upon by the City of Newton and the said Carson Post for the purpose of constructing new quarters.

2 - Budget Review. October 31, 1955, we had an unexpended balance of \$51,000 in our budget. This figure indicates a satisfactory budget analysis. There will be some money in surplus at the end of the year. Maintenance will have a surplus due to charges of Hurricane and Flood Repair for which the city had separate accounts. There may be a surplus in Part-time Directors Account due to curtailment during the summer season as a result of Polio Epidemic.

3 - Budget for 1956. - The following control items and amounts were approved for 1956. Most items are generally within bounds of 1955 budget.

A - Part-time Directors and Maintenance Department requests show an increase. Part-time Directors Account is about the same as the 1955 request, but \$3,724.00 over the amount appropriated in 1955.

B - Maintenance Account shows an increase over 1955 appropriation of \$4,742.00 due to request for additional personnel.

C - All Motor and Equipment Maintenance have been consolidated in one control account.

D - New Construction Account calls for 2 Shelter Houses at Oak Hill and Richardson Playgrounds, a new Pier at Crystal Lake to replace Rafts purchased in 1928, and a new Hockey Rink to replace one of present rinks which have suffered severe weather rot and deterioration.

E - The proposed budget carries no provisions for increases in salary or wages. Recommendations concerning these basic costs are expected to be submitted by the Mayor.

F - Proposed Budget for 1956.

Recreation Commissioner	\$6956.00
Supervisors	19624.00
Full Time Directors	10305.00
Part Time Directors	65724.00
Clerical Assistance	6224.23
Temporary Clerks	860.00
Office Expense	1385.00
Equipment Maintenance (Auto Maint.)	7885.00
Maintenance	93742.00
Replacement of Equipment	8054.00
Care and Alterations of School Grounds	13500.00
Travel Expense and/or Convention Expense	450.00
School Department Transfer	4500.00
New Equipment	3375.00
Neighborhood Center Expense	2500.00
Fencing & Backstops	6845.00
New Bleachers	----
New Construction	8450.00
High School Baseball Diamond	----
Special Appropriation - Fire Loss	----
TOTAL	\$260379.23

4 - Construction of Grounds. - Not all items of grounds construction approved for 1955 have been completed.

VOTED: - To resubmit all items under these categories which were listed for 1955.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

December meeting scheduled for Monday, Dec. 19, 1955 at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD  
MONDAY DECEMBER 20, 1955

Members present: Maj. William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Ira M. Conant  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Joseph Selden  
C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Minutes of the November 30 meeting were approved.

1. The School Custodians, represented by Mr. Bernard Frechette and Mr. Michael Critch appeared before the Commission to request an increase in custodian's rate for summer care at certain school playgrounds.

They requested an increase in summer rate from \$7.50/week to \$10.00/week for their work cleaning toilets and washrooms and crafts work room daily. Their last increase in summer rates was in 1951 and it is reasonable to expect rates to increase along with their regular pay.

There was discussion as to method of payment of custodians. On the basis that payments were made on a transfer bill from the school department and that the custodians are employees of the School Department it was voted to instruct the Commissioner to write to the Superintendent of Schools, setting forth our position and requesting that the School Department adopt such schedules as seems fair and equitable and to inform the Commissioner of their action.

2. Budget.

Changes recommended in our Preliminary Budget at the November 30, 1955 meeting had given a total of \$260,379.23.

Voted to submit for final budget the amount of \$260,379.00 subject to increases in personnel services items which may be submitted by His Honor Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. and approved by the Honorable Board of Aldermen.

3. Construction Projects.

a. Construction of Recreation Grounds \$163,200.00

This work done under Street Department Appropriations. Letter to Mr. Frank K. Perkins made part of record of this meeting.

b. Buildings Construction \$230,000.00

These projects under appropriations to Buildings Department. Letter to Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr. concerning Building Construction made part of record of this meeting.

c. Capital Improvements Projects

Construction and extensions pertaining to school grounds.

No estimates available. Letter to Mr. Willard S. Pratt made part of record of this meeting.

d. School Grounds Construction - Out of Public Buildings Bonds.

Letter to Mr. Arthur Campbell made part of record of this meeting.

4. Reports on Activities.

- a. Indoor Sports Club, Inc. - a group of physically handicapped meets the 2nd Saturday of each month at Hawthorn Playground in the Edwin O. Childs Recreation Center. Their Christmas Party had an attendance of 80 - 90 people with guests from Worcester, Lynn, Quincy, Malden and Boston.
- b. Newton Highlands A.A. have established a program at the Countryside school. Their Monday, Wednesday attendance has reached a total of 110 boys from 3rd Grade to High School level. Recreation Department has agreed to furnish a leader for Monday-Wednesday nights. Their girls' group on Friday evening is being directed by their own volunteer leaders.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

January meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, January 16, 1956.

Respectfully submitted,

COPY

December 7, 1955

Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
 Mayor of Newton  
 City Hall  
 Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

The Newton Recreation Commission respectfully requests your serious consideration of the following projects of essential buildings construction for the Recreation Department.

1. Albemarle Playground Building - There is a serious need for a field house with storage and toilet facilities.

(An architect has been appointed by His Honor, the Mayor, to draw and present plans for this construction.)

Estimated Cost \$40,000.00

2. Bullough's Pond - New building to be used in conjunction with our skating program and in spring and fall program activity. This building will provide warming house, check house and toilet facilities.

Estimated Cost \$40,000.00

3. Work Shop and Storage Building. - The activities of the Maintenance Division have been expanded to such a degree that an up-to-date and well equipped work shop is essential. Presently, we store equipment and materials at seven different locations. This is a costly procedure.

Estimated Cost \$100,000.00

4 - Edmand's Park - New building to provide toilet and storage facilities. Also to include picnic shelter and drinking fountain

Estimated Cost \$15,000.00

5 - Auburndale Playground - Modernize and enlarge the present building.

Estimated Cost \$35,000.00

The Newton Recreation Commission recommends serious consideration of these building needs and the establishing of a program of construction so that these projects may be completed according to a planned schedule.

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

cc to Mr. Willard S. Pratt  
Commissioner of Public Works

COPY

December 7, 1955

Mr. Willard S. Pratt  
Director of Public Works  
City Hall  
Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Pratt:

The "Capital Improvements Projects" planned for the year 1955 included several projects pertaining to School Grounds Construction.

It is my understanding that the projects which were not completed or on which no work has been done and/or those which were disapproved for 1955 will be re-submitted for 1956.

The Newton Recreation Department has a heavy responsibility in the maintenance of Junior and Senior High School Athletic Fields and of Elementary School Playgrounds.

I respectfully recommend that serious consideration be given to the need for the completion of the following projects as soon as possible in 1956. These facilities are needed and are most essential to a complete outdoor program for our schools.

- 1 - Warren Junior High School
- 2 - Weeks Junior High School
- 3 - Franklin School - Construct a retainer wall on Derby Street a distance of 30 feet and at the right of way entrance to the school property as far as the drinking fountain to control erosion due to surface waters from heavy rains.

4 - Stearns School - Resurface entire driveway around School. Construct Parking area. Construct 25 foot driveway from Watertown Street to School yard.

5 - Horace Mann School - Construct entrance walkway from Walker Street to Building. Regrade and seed children's play area in back of school. Relocate shrubs. Construct sidewalk along Walker St. and Watertown Street bounds of the School property. (These are safety measures.)

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

cc to: Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

COPY

December 6, 1955

Mr. Frank K. Perkins  
Street Commissioner  
City of Newton  
City Hall  
Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Perkins:

The following construction projects and cost estimates for the Recreation Department are submitted to you with a request that they be included in the Street Department Budget for 1956 under the "Construction of Recreation Grounds" Account.

1. Montclair Realty Trust Land - (sometimes called Lincoln Memorial Playground) - to develop entire area for a community playground - plans and specifications to be drawn making maximum use of existing area - \$45,000.00

2. Newton Highlands Playground - Install proper main and lateral drains from Dedham St. and to Connect with drains at edge of ball-field. Plans and specifications to be drawn for development of play area between Tennis Courts and Dedham St.  
Drains estimate \$5,000.00  
Grounds Estimate \$25,000.00

3. Albemarle Playground - Develop remainder of playground area from Little League Field to Watertown St. and from Albemarle Road to abutters on Edinboro St. \$4,000.00

4. Richardson Playground - Construct bituminous concrete walk from Allen Ave. to Beethoven Ave. at property edge nearest Beacon St. \$1,000.00

5. Lyons Playground - Extend drain to the Causeway.  
 Backfill, grade, seed entire area between Forest Grove  
 Road at water's edge \$25,000.00  
 (1955-Approved for Drain Work 2,000.00)

6. Angier Playground - Grade and seed area back  
 of Tennis Courts by terracing to Railroad property  
 line. Loam and seed entire area to abutters property  
 line (Dorset Road) \$12,500.00

7. Angier Playground - Construct new Tennis Court  
 Base of Laycold Composition - 3 courts \$12,000.00

8. Boyd Park - Excavate base of present tennis  
 Courts, remove tennis court backstop. Construct  
 lateral drains, construct multiple use blacktop area.  
 Loam and seed from School property to limits of ex-  
 isting tennis courts \$10,200.00

9. Victory Field - Remove Tennis Court Base  
 Loam and seed \$4,500.00

10. Stearns School - Regrade, loam and seed entire  
 playground area \$12,000.00

Requests for some of these projects date back  
 several years. The only new project is the request for  
 "Laycold" Tennis Courts at Angier Playground, Waban.

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

cc to: Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
 Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works  
 Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer

COPY

December 7, 1955

Mr. Arthur Campbell  
Public Buildings Commissioner  
City Hall  
Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Campbell:

Certain projects of the School Grounds Construction were planned for 1955 out of Public Buildings Bonds and some contracts were drawn.

The Newton Recreation Commission respectfully recommends that these projects be requested for 1956 and that necessary requests be submitted to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. for appropriation of Bonded Money for the Construction and Completion of the following projects.

- 1 - Spaulding School Playground
- 2 - Meadowbrook Junior High School Athletic Field
- 3 - Bowen School Kindergarten Play Area - (to be completed)
- 4 - Countryside School Playground.
- 5 - Beethoven School Playground.

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

cc to: Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Director of Public Works  
Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 20, 1956

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Ira M. Conant  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the December meeting were approved as recorded.

VOTED: That letters sent to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.; Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works; Mr. Frank K. Perkins, Street Commissioner; and Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Building Commissioner under dates of December 6 and 7, 1955 be made part of the record of the December Meeting of the Commission.

1. Budget

Our total 1955 expenditure \$225,823.23  
Returned to Treasurer 14,501.68  
Hurricane Costs (1954-1955) 8,196.00

2. Capital Improvements Projects approved by the Mayor as a result of Conference with Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Mr. Frank K. Perkins, Mr. Arthur Campbell and Mr. C. Evan Johnson

a. From Revenue (Street Dept. Budget)

Franklin School - Retaining Wall - Derby St. \$500.00  
Warren Junior High-Addition to Playground \$20,000.00  
Angier School-Tennis Courts, Laycold 12,000.00

b. Sewer and Drain Bonds

Newton Highlands-Main Drains and Laterals \$ 5,000.00  
Monclair Development-Main Drain & Laterals \$10,000.00

c. Building Bonds

Albemarle Playground Building \$40,000.00  
Countryside School-Partial Playground 10,000.00

3. Report on Construction Projects already approved.

Street Construction.

a. Montclair Road adjacent to Montclair Land area will be constructed this Spring.

b. Playgrounds

Davis School-Spring seeding on lower level.  
Spaulding School-Finish grading this Spring-Contract

Emerson School-Finish grading this Spring-Contract  
Meadowbrook School-Finish grading this Spring-City Labor

4. Albemarle Playground Building

Plans were studied and approved with recommendation that changes required and recommended by Building Commissioner should be accepted.

5. Recreation Survey Committee of Community Council.

Meeting held at Council Office. General discussion of areas of survey. Voted to recommend that Professional Level Survey and study be made.

6. P.T.S.A. of Newton High School. Student group with Parent Advisers met with Commissioner to discuss the needs for a Youth Center for Newton.

7. National Junior Lawn Tennis

Mr. William Hoblitzell of Junior Lawn Tennis Association presented case for Junior Lawn Tennis Teams for Newton Recreation Department and membership in Tennis League.

Commissioner instructed to explore possibilities as to membership and cost.

8. Hearings.

Thompsonville and Hawthorn Playground Land.

Hearings before Committee on Cities at State House seemed to receive a favorable reaction.

Commissioner appeared with Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. before Aldermanic Committee of the Whole.

General agreement in regard to Hawthorn Land Sale. No clear-cut acceptance of plan to sell land at Thompsonville.

9. Regulations.

a. Repair signs on Grounds at Newton Centre.

b. Regulations concerning attire of Tennis Players on Public Courts.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, APRIL 16, 1956

Members present: Maj. William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mr. Ira M. Conant  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary to the Commission

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the February Meeting were approved.

Notice is taken that the regularly scheduled meeting for March 19, 1956 was postponed on account of a severe snow storm.

1. Albemarle Playground Building.

Several meetings have been held with the architect to clarify certain problems. Borings were taken at the site. The architect is now drawing final plans and specifications to be submitted to the Public Buildings Commissioner. Bids will be taken soon after the final plans are submitted.

2. Community Council Recreation Study Committee.

This Committee met with Mr. Waldo Hainsworth, District Representative of the National Recreation Association on two occasions to discuss the areas and limits of a survey study.

Mr. Charles Reed of National Recreation Association forwarded a letter to Mr. Leo Barry, President of the Community Council stating that the cost of survey would be not over \$3500.00.

Mr. Barry and Mrs. Copeland were to present a recommendation to the Mayor that "A study of Recreation Facilities and Activities in the Newtons be made on a professional basis and that necessary fund not to exceed \$5000.00 be appropriated for that study.

Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. has not as yet communicated with this Department concerning the proposed survey.

3. Winter Activities Report.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>No. Days</u>	<u>Ave. Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u>
Skating	3 ponds	32	777	24,859
	11 Flooded Areas	89	38	3,366
Tobogganing	Newton Centre	20	382	7,629
Dancing	10 Schools	Weekly	(20-50)	
Girls' Crafts	8 Schools	Weekly	(12-18)	

-2-

## 3. Winter Activities (Continued)

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Locations</u>	<u>No.Days</u>	<u>Ave.Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u>
Boys' Craft Adults:	8 Schools	Weekly	14-22	
Furniture Refinishing	Hyde	Weekly	18-22	
3 Metal Craft	Burr Plgd.	Weekly	16-18	
2 Townline Pottery-	LaPlante Studio	Weekly	12	
3 Women's Groups	(Hawthorn (Burr (Homes		20 10 12	
Social Recreation Teen-Agers	Emerson	Weekly	25-35	

Special Groups.

Newton Highlands Improvement Association meets at Countryside School - Mon.-Wed. evenings with 60-80 Boys in two groups.

Newton Upper Falls Improvement Association meets on Wednesday nights with 18-25 Girls.

Basketball Leagues. - 5 Nights per week, three leagues. 26 teams - 112 games, average attendance (weekly) 536.

Basketball Leagues - 2 Teen Age leagues playing on Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning.  
Games played at Newton Centre, Hawthorn and West Newton Catholic Club.

Active Group Games - 8 Boys and 2 Girls Groups meet weekly.

4. Application of Newton Boys' Club to operate Non-Profit Day Camp at Allison Field from June 25th to August 17th, 1956.  
VOTED to grant permit with restrictions protecting use of baseball field and with written conditions of tenancy approved by the Commissioner and agreed upon by both groups.

5. VOTED to grant permit to Sacred Heart High School Girls to reserve two tennis courts at Newton Centre on Mondays from 2:30 - 3:30 P.M.

6. VOTED to grant permit to St. Sebastian's Country Day School to practice and play baseball at Newton Highlands or some other and to play their scheduled tennis matches at Newton Center (2 Courts).

7. VOTED to refer suggestion of Mr. T. Newman Manning, Eastern Director of New England Junior Lawn Tennis Association in regard to organizing a NEJLT in Newton to the Department of Health and Physical Education of the Newton Public Schools.

8. VOTED to deny request of Mr. William W. Hoblitzell III for use of 2 Tennis Courts at Newton Centre for the purpose of conducting a Children's Play Clinic for which a fee of \$2.00/ lesson would be charged.

9. VOTED to grant permission for All-Star Tennis Matches on July 20, 1956 between the Southeast-Northeast Junior Tennis Leagues.

10. Commission requested further information concerning the prospect of remodeling shower rooms at Eurr Playground Building in order to provide additional indoor play space.

11. Spring Schedule of Supervision at 12 areas were approved. Prospect of supervising four additional areas after the spring school vacation.

12. Agency Executives' Group of the Newtons held their April meeting at the Hawthorn Recreation Center. Our Mothers' Group served an excellent fish dinner.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

May Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 21, 1956.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 21, 1956

Members present: Maj. William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mr. Ira M. Conant  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Request of Stratford St. Baptist Church, West Roxbury for permission to hold a picnic at Cold Spring Playground on June 2, 1956 was approved by the Commissioner.

2. Commission rules pertaining to use of Allison Park by Newton Boys' Club as Summer Day Camp were submitted.

The Rules and Regulations are to be submitted to the Boys' Club for approval and signature.

Voted that these Rules and Regulations be made part of the official Record of proceedings of this Commission.

3. Summer Playground Schedule

The Commission approved the following schedule of dates.

Swimming Program - June 16 - September 3 (Labor Day).

Playgrounds - July 2 - August 24.

Two new playgrounds to be supervised this summer at Newton High School and Davis School.

The approximate cost for Summer Supervision, Swimming and Umpire Staff will be \$5000/week.

4. Budget Report.

All control items are in proportion to usual expenses at this time of year. There is no indication of budget problems developing.

5. Camp Fire Girls

A committee from the Camp Fire Girls' Organization for the Newtons and headed by Mrs. Virginia Coogan and Mrs. Milton Levy presented an outline of their planned Day Camp Program during the month of July (3 days per week) at the Auburndale Playground.

They had previously applied for permission to operate this camp.

The Commission approved the application and instructed the Commissioner to inform the Camp Fire Girls in writing and to draw up Rules and Regulations pertaining to this operation.

The Commission voted that this permit is granted for the 1956 season only and the entire program shall be the subject of review at the close of the season.

6. Reference was made to Commission Recommendation made on July 29, 1955 that the Mayor take steps to negotiate for purchase of land in the Newton Highlands area off Winchester St. at Stephens Place.

Suggestion was made that the Commissioner bring this matter to the attention of Mayor Whitmore again and that it be tied in with necessary school expansion of the future.

7. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1956

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
 Mr. Ira M. Conant  
 Mrs. Worthing L. West  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
 Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

1. The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

2. Rules and Regulations pertaining to the operation of the Newton Boys' Club Day Camp at Allison Park and the Newton Camp Fire Girl's Day Camp at Auburndale Playground were approved by the Commission.

It was ordered that these Rules and Regulations be made part of the official records of the Recreation Commission.

3. Summer Staff and Program.

Playground Season Dates:

Crystal Lake - June 14, 1956 to September 3, 1956  
 Playgrounds July 2, 1956 to August 24, 1956

Staff - The complete roster of personnel was submitted and approved. We are to operate 31 playgrounds during the summer season. Albemarle playground will not be supervised but will be used for regular League and Little League baseball.

4. Proposed Land Taking off Stephens Place, Newton Highlands.

This proposal was brought to the attention of His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr., so that a report could be submitted to Recreation Commission.

The following factors seemed particularly important.

1. Sale of a portion of the Shaw Estate and the proposed development of a motel.
2. Possible State Development Program along Nahanton Street and a proposed new bridge over the Charles River near this area.
3. Development of Housing Projects at the Mick and Valente properties which are close by.
4. Possible development of a New South Side High School which would relate to any development in this area.

Mayor Whitmore feels that this project should not be stressed at this time pending the clarification of the above possibilities.

5. Moffatt Road and the Montclair Land Development.

Mr. Conant requested a report of progress.

Moffatt Road is under construction with complete system of drains curbing, sidewalks, and blacktop roadway.

Connecting and lateral drains are being laid into the playground area in preparation for grading and seeding and complete development of the playground.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 17, 1956.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

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JUN 12 1956

RULES AND REGULATIONS Relative to use of a part of Auburndale Playground by the Camp Fire Girls in Newton for a Day Camp Program during the month of July on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.

1. Camp Season                      July - Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Friday, July 6.
2. Daily Schedule                      9:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M.
3. Swimming in the Charles-Prohibited by State Board of Health.
4. Boating                              No Boating from shores of Auburndale Playground.
5. Archery                              Permissible in a restricted area and under special control.
6. Autos                                One Camp Fire Girls' Service Car may enter playground by Forest Grove Road. Milk will be delivered daily to the Camp site.
7. Program                              The Camp Fire Girls' Staff will at all times recognize that the Regular Playground Program and Groups take precedence over any other activity. Basically, the Camp Fire Program will be restricted to the Amphi-theatre area. Other areas may be used when mutually agreed upon between the Playground Staff and Camp Fire Girls' Staff.
8. Grounds Care                        The Day Camp Personnel will be responsible for the orderly care of Grounds. The Camp Fire Girls will assume responsibility for repairs and replacement of damaged property resulting from Day Camp Activity.
9. Policing                              The Camp Area will be policed twice daily by the Camp Fire Girls and Staff.
10. Ice Cream Vendors                      City ordinance prohibits vendors on playgrounds or within 500 feet of said playground between 9:00 A.M. and 9 P.M.
11. Liability                              The City of Newton assumes no liability for accident or injury to Day Camp Personnel and members or damage to their property while camp is in session.
12. Special Equipment                      May be installed only if mutually agreed upon between Camp Director and Recreation Commissioner.



13. Special Permits

Fire Permits (for Cook-outs) must be obtained from Fire Dept. Headquarters.  
Tennis Permits may be secured at Recreation Office, City Hall.  
Swimming Permits - (for Crystal Lake) may be secured at Crystal Lake.

14. Dress

Counsellor Staff will be expected to wear Skirts and Blouses (or equivalent). Shorts and halters may not be worn by staff members.

15. Identification Marker

The Camp Fire Girls may set up one Identification Marker (Flag or Sign) at the camp site.

The above regulations cover the general and specific conditions for the use of part of Auburndale Playground by the Newton Camp Fire Girls. Other conditions of use requiring attention are to be agreed upon between the Recreation Commissioner and the Director of the Camp.

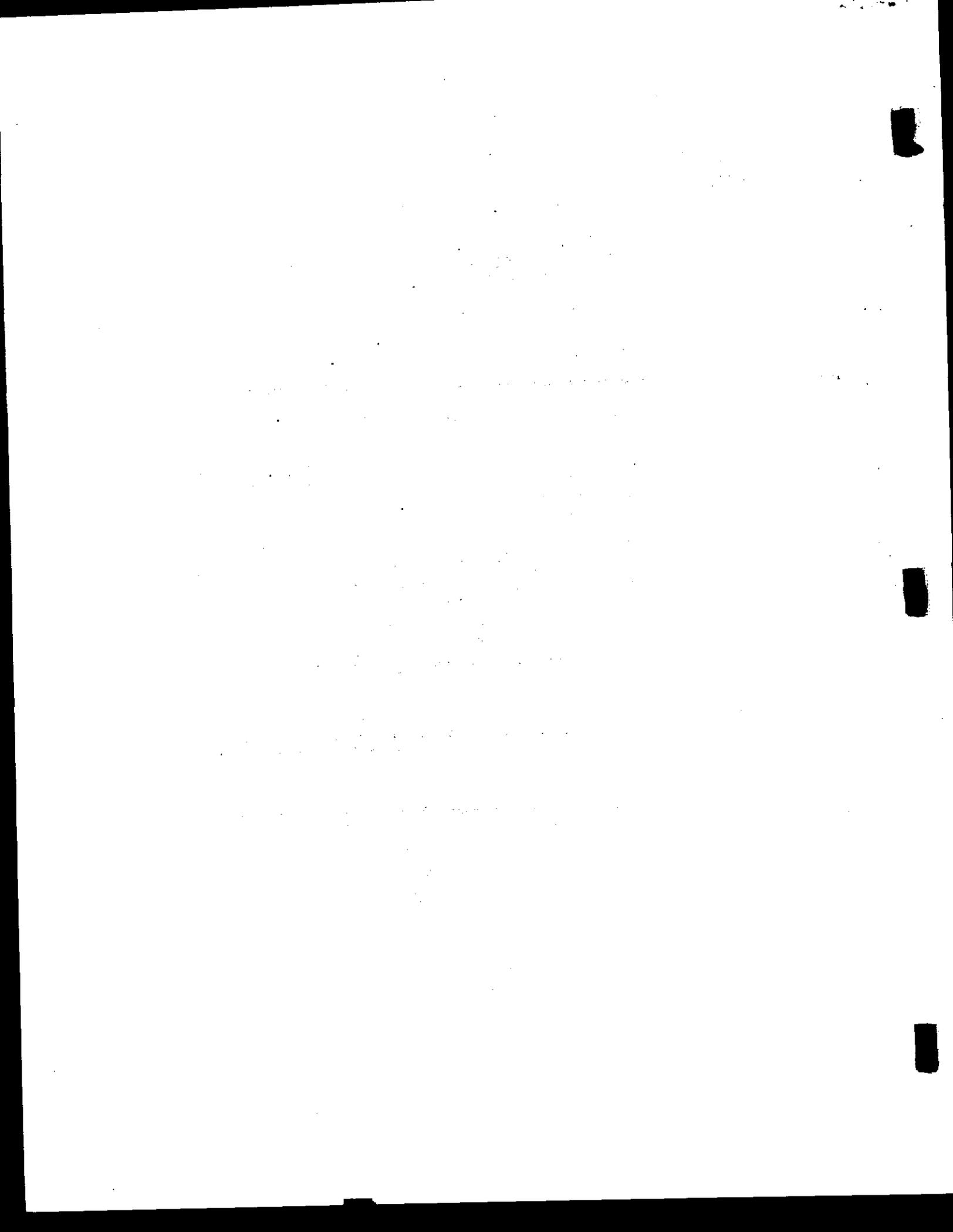
The Recreation Commissioner reserves the right at any time to terminate the Newton Camp Fire Girls' Day Camp Permit for failure to comply with any of the foregoing regulations or for failure to operate the Day Camp in a manner acceptable to the Recreation Commission.

Date June 12, 1956

Sylvia E. Rose  
Executive Director - Camp Fire Girls Greater Boston Council

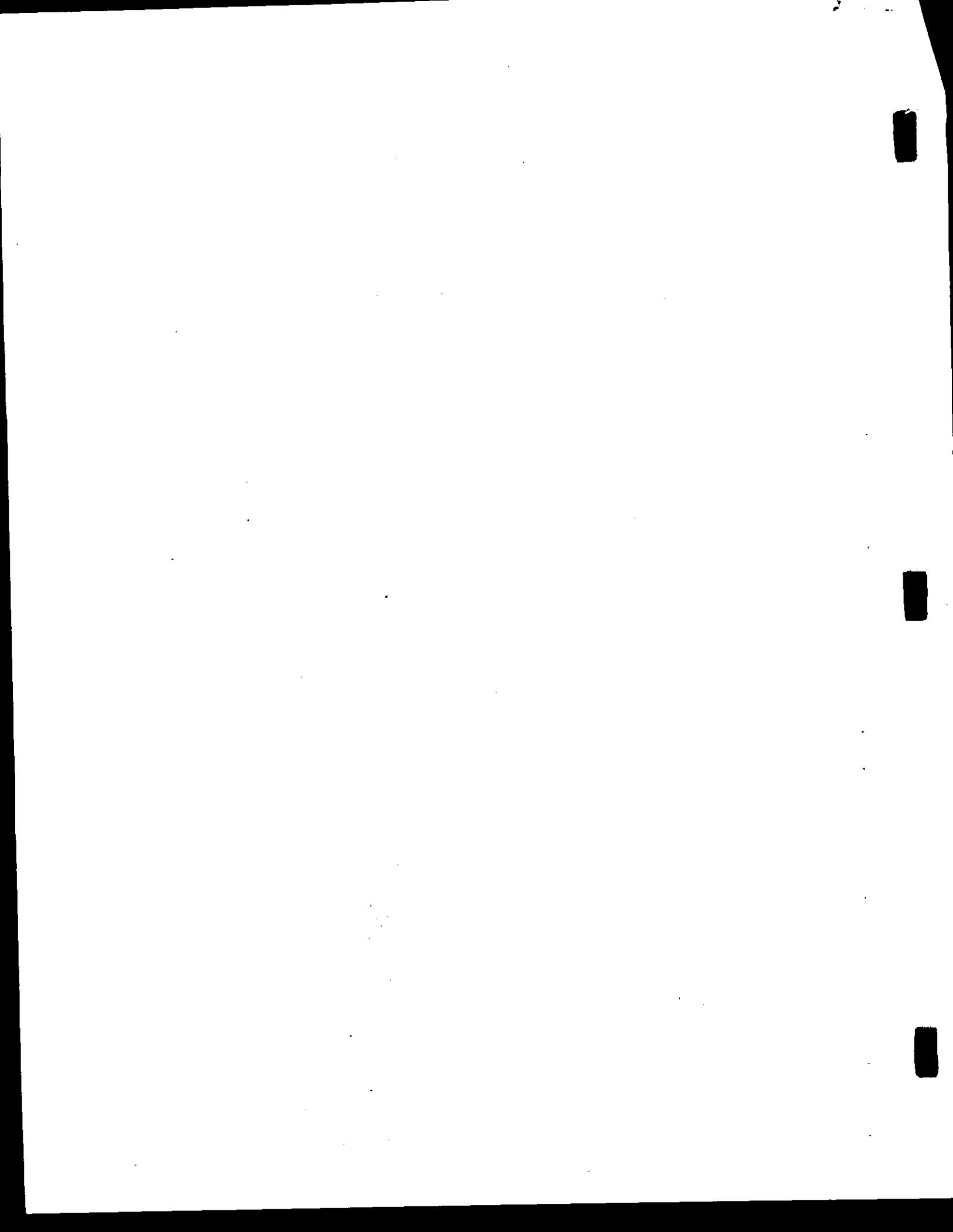
Date June 14, 1956

C. Edward Johnson  
Recreation Commissioner - Newton, Mass.



Rules and Regulations relative to use of Allison Park by the Newton Boys' Club for a Day Camp Program. June 25, 1956 to August 17, 1956.

- 1. Camp Season June 25, 1956 - August 17, 1956
- 2. Daily Schedule 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
- 3. Evening Program Newton Twilight League has Priority. Parents' Night, Cook-outs or any other activity shall be held beyond the baseball field area - preferably toward the Pit and on nights when baseball is not scheduled.
- 4. Swimming in the Charles Prohibited by State Board of Health.
- 5. Model Airplanes - Power Driven Prohibited by Recreation Dept. Regulation
- 6. Golf Prohibited by Recreation Dept. Regulation
- 7. Air Rifles and Sling Shots Prohibited by law and Recreation Dept. Regulation
- 8. Autos May not drive on Playground
- 9. Visiting Newton Children No Newton child or group of children may be prohibited from use of facilities. It is expected that these children will be invited to participate in activities.
- 10. Service Gates To be closed except in case of emergency.
- 11. Grounds Care The Day Camp Personnel will be responsible for orderly care of Grounds, and Building. The Newton Boys' Club Day Camp Committee will assume responsibility for repairs and replacements for any damaged property resulting from Day Camp Activity.
- 12. Ice Cream Vendors City Ordinance prohibits vendors on playgrounds or within 500 feet of said playground between 9:00 A.M. and 9:00 P.M.
- 13. Liability The City assumes no liability for accident or injury to Day Camp Personnel and Members or to their property while camp is in session.
- 14. Special Equipment Day Camp may install a tent at a location to be agreed upon. This installation to be taken down each night.
- 15. Special Permits Swimming Program (Learn-to-Swim) to be arranged at Crystal Lake through Red Cross.



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15. Special Permits (Continued)

Tennis Permits may be secured at Recreation Office, City Hall.

Fire Permits (for Cookouts) must be obtained from Fire Dept. Headquarters

The above regulations cover the general and specific conditions for use of Allison Park by the Newton Boys' Club. Other conditions of use requiring attention are to be agreed upon between the Recreation Commissioner and the Officers of the Newton Boys' Club.

The Recreation Commissioner reserves the right at any time to terminate the Newton Boys' Club Day Camp permit for failure to comply with any of the foregoing regulations or for failure to operate the Day Camp in a manner acceptable to the Recreation Commission.

Date May 28, 1956

Eugene Mascaro  
Newton Boys' Club

Date May 25, 1956

C. E. Johnson  
Recreation Commissioner

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It highlights the need for consistent and reliable data collection processes to support effective decision-making.

3. The third part of the document focuses on the role of technology in data management and analysis. It discusses how modern software solutions can streamline data collection, storage, and reporting, thereby improving efficiency and accuracy.

4. The fourth part of the document addresses the challenges associated with data management, such as data quality, security, and privacy. It provides strategies to mitigate these risks and ensure that data is handled in a responsible and secure manner.

5. The fifth part of the document discusses the importance of data governance and the role of leadership in establishing a strong data culture. It stresses that clear policies and procedures are necessary to ensure that data is used effectively and ethically.

6. The sixth part of the document concludes by summarizing the key points discussed and reiterating the importance of a data-driven approach in achieving organizational success. It encourages ongoing learning and improvement in data management practices.

7. The seventh part of the document provides a list of resources and references for further reading on data management and analysis. It includes books, articles, and online courses that can help readers deepen their understanding of the subject.

8. The eighth part of the document offers a final thought on the future of data management, highlighting the potential of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence and machine learning to revolutionize the way we handle data.

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 26, 1956

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Minutes of the June meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Report on Summer Program

No. of Playgrounds	31
Total Playground Attendance (Summer)	202,464
Daily Attendance	5,062
Daily Attendance/Average per Playground	164

Crystal Lake - Swimming.

Total Attendance-June 16 - Sept. 8	76,053
Daily Average	895

Program.

Baseball - 2 Leagues - Midget and Juniors in each district. District Champions played off in August for City Championship

Girls' Softball Tournament.

15 Playgrounds represented in a three-day tournament at Girls Field-Newton High School.

Tennis - 4 Tournaments for Playground children - 87 Entries - Largest Playground Tournament we have had.

Bicycle Safety - Every Playground represented at instruction and testing programs under the direction of Officer Charles Feeley of Newton Police Department.

Newton Day at the Ball Game. Approximately 900 children were guests of the Boston Red Sox.

Beach Trips - 45 trips from various grounds. Each Playground cleared dates through Recreation Office and arranged their own program.

Cook Outs and Family Parties - 12

Crafts: -

Boys - Project work in wood and metal. Burr Playground had 85 different projects.

Girls - 4365 separate units of girls' crafts were prepared and issued under the direction of Girls' Craft Supervisors.

Craftstrip. - Training Course under direction of Mr. Cy Vaughan attracted 45 persons. The Department paid the costs at \$1/person. Each grounds secured supply of materials from office. Over 5000 Craftstrip Units were completed.

#### Swimming.

Crystal Lake was open from June 16 to Sept. 8. It was decided to keep the area open during Labor Day Week because of the excellent summer attendance.

Under the management of Paul Kincare, the program was very successful.

The Red Cross Learn-to-Swim program under the direction of Mr. Gilbert Champagne Water Safety Chairman for the Newton Chapter, American Red Cross and Miss Claire McCarthy as dean of Instructors was outstandingly effective.

The demonstration program on Sunday, July 29 was very well coordinated and planned and the exhibition of Survival Swimming by Mr. Alec Huston was an outstanding part of the program.

The new Dock Installation proved to be a very effective control factor and it also attracted greater attendance - more fun.

#### Field Days.

Each Grounds organized and planned its own Field Day. They were all held during the last week of the Playground Season. Prizes and Awards were presented for achievement and leadership.

The outstanding boy and girl on each grounds was presented an Achievement Award. Letters of congratulation have been sent to the parents of each boy and girl winner.

#### Leadership.

We have had an outstanding staff of personnel. There has been excellent balance between experience and newcomers. More college students were available this year. There was some shifting of assignments with excellent results.

#### 2. Newton City Leagues.

##### 4 Baseball Leagues

American Division	- 8 teams
National A	- 6 teams
National B	- 8 teams
Pony International	- 6 teams

##### Winner

Newton Elks
Corpus Christi
Newtonville
St. Bernard's

## 2 Softball Leagues

American	- 8 teams	<u>Winner</u>
National	- 8 teams	Auburndale Cafe
		Midnite Food Shop
Total 14 teams	Allowable Roster	18 Players
Total Players	- 792	

Banquet Night on September 24 attracted over 400 Guests

Games were generally well-played. Some teams were in too fast company. Attendance is not good. Only a handful except at certain parks or when certain teams are playing.

Problems of Schedules, League Balance and restrictions of Players of School teams must be solved to improve our League Play.

## 3. Budget.

Of the total Budget appropriation of \$257,087 there has been an expenditure of \$167,464 to August 31. Balance of \$86,043 (un-encumbered) should be sufficient to meet our needs for the balance of the year. We may have a problem with the Part-Time Directors Account for the reason that we kept Crystal Lake open for an additional week with the approval of the Mayor. Our summer playground staff payroll was almost \$5000 per week.

## 4. Maintenance.

General Maintenance has been kept to a high standard. Demands for service are increasing all the time.

Three areas have all been seeded and should have good turf by next spring. The Peirce School baseball infield has been reseeded and a new diamond will be cut out in the spring.

Emerson School Playground and Spaulding School Playgrounds have been rototilled and reseeded. Good Grass is on the way.

Tennis Courts have been receiving more care and the major Clay Courts at the High School, Newton Centre and Burr Playground are in excellent condition.

Bleachers have been relocated to various grounds for the football season.

All markings of school grounds and Athletic Fields have been done as quickly as possible and in the case of the High School and Junior High School Fields the marking has been done before the schedules were received.

5. Albemarle Playground Building.

Building is now under construction. Foundation has been poured and construction work is about to begin. The Building should be ready next spring.

6. Fall and Winter Program.

We are operating at 10 Schools and Playgrounds during the fall season.

The Neighborhood Center program will begin on November 5. We have been requested to extend our services at the Countryside School and the Emerson School.

The Countryside School has requested a change in location of their evening program to the Meadowbrook Junior High School on Monday and Wednesday evenings.

7. Action of Chapters 101 and 102 of the General Acts of 1956

Chap. 101 - "An Act Authorizing the City of Newton to sell and convey a portion of the Thompsonville Playground, so-called," be and is hereby voted as follows: - Vote 3 Yeas - 1 Not Voting

Chap. 102 - "An Act Authorizing the City of Newton to sell and convey a portion of the Hawthorn Playground, so-called." be and is hereby voted as follows: - Vote - 4 Yeas

Letter to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. indicating this action of the Commission was transmitted under date of September 28, 1956.

8. Voted to adopt resolution presented by Mrs. Worthing L. West in recognition of the services of Ira M. Conant, to forward a copy of said resolution to Mrs. Conant and to spread this resolution on the records of the Recreation Commission.

(Letter of Resolution is recorded immediately following these minutes)

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

September 28, 1956

Mrs. Ira M. Conant  
14 Larchmont Avenue  
Waban 68, Massachusetts

My dear Mrs. Conant:

At our first formal meeting since June, it is with profound sorrow that we, in the Recreation Commission, record the death on July 28, 1956, of Ira M. Conant. We have lost a valuable member, a wise and judicious Counselor.

Mr. Conant's untiring interest in boys' sports, particularly baseball, has left an enduring impression on the youth of our city.

Ira's tenacity of purpose and loyal adherence to those things which he believed to be right were an inspiration to those of us who were privileged to work with him. We do therefore, spread upon the records of the Recreation Commission, a copy of this letter so that it may serve as a guide in our future efforts in the interests of building a better city.

Sincerely yours,

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

Members, Newton Recreation Commission

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
NOVEMBER 19, 1956

Members Present: Maj. William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Minutes of the September meeting were approved, as recorded.

Record is made that the October meeting was postponed.

1. Review was made of the 1956 Budget Balances.

It was indicated that the Part time Directors account might require a transfer for additional funds.

If we have an early skating season, we will need additional funds.

Reference was also made to the costs of maintenance of school grounds for which the Department received no reimbursement.

2. The Proposed Budget for 1957 was submitted for discussion and study.

The proposed budget carries all salaries and wages according to schedules adopted in 1956 with step-rate increase program for salaried employees and a labor classification and pay-rate plan effective for hourly paid workers.

The Recreation Commissioner's salary has not been discussed and is not operative under a step-rate pay plan.

3. Proposed Budget for 1957

Recreation Commissioner	\$7500.00
Supervisors	20347.35
Full Time Directors	11643.40
Part Time Directors	69788.00
Clerical Assistance	6698.48
Recreation Foreman	4649.99
Temporary Clerk	655.00
Office Expense	1160.00
Equipment Maintenance	6850.00
Maintenance	88880.00
Replacement of Equipment	7731.00
Care & Alterations of School Grounds	16350.00
Out of State Travel	750.00
School Dept. Transfer	4500.00
New Equipment	7000.00
Neighborhood Center Expense	2500.00
Fencing & Backstops	6980.00
New Construction	6650.00
Multiple Use Courts Maintenance	2000.00
Pensions	9455.57

Total \$282088.79

The proposed budget of \$282,088.79 was approved to be submitted to the Mayor, as of December 1, 1956.

4. New Construction - Grounds and Facilities.

Letter is to be sent to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. requesting consideration of Construction needs for Recreation.

Projects not approved for 1956 are to be included in this letter.

5. Moffatt Road Playground.

Mr. Stout requested information concerning recognition of the work done by Ira Conant in the Waban area for the youth of Waban and in the interests of Public Recreation.

Can some recognition be made of Mr. Conant's services?

Mr. Stout is going to explore the trends of thinking in Waban relative to the attitude of the Waban Associates to recognize Mr. Conant's outstanding work.

6. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Acting Secretary.

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1956

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary  
Mr. Victor Stout (absent due to previous commitment  
at Boston University)

1. Minutes of the November meeting were approved as recorded.
2. Budget Review of 1956

Estimated Balance as of December 15, 1956	\$25,388.49
Indicated that we will turn back to the Treasurer from \$15,000 - \$18,000.	
To clarify - credits were received for Labor service to the	
Street Dept.	\$4256.75
Building Dept.	2038.17
High School Athletic Fund	196.55
Total	<u>\$6491.47</u>
Credits were received for Equipment use for the Street Dept. \$1397.18	
	Building Dept. 552.00
	High School Athletic Fund 32.00
	<u>\$1981.18</u>

If this \$8472.65 had not been received in credits our balance to the Treasurer would range between \$7000 and \$10,000.

In any situation where work must be undertaken for other Departments and other accounts, it is clear that all of our own projects cannot be completed so there will be a balance returnable from estimated expenditures.

3. Budget Estimate for 1957 (Final)

The Preliminary Budget for 1957 in the amount of \$282,088.79 was reviewed and discussed.

All salary items affected by the Salary-Wage Plan adopted in 1956 were approved.

Recommendation was made and approved that the salary of the Commissioner be increased to \$8250.00.

There was recognition made of progress in Recreation activity, management of administration and care in handling of budget allotments.

New Equipment Account (Page 7) - It was explained that all items except new slides were items of replacement for worn out equipment.

Report of the Newton Halloween Expenses was made showing an increase in the balance available in the Newton Halloween Committee Account.

Construction costs for Hockey Rink were reduced to \$1500 for materials only since we plan to build a new rink with our own labor.

Voted to approve budget estimate for 1957 in the amount of \$282,838.79

4. Items before the Budget.

Voted to request appropriation for the following items before the budget.

New Equipment Account.

1 Toro Parkmaster - Full Hydraulic Lift and Frame	\$2700.00
1 Willys Pick-up Truck	1750.00
1 Automobile - 4 door Sedan	1600.00

In each case, there is a used vehicle to be turned in as trade.

Special Appropriation.

Lighting Installation - Auburndale	\$2000.00
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This installation will replace the old, obsolete and inefficient installation presently being used. Reference is made to this installation in letter to Mr. Pratt dated December 13, 1956 and made part of this report.

5. Letters pertaining to developments, improvement and new construction.

Voted to make these letters to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr., Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works, Mr. Frank K. Perkins, Street Commissioner and Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner a part of the record of this meeting.

6. Recommended that the Commissioner discuss with His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. the advisability of discussing the Recreation needs of our Ward Divisions as outlined in the above letters with the Aldermen concerned by letter.

7. Mr. Stout will make his report on the prospects of recognition for the Public Service rendered by Mr. Ira M. Conant at our next meeting.

8. The Board Members Dinner of the Massachusetts Recreation Association will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 1957 at the Maridor Restaurant, Framingham. Complete notice will be sent out immediately on receipt of full particulars.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

December 13, 1956

Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mayor of Newton  
Newton City Hall  
Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Mayor:

The following Building Construction projects are submitted for consideration for the 1957 Budget.

1. Workshop and Storage Building. The activities of a maintenance division of a Recreation Department cannot be efficiently or effectively carried out without an up-to-date and well equipped workshop. At present, we are forced to store equipment and materials at seven different locations. Our workshop space allows for no more than 4 men working indoors at any one time. Estimated Cost (1956) \$100,000.00

2. Auburndale Playground - Modernize and enlarge the present building. Estimated Cost (1956) \$35,000.00

3. Moffatt Road (Waban) - Construct Fieldhouse and comfort station in conjunction with total planning for this playground area.

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

Copy to: Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner  
Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works

December 13, 1956

Mr. Willard S. Pratt  
 Commissioner of Public Works  
 City Hall  
 Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Pratt:

I respectfully recommend that the following "Capital Improvements Projects" be made part of the Recommendations for the 1957 Budget Estimates.

1. Warren Junior High School - To eliminate the present dirt track straightaway and to loam and seed this area so that the playing field may be extended and to regrade and blacktop the area from the entrance driveway to the drinking fountain and parallel to the present track.

2. Weeks Junior High School - To extend the blacktop area from tennis courts to include the basketball court and to complete the fence enclosure of the tennis courts.

3. Newton High School - Regrade and rebuild the Blacktop Tennis Courts, Blacktop area.

4. Auburndale - New Lighting Installation for skating. This is a priority item. The old system of lighting is at least 25 years old. It is inadequate by any and all standards. This item should be acted upon before the budget and installation should be made as soon as possible. Plans are available in this office. Estimated Cost - \$2000.00

5. Crystal Lake Park Area - (near Lakewood Road)  
 To reset the retainer wall, build sidewalk, regrade and seed to the foot of the park area. Estimated Cost - \$4000.00

To rebuild retainer wall and walkway and to build a two foot retainer wall to hold the slope from the street from Lakewood Road to Berwick Road. Estimated Cost - \$6000.00

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

Copy to: Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

December 13, 1956

Mr. Frank K. Perkins  
Street Commissioner  
Newton City Hall  
Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Perkins:

The following construction projects, with cost estimates, for the Recreation Department are submitted with the request that they be included in the Street Department Budget for 1957 under the "Construction of Recreation Grounds" Account.

1. Montclair Realty Trust Land - (sometimes called Lincoln Memorial Playground) to continue constructions and development of the Playground area, to plan for the construction of a regulation baseball field according to definite plan and specifications, to install chain link fence around entire playground area.
2. Newton Highlands Playground - To install lateral drains from edge of outfield area to main drains along Dedham St. To fill, grade and seed the undeveloped area from the Tennis Courts to Dedham Street and Upland Ave.
3. Albemarle Playground - To develop, grade and seed remainder of Playground from Little League Field to Watertown St.
4. Richardson Playground - Construct bituminous concrete walk from Allen Ave. to Beethoven Ave. at property edge nearest Beacon St. Estimated Cost - \$1,000.00
5. Lyons Playground - Extend drain from Lyons Playground to the Causeway. Backfill, grade and seed entire area between Forest Grove Road and the Causeway. Estimated Cost - \$25,000.00  
1955 Approved for Drain Work-2,000.00
6. Angier Playground - Grade, loam and seed area back of Tennis Courts and terrace to Railroad Property, and extending to abutter's property line. (Dorset Road) Estimated Cost - \$12,500.00

7. Angier Playground - Reconstruct Tennis Courts of Laycold Composition (or equal) 3 Courts.

Estimated Cost - \$12,000.00

8. Boyd Park - Remove entire tennis court layout. Install lateral drains. Construct multiple use blacktop area, loam and seed from school property to limits of present tennis court area.

Estimated Cost - \$10,200.00

9. Victory Field - Remove tennis court layout and fences. Regrade, loam and seed. Estimated Cost - \$4,500.00

10. Stearns School - Regrade, loam and seed entire play area. Estimated Cost - \$12,000.00

Note: School Department requests blacktop area for basketball, skating and tennis.

The above requests were all presented for consideration for the 1956 budget. Appropriations were made for the Montclair Realty Trust Land and for installation of a drain at the Highlands Playground (no lateral drains.)

The following items are also submitted for consideration for the 1957 Budget:

1. Crystal Lake - Swimming Area - To construct a retainer wall from the water's edge and on the property line to the line of the bathhouse building. To cut the bank and to regrade and sand this added beach area.

2. Newton Upper Falls - To remove the base of present tennis courts and to build blacktop courts with waterproof surfacing.

3. Newton Centre (Brewer Playground) - To construct blacktop Basketball Court area at the present dirt court area. Waterproof surfacing.

4. Carr School - Blacktop walkway to drinking fountain. Seal coat Blacktop area. To blacktop right of way from California Street to existing fence.

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

Copy to: Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works

Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer

December 12, 1956

Mr. Arthur Campbell  
Public Buildings Commissioner  
Newton City Hall  
Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mr. Campbell:

The Newton Recreation Commission respectfully recommends that construction of certain Public School Playgrounds be requested for 1957 and that the costs be met from Public Building Bonds.

The following construction projects are most essential.

1. Meadowbrook Junior High School - Construction of a complete outdoor playfield and athletic plant.

2. Countryside School - Construction of playground according to plan approved by School Committee.

3. Beethoven School - Construction of playground according to plan approved by School Committee.

4. Bowen School - Construct Kindergarten play area as originally planned.

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:cc

Copy to: Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works  
Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer

Pony League Plays on Saturday Afternoons at Childs Recreation Center and Newton Centre Playground House.

Attendance - January 6 - February 9 - 3,790.

Basketball Clinic is scheduled for Childs Recreation Center during entire vacation week.

Skating- Jan. 1 to Feb. 9.

Skating has been provided at the three pond areas and at 12 flooded areas.

Total Skating Days - Ponds	54
Total Skating Days - Flooded areas	163
Skating attendance	74,424

Tobogganing and Coasting.

24 days-Attendance	6,642
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4. Budget Review-Mayor's Recommendations

Final Budget Forms were presented with the allowances made by the Mayor.

Mayor's Recommendations reduced Commission Recommendations by \$12,394.00.

5. Special Projects for 1957 Report.

Itemized information is submitted as addenda to the December meeting report which includes letters recommending special projects for 1957.

6. Budget Meeting with Finance Committee to be held on Saturday evening, March 2, 1957 at 8:00 P.M. in the Finance Committee Room.

7. Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 1957 at 7:45 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,  
MARCH 18, 1957

Members present:

Maj. William J. McCarthy  
Joseph Selden  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
R. Victor Stout  
T. Frank Copp  
C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

There were three guests present from the League of Women Voters Committee on Recreation. Their purpose: To observe proceedings and hear discussions. They were Mrs. Milton Cohen, Chairman, Mrs. Fogg and Mrs. Rabinowitz.

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as recorded.

Mr. Johnson moved that the letters requesting playground construction work and building construction for playground purposes sent to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr., Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works; Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner and Mr. Frank Perkins, Street Commissioner, be made part of the record of the February meeting.

Motion was seconded and passed.

Above letters are part of recorded minutes.

1. Report on Winter Schedules.

a. Basketball - American Division Playoffs are complete. National A and B Divisions will start their playoffs next week. Teen Age Saturday League will complete schedule on Saturday, March 23.

b. Indoor Programs - Children, Crafts, Games and Dancing should be completed by April 12.

c. Adult Groups are scheduled to May 1.

d. Skating terminated on Sunday, Feb. 24.  
Total attendance was 103,464

e. Tobogganing ended in January - Attendance 6366

2. Budget Review to February 28.

Total Expenditures	\$35,589.18
Total Labor Charge to Recreation	18,452.71
Average Labor Charge per week	1,677.52
Part-time Directors-to March 16	9,526.50
Average per week	866.05

This average is \$316.69 over the weekly average of the first weeks of every year since 1948.

Our problem is to meet the ever increasing demands for Recreation supervision with limited dollars. Practically all of our out-door program is governed by weather conditions. Skating activities this year was the heaviest in the last ten year period.

There was reference to the Budget Meeting with the Finance Committee at which time the question of fees and charges was discussed.

Our charges are as follows:

Swimming	25 cents per season
Tennis	15 cents per season
Dancing	\$1.00 per term plus 50¢ party assessment
Furniture Refinishing-Adults	\$5.00 per term
Metalcraft	\$4.00 per term
Townline Pottery	\$6.00 per term

### 3. Progress Report - Albemarle Field House

Heater unit has been installed.  
 Remaining work - Ceilings, Floors, Plumbing Fixtures,  
 Grading & Seeding - Walkways.  
 Completion Date is set for May 1.

### 4. Applications

a. Camp Fire Girls - Voted to approve application to operate Day Camp for Newton members at Auburndale Playground during month of July under same regulations as in 1956.

b. Waban Baseball Associates for Little League Diamond at Angier School. Commission recommends that Commissioner make best arrangements possible to meet this request.

c. St. Sebastian Country Day School - Voted to authorize permit for use of Highlands Baseball Diamond for practice and games subject to our own needs for this area.

d. Newton Centre Improvement Association - Request for relocation of bubbler to a place between the Regular and Little League Diamond was denied unless time and budget allows for this change.

e. Newton Central Little League - requests complete enclosure of Little League Diamond. Two questions raised - Need and Costs. No action at this time.

### 5. Newton City Leagues - Baseball & Softball.

a. There must be a revision of By-laws and Rules for our City Leagues.

## Registration Forms

Age requirements should be spelled out

Team membership requirements must be adhered to.

There should be stronger player control concerning trading and releasing of players.

Recommended that study of this problem and new standards be drawn up and approved by leagues.

b. Voted that Softball Leagues begin not before second Monday in May.

c. Voted that Baseball Leagues begin not before June 1st.

d. Suggestion made that we might be able to arrange for cooperative use of Junior High and Parochial School Uniforms through the organization of our Pony Leagues under a school membership plan and with Managers from the P.T.A. or Alumni Groups of each school.

6. New Mason-Rice School.

Preliminary Plan of new school was submitted for study. There was general discussion of the proposed lay-out. This information was submitted in order that we might keep pace with the planning program.

7. Mrs. West requested that

1. Rules for proper tennis attire be adopted and that signs be posted.

2. Proper dress be required of Playground Leaders.

NOTE: Signs are being made up re. tennis. Playground Leaders (Girls) must wear skirts and blouses.

Playground Leaders (Men) must wear conventional trousers and shirts (T-shirts).

8. Voted that letter of appreciation of the services of John E. Leary, Jr. as leader and supervisor be sent to Mrs. Leary and that a copy be spread upon the records of this meeting.

9. Pictures of Recreation activity were shown after adjournment of the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

March 18, 1957

Mrs. John E. Leary, Jr.  
767 Watertown St.  
West Newton 65, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Leary:

The Newton Recreation Commission expresses its sincere sympathy to you in the recent death of your husband John E. Leary, Jr.

Having had the opportunity to work with Mr. Leary and to know him as a member of the Recreation Department staff we fully realize the extent of his contributions to our community.

Jack has always been a most helpful and loyal co-worker, keen to observe the interests and needs of youth and always alert to assist our young boys in learning the fundamentals of American sport and the very important rules of sportsmanship. His work in the Recreation Department has been a real contribution to a total program of recreation development and activity. His pleasant manner, his willingness to give of himself to assist others and his desire to promote the best in all of us are a real measure of success in his chosen field.

We in the Recreation Commission realize that we have lost a valuable worker, a capable leader and a sincere man.

We do therefore spread upon the records of the Recreation Commission meeting of March 18, 1957 a copy of this letter that it may serve as a guide in all of our efforts in the interest of the youth of our city and of our nation.

Very truly yours,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

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MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,  
APRIL 15, 1957

Members present: Maj. William McCarthy, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
R. Vactor Stout  
C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

1. Minutes of the March Meeting were approved as recorded.

2. Budget Review

Budget Appropriations approved by the Board of Aldermen were submitted.

It was noted that several items were reduced to minimum totals.

Part-time Directors	\$66,000 allowed
Replacement of Equipment	7,000 allowed
Fencing and backstops	3,450.00 "
New Construction	2,500.00 "

3. Spring Season Supervision

Schedule of Supervision on 12 playgrounds was submitted. There are 16 Recreation Leaders assigned. Supervision on Mon - Wed - Friday from 2:30 - 5:00 P.M.; Tuesday and Thursday from 2:00 - 5:00 P.M. and Saturday A.M. from 9 A.M. - 12:00 noon.

4. Little League

There are 5 Little Leagues operating in Newton. Four of these Leagues have their play fields on City Playgrounds or School Grounds.

Each Little League has a Minor League System or Farm System which involves constant use of Playgrounds and Baseball Fields.

Request has been submitted to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to allow for the construction of dugouts at the Newton North Field at Albemarle Playground. The Newton North Little League then wants to present the dugouts to the City of Newton.

5. Newton School Dept. - Health and Physical Education requests markings for 3 Elementary School teams from each of 5 schools.

6. Newton City Leagues.

Organizational Meetings are to be held starting on April 17. The managers will be requested to consider the following.

1. Baseball Leagues to start on June 1.
2. Team Registration and Rosters to be submitted before League Play
3. Reduction in schedule of Championship Play-off games
4. Take steps to secure complete uniforms

7. Stagemobile - Community Recreation Service. - have made available their dramatics program at a fixed fee of \$75.00/day.

Recreation Department is authorized to arrange schedule and to charge such fee as may be necessary to defray costs of contract.

Locations of Stagemobile Show left to discretion of Department.

8. Grounds Construction.

- a. Emerson School to be in use by May 1.
- b. Spaulding School to be in use by May 10.
- c. Albemarle Field House to be dedicated on May 4.

9. Neighborhood Center Dance Program.

West Newton Community Center requests that we relinquish our program at Franklin School as it interferes with their program.

Problem was discussed as to age levels, attendance, groups concerned and effectiveness of programs.

Mr. Johnson was instructed to inform the West Newton Community center that our program is essential to the Franklin School area and that we cannot subscribe to the suggestion that we are interfering with the program of the West Newton Community Center.

10. Request of Brimmer and May Day Camp for permission to hold swimming classes at Crystal Lake was denied. It was pointed out that any camper resident in Newton could make use of our facilities under the same conditions as any other Newton resident.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD  
ON MONDAY, MAY 20, 1957

Members present: Maj. William J. McCarthy  
Mrs. Worthing West  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson

Minutes of the April Meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Report on Leagues.

A. The problem of League organization and membership was discussed at two meetings with the Director of the Leagues and the Board of Managers.

The problems for discussion were

1. Dates of opening League Play.
2. Dates for submitting rosters and last dates for enrolling new team members.

The League Boards voted to begin play on the second Monday in May with the roster dates set at the time of the opening game and the last date for enrolling new members as July 1.

B. The Softball Leagues were organized under rules of previous years and have started out with excellent results.

C. Raytheon Mfg. Co. have organized a 12 team Softball League and are playing their complete schedule at the Albemarle Playground.

2. Summer Staff Personnel.

60 Workers have been assigned for the summer season. 33 invitations have been mailed out to new workers. There are 9 vacancies at present. We are in need of mature men who can take charge of playgrounds and who can direct the work of other leaders.

3. Special Projects - Budget and Capital Expenditure Items.

Approved Items of Construction and Amounts

a. Montclair Playground \$14,000.00

To finish grade, loam and seed.

b. Boyd Park.

To remove tennis court backstop and  
construct multiple use blacktop play area \$ 4,000.00

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| c. Stearns School  | \$12,000.00 |
| To regrade, loam and seed entire playground and to provide a multiple use blacktop basketball court. |             |
| d. Crystal Lake  | \$ 3,000.00 |
| To construct retaining wall along railroad right of way and to cut and regrade the bank.             |             |
| e. Crystal Lake Park Area  | \$ 6,000.00 |
| To rebuild the retaining wall from foot of Berwick Road to the Park area and to regrade as needed.   |             |
| f. Newton Highlands Playground   | \$ 5,000.00 |
| To install main drain and lateral drains at Dedham Street end.                                       |             |
| g. Meadowbrook Junior High Field   | Disapproved |
| h. Countryside School Playground   | Disapproved |

#### 4. Development at Albemarle

New Playground Field House was dedicated on May 4 at the opening of the Little League Season.

In order to meet the need for Softball Fields for the Raytheon Softball League, the maintenance division have recovered the entire lower end of the playground by cutting and rolling the entire area. Four Softball Fields have been laid out. This area has never been finish graded and seeded.

#### 5. Tennis Court.

Reports of misuse and abuse of privilege have indicated necessity for extended supervision on Saturdays and Sundays at Newton Centre, Burr Playground and Newton High School.

It was voted to fix the tennis permit fee at 50¢ for the season beginning on June 1, 1957.

It was voted that supervision shall be given at Newton Centre, Burr Playground and Newton High School Courts on Saturdays from 1 - 6 P.M. and on Sundays from 9 A.M. - 12 noon and from 1 - 6 P.M. from June 1 to September 15.

6. Playground U.S.A. will depict Newton Playground activities on Thursday, May 23. TV shots will be shown that evening.

7. Community Recreation Service of Boston will present their Stagemobile Show on July 23, 1957. - optional date - August 8.

8. Camp Fire Girls have accepted Rules and Regulations governing the use of part of Auburndale Playground for a Summer Day Camp Program during the month of July. (Attached at end of these minutes.)

9. Voted to grant request of Newton Boys' Club for permission to operate a Day Camp at Allison Park during Summer of 1957. No permit to be drawn until dates and schedule are submitted to the Recreation Commissioner.

10. Mr. Joseph Selden and Mr. C. Evan Johnson have been designated representatives to the Newton Community Council.

11. Part-Time Directors Budget Account is not in good condition. Due to greater skating and winter sports program and increased indoor center program, we will have to consider a request to the Board of Aldermen for additional funds.

12. A letter of protest concerning the misuse of Cold Spring Playground addressed to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. was read. - The letter indicates lack of police protection and misuse of privilege by our citizens.

All drive entrances save Dunklee Street are to be closed and some barrier will be erected at the aqueduct which will prevent entrance into the grounds after dusk.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

20



ADDENDA --- December 17, 1956

The following Capital Improvements Projects referred to in letters made part of the minutes of this meeting were approved or disapproved by Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. in conference with Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works, Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer, Mr. Harold B. Gores, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner and Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner.

Letter to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr., dated December 13, 1956

ITEM	ESTIMATE	MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION
1. Workshop & Storage Bldg.	\$100,000.00	Disapproved
2. Auburndale Plgd. Bldg.	35,000.00	Approved
3. Moffatt Road - Field House		Disapproved

Letter to Mr. Willard S. Pratt - Dated December 13, 1956

1. Warren Junior High School	\$2800.00	\$800.00 - Approved
2. Weeks Junior High School	6000.00	Disapproved
3. Newton High School	7000.00	Disapproved
4. Auburndale Lighting	2000.00	Approved
5. Crystal Lake - Park Area	4000.00	Disapproved
6. Crystal Lake - Wall & Walkway	6000.00	Approved

Letter to Mr. Frank K. Perkins - dated December 13, 1956

1. Montclair Realty Trust Land	\$20,800.00	\$14,000 - Approved
2. Newton Highlands Playground	30,000.00	5,000 - Approved
3. Albemarle Playground	15,000.00	Disapproved
4. Richardson Playground	1,000.00	Disapproved
5. Lyons Playground	27,000.00	Disapproved
6. Angier Playground	12,500.00	Disapproved
7. Angier Playground - Tennis	12,000.00	Disapproved
8. Boyd Park	10,200.00	Disapproved
9. Victory Field	2,000.00	\$4,000.00-Approved
10. Stearns School	12,000.00	Disapproved
11. Crystal Lake - Wall & Beach	3,000.00	Approved
12. Newton Upper Falls-Tennis	5,000.00	Approved
13. Newton Centre Basketball	4,000.00	Disapproved
14. Carr School	1,400.00	Approved
		Disapproved

Letter to Mr. Arthur Campbell - dated December 12, 1956

1. Meadowbrook Junior High Field	\$150,000.00	Disapproved
2. Countryside School	30,000.00	Disapproved
3. Beethoven School		Disapproved
4. Bowen School-Kindergarten	9,375.00	Disapproved

MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 18, 1957

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

1. Minutes of the December Meeting were approved.

Notice is taken of addenda to December minutes recording action taken by Mayor's Conference Committee consisting of Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Commissioner of Public Works, Mr. Arthur Campbell, Public Buildings Commissioner, Mr. Harold B. Gores, Supt. of Schools, Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer, Mr. Frank Perkins, Street Commissioner and Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner on Special Projects for 1957 of Budget and Capital Expenditures Program.

2. Reference was made to the Annual Board Members Dinner of the Mass. Recreation Association held at the Maridor Restaurant in Framingham Centre held on January 15th, 1957. Judge Frankland W. L. Miles was the speaker of the evening. His topic "Recreation, a Community Necessity in a Changing World".

3. Report of Winter Program Activities.

Neighborhood Centers		15	
Activities	Dancing	10	Classes or Groups
	Girls' Crafts	11	
	Boys' Crafts	8	
	Furniture Refinishing	1	
	Boys Games	14	
	Metal Craft	3	
	Mothers' Craft	2	
	Girls Games	7	
	Basketball	15	
	Townline Pottery	2	
	Teen Age Dance Party	2	
Total No. of Sessions		385	
Attendance		10,208	
No. of Workers Employed		25	

The Emergency School Schedule which created the one session program on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from Jan. 16 to the February vacation created difficult problems of programming and scheduling. Many of our instructors and leaders could not rearrange schedules to be at the Centers at a 2:30 O'clock starting time. New Schedules and programs had to be arranged on short notice.

Basketball.

Four City Leagues are in operation consisting of 30 teams. American and National League teams play at night at Bigelow Junior High and the Childs Recreation Center.

80-B

13. Special Permits

Fire Permits (for Cook-outs) must be obtained from Fire Dept. Headquarters.  
Tennis Permits may be secured at Recreation Office, City Hall.  
Swimming Permits - (for Crystal Lake) may be secured at Crystal Lake.

14. Dress

Counsellor Staff will be expected to wear Skirts and Blouses (or equivalent). Shorts and halters may not be worn by staff members.

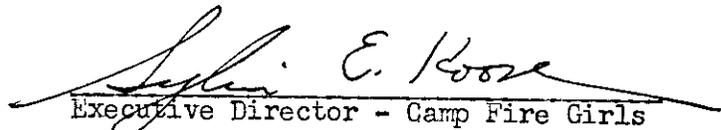
15. Identification Marker

The Camp Fire Girls may set up one Identification Marker (Flag or Sign) at the camp site.

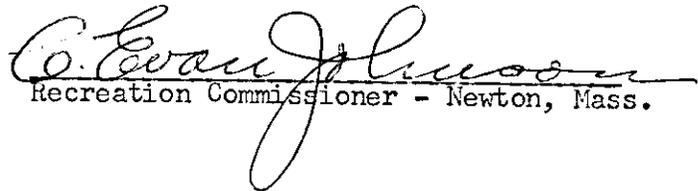
The above regulations cover the general and specific conditions for the use of part of Auburndale Playground by the Newton Camp Fire Girls. Other conditions of use requiring attention are to be agreed upon between the Recreation Commissioner and the Director of the Camp.

The Recreation Commissioner reserves the right at any time to terminate the Newton Camp Fire Girls' Day Camp Permit for failure to comply with any of the foregoing regulations or for failure to operate the Day Camp in a manner acceptable to the Recreation Commission.

Date May 16, 1957

  
Executive Director - Camp Fire Girls  
Greater Boston Council

Date May 15, 1957

  
Recreation Commissioner - Newton, Mass.



## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON JUNE 24, 1957

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the May meeting were approved as recorded.

### 1. STAFF

#### A - Appointment of Recreation Supervisor General

Recommend that Provisional Appointment for six month period be made beginning July 1, 1957. This appointment is authorized and approved by Civil Service pending the holding of open competitive examination under direction of Civil Service.

Recommended that James E. Murphy be appointed to this position and be placed at salary level of Group 13, Step 2 of the Classification plan as amended by pay adjustment plan approved beginning April 1, 1957. The pay rate is \$4850.00 per year.

Mr. Murphy is a former member of the Recreation Commission and has been employed in the administrative department for the past two years. He is a High School graduate and has had two semesters of College Work. He was a leader in promoting and organizing the Newton Little Leagues. He has a strong interest in Recreation and Sports and has shown ability in promoting recreation programs and activities. Commission voted to approve appointment as recommended.

#### B - Summer Staff Lists were presented and approved.

There are 29 new workers listed with five vacancies listed at present.

There are also listed 16 Lifeguards and 9 Bathhouse Attendants - an increase over previous years.

### 2. LEADERSHIP ACCOUNT

Explanation was made of the increased costs for leadership over the first half year. Recommended and approved to request \$3500 additional for part-time directors account to cover the costs for the year.

3. Commercial Casualty Insurance Co. has proposed a program of accident insurance for children during the playground season at the rate of \$1.00 per person.

Commission voted to inform agent that Newton does not plan insurance program this year.

#### 4. REPORT ON SWIMMING

Record attendance from June 15 to June 22, a period of eight days totalled 20,085.

Approximate ticket sales - 1600 in schools the first week in June. 5800 sold at Crystal Lake during the first week.

Recommended that Commission give consideration to the need for increasing the costs of permits. We should be able to pay our way at Crystal Lake.

Discussion of needs for increased swimming facilities. Several possible sites were considered. It was agreed that the Commission should not at this time name a specific location.

It was voted that a communication be forwarded to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. requesting that plans be formulated for the construction of additional swimming facilities to be ready for the season of 1958.

5. WRIGHT CUP TENNIS TRYOUTS COMMITTEE, request for use of Newton Centre Tennis Court on July 3rd, 9 A.M. - 4 P.M. was granted.

6. UNITED CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATION of Newton and Wellesley request for use of a portion of Newton Centre for a Day Camp Program for this summer season was approved.

7. NEWTON BOYS' CLUB request for the use of Allison Park for a Day Camp during the month of July was approved under the same rules and regulations which obtained during the 1956 season.

8. Mrs. West requested that steps be taken to eliminate

A. Beer Drinking by players and spectators at ball games.

B. Driving of Cars on Playgrounds

9. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

10. Next meeting will be held on Sept. 23 instead of regular scheduled date of Sept. 16.

Respectfully submitted,

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, SEPT. 23, 1957.

Members present: Maj. William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
 Mrs. Worthing L. West  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. R. Victor Stout  
 Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

The minutes of the June 24, 1957 meeting were approved as recorded.

## 1. Review of the Summer Program

A. Swimming - Total Attendance	74810
June 15 thru June 22	20085
June 15 to August 2	65470
August 7 to September 2	9340
Daily Average-June 15 - Aug. 2	1336
Daily Average Aug. 7 to Sept. 2	346

Crystal Lake was our only supervised swimming area. We opened with a staff of 9 full-time lifeguards, 6 part-time life guards, 1 leader responsible for First Aid and 8 Bathhouse Attendants.

The early season attendance indicated that we would have a record-breaking attendance for the year with 20,085 in the first eight days.

The Health Department ordered the beach area closed on August 2d, due to poor water test results with a too high probable bacteria count. The beach was reopened on August 7 with the full approval of the Health Department. From this date to the end of the season, the water tests were most satisfactory and there was no suggestion of pollution at any time. However, attendance did not pick up and we had limited attendance from August 7 to the end of the season.

## B. Summer Playgrounds

The summer season opened on July 1 with a staff of 92 leaders operating on 31 playgrounds. 18 of these playgrounds were open morning, afternoon and evening. 13 of the playgrounds were open morning and afternoon only, Monday thru Friday.

The general program consisted of regular inter-playground competitions between all playgrounds.

Baseball leagues were divided on the basis of age levels and districts. There were three district leagues for midgets - age 8-12 and three district leagues for Juniors age 13-14. The Championship teams in each district played a round robin single elimination tournament to decide the City Champions. - The Champions were honored at their Field

Days with championship Certificates. The Junior Champions were the Newton Highlands team. The Midget Champions were the Franklin School team.

Each team entered in the Championship play-offs selected one player as the most representative and most valuable. These players were honored guests with their fathers at the City Leagues Banquet and each boy received an Autographed Red Sox baseball.

#### Girls' Softball Tournament

There was a two day competition at Newton High School Field. All playgrounds were invited to participate. There were 11 teams entered in the Tournament. Victory Field was the winner. Championship Certificates were awarded to the winners.

#### Playground Tennis Tournament

There were junior and senior groups for both boys and girls. There were over 80 entries. The tournament was under the direction of Miss Joan Lafford. Competition was excellent. Trophies were awarded to winners and runner-ups.

Girls' Crafts. - Under the direction of Miss Forbush and Miss Donnelly. There were many new projects introduced this year. At the beginning of the year there was a one day training institute. This program was carried out at practically no cost to the City.

Boys' Craft - was under the direction of Mr. Hamilton. There were more completed projects this year with a good return on purchase of supplies. This program affords excellent opportunity for boys to learn the basic principles of the use of hand tools.

Craft Strip program was under the direction of Miss Swartz. There was an excellent carry over interest from last season. This program was carried on at no cost to the City with a carry-over inventory available for next season.

#### General Program

There were many options and interests.

Evening group games were very popular.

Cook-outs, local picnics and record hops were regular activities.

Red Sox drew over 900 children.

Children's theatre gave two performances at the High School Field. Excellent attendance and interest.

Leadership - the leader group was very effective and proved to be one of our finest groups. Their program planning was excellent. Many of our new younger leaders had a very excellent enthusiasm.

## 2. Outline of Fall Program.

Boyd Park	Mr. Scully	5 afternoons
	Mrs. Toher	3 afternoons
Carr School	Mrs. Wolcott	5 afternoons
Stearns School	Mr. Peros	5 afternoons
Auburndale	Mr. Butterworth	5 afternoons-plus Sat & Sun.
Cabot	Mr. Harrington	5 afternoons-plus Sat A.M.
Franklin	Mr. Fitzpatrick	5 afternoons
Wellington	Mr. Reilly	5 afternoons-plus Sat A.M.
Hawthorn	Mr. Hamilton	5 afternoons & even.-Sat&Sun.
Burr	Mr. Baker	5 afternoons
	Miss Andersson	5 afternoons-Sat & Sun
	Mr. Threadgold	5 evenings
Newton Centre	Mr. Kincare	5 afternoons
	Mr. Craig	Saturday & Sunday
Upper Falls	Mr. Kempainen	5 afternoons

This program calls for heavier evening supervision and some Saturdays and Sundays. This is an experiment to try to combat the tendencies toward vandalism.

3. Fees and Charges - The following schedule was recommended and approved beginning with the fall program (1957) and subject to the approval of the Mayor.

ACTIVITY	FEE
(1) Furniture Refinishing (Adults)	\$8.00 semester
(2) Metalcraft (Adults)	6.00 semester
(3) Townline Pottery (Adults)	12.00 semester
(4) Dancing (Beginners)	Old Classes - \$2.00 plus 50¢ party
5th & 6th grades	New Classes - \$5.00 plus 50¢ party for 30 4.00 plus 50¢ party for 40
(5) Skating	.50 permit-Season
(6) Tobogganing	.50 rental 1 hour .50 use own toboggan
(7) Tennis	.50 permit-Season thru High School 1.00 permit-season-adults.
(8) Swimming	.50 Season permit thru High School 1.00 Season permit for Adults .10 Admission fee if no permit before July 1st. No admission after July 1st without permit.
(9) Picnics (Auburndale)	.50 Rental Fireplace & Site .25 Wood supply

Note: Mayor Whitmore has approved this schedule September 26, 1957

4. Voted to grant petitioner leave to withdraw that the Recreation Commission release land on Christina Street for sale.

5. Voted to grant petitioner leave to withdraw in regard to installation of lighting at Allison Park either by the City or Petitioner.

The Commissioner was instructed to inform the petitioner that in view of the fact that the City is working on a Capital Improvement Plan that it would be wiser to wait for report on that plan.

6. Summary of Long Range Program submitted by the Recreation Commissioner to the Mayor's Capital Improvement Program Director was presented and made part of this record.

It was voted to await the report of Mr. Down in regard to this program with the recommendation that the report shall be the result of conference between this department and the Mayor's Director.

7. Voted to approve request for additional appropriation in the following budget accounts, as follows:

a. Part-Time Directors	\$800.00
b. Maintenance	1000.00
c. School Department Transfer	600.00
d. New Equipment	250.00
	<hr/>
	\$2650.00

8. Voted to approve recommendation that:

a. Work be done to improve baseball field and archery range at Newton Centre.

b. Request be made for completion of development of Albemarle grading and seeding to Watertown Street end that this section be made usable for an Archery Range.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY EVENING  
OCTOBER 21, 1957

Members present: Maj. William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Mr. Stout had called in to be excused as he had to attend a special meeting as speaker.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Report on Halloween Planning.

All units are organized. All Committees have been formed. Complete schedule of parties with Sponsor's tags will be mailed during the week. Receipts from sale of tickets and from contributions and donations through the Chamber of Commerce are approximately the same as last year.

2. Indoor Centers.

Complete schedule as to location, activity and leadership for the neighborhood center program was available. Group activity will begin the week of November 4. Furniture Refinishing, Townline Pottery, and Metal Craft Classes have already started.

Newton Highlands A.A. group will meet on Wednesday evening to plan and organize their winter program.

Dancing Classes have been organized. Of the four new groups requesting classes, only one has secured registration. The other three have failed to organize. One replacement group has been organized at the Angier School.

Pay Schedules and Fees submitted to the Mayor have been approved and are effective with this season.

There are listed 81 Activity Groups not including private groups for basketball and games.

3. Construction Projects.

a. Request for \$1000.00 maintenance funds for Bullough's Pond Warming House and Newton Centre Track was cut back to \$600.00. Bullough's Pond Building has been repaired and painted. The work at Newton Centre has been partially completed.

b. Work has been started by Street Dept. on the wall adjacent to the railroad tracks at the Crystal Lake Beach.

Atoll in the Cove has been dug out and the fill removed to Newton Centre to raise the level of the area between Hammond Brook and the Aqueduct.

c. Stearns School Playground - Regraded and ready for seeding. Blacktop area has been constructed and seal coated.

d. Boyd Park - Tennis courts are being leveled. Blacktop court will be constructed.

e. Levi-Warren - Blacktop surfacing will be constructed immediately off entrance driveway. Basketball Backboards will be installed.

f. Moffatt Road Playground has been graded and will be seeded before frost.

g. Newton Centre - With proposed construction of Mason Rice School, it is recommended that Archery Range sod be stripped and used for the outfield of the Newton Centre Baseball Diamond and for resodding Baseball Infields at West Newton Common, Newton Upper Falls and Cabot Park in whatever order is deemed advisable.

Newton Archers will have to make use of some other field.

#### 4. Long Range Planning.

Fall Meeting of the Newton Community Council was held at the Claflin School on Thursday evening, October 17, 1957. Mr. Charles Downs, who is consultant for the City of Newton, on the problem of City Planning was the featured speaker. His discussion was general in character and indicated underlying and contributing factors for the need of Planning.

He indicated 5 Community Characteristics.

- a. Vigor
- b. Understanding
- c. Metropolitan Mindedness
- d. Frugality
- e. Vigilance

These must be studied and understood if we are to develop a plan of growth.

He indicated 9 reasons for Newton's need of planning.

- a. Available Land is lessening
- b. Intermixture of Land Uses
- c. Housing in blithed stage
- d. Automobile
- e. Plateau in development
- f. Gradual Maturity of growth
- g. Demands for more services
- h. Obsolescence and Age
- i. Change

At a meeting of the Agency Executives Group of the Community Council on Friday, Mr. Down discussed various stages of planning.

There has been no concrete plan developed as yet for the Recreation Department Long Range Projects.

5. Mr. James Lynch, Director of Recreation in Brookline requested our consideration of joint promotion for an M.D.C. Skating Rink on M.D.C. Land near the Hammond Pond Area. Will we join with Brookline in this promotion.

Voted that the Commissioner should confer with Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. on this matter, that we should indicate definite Newton interest and request the Mayor's serious consideration of and approval of the plan to work together with Brookline on this project.

6. UNICEF has again promoted trick or treat contributions through our schools for Halloween Night. Each school has been assigned one UNICEF collector at each of the Halloween Parties. The funds so collected are to be used for the work of UNICEF overseas and in foreign lands.

7. Budget Considerations - Special Budget needs for 1958 will be considered along with Capital Improvements Plan at our regular budget meetings.

8. Conference Report - Report material and data on Long Beach, California Recreation was available for study. A general report was made on the Conference. Particular stress was placed on

- a. Development Programs in the West
- b. Institute on Recreation Administration.

9. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 1957

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy, Chairman  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Mr. T. Frank Copp was unable to be present because of an infected foot.

Minutes of the meeting held on October 21 were approved as recorded.

#1 - Proposal of Joint Meeting with Brookline Recreation Commission to discuss problems of Mutual interest and affected by M.D.C. development plans was discussed.

Mr. Johnson was instructed to arrange to meet with Mr. James J. Lynch, Director of Recreation for the Town of Brookline to determine the areas of mutual interest and to report back to this commission.

Further meetings are a possibility depending on the report of the Commissioner on the meeting with Mr. Lynch.

2 - Halloween Report.

The Neighborhood Center Budget Account has a balance of about \$7.00. All bills charged to the City of Newton have been paid.

The Newton Halloween Committee Account will have spent approximately \$3700.00. There will be a balance for the 1958 parties for organization and Chairman's Funds of approximately \$3000.00.

Final statement will be made at the end of 1957.

3 - Winter Schedules

a. The Winter Schedule for Neighborhood Centers is complete. Copies of Schedules will be forwarded to each member of the Commission.

b. Skating Permit Buttons will be used for the 1958 season. It is planned to arrange for checking of shoes at Auburndale if we can secure the installation of lighting in the second wing of the building.

c. Multiple Use play areas have all been seal coated and will be flooded when weather is cold enough. There should be skating at 12 flooded areas if conditions are right.

d. Newton City Basketball Leagues will begin on January 6 at the Bigelow Junior High School.

e. Of the 4 schools who requested the introduction of Beginners Ball Room Dancing, only the Cabot School followed through with an organized group. Cabot School has 2 dance classes because of high registration.

Franklin School has an additional class and the Hyde School has started a new class. Countryside, Oak Hill and Angier Schools did not organize dance groups because of lack of interest.

#### 4 - Golf Instruction.

Mr. James Harrigan of Waltham requested that this department inaugurate a Golf Clinic, Newton to be the sponsor. Fee to be \$5.00 for a 6 week course. Each class to last 1 hour.

Commission voted to withhold action until such time as we were certain that there was a real need for this program. Suggested that Mr. Johnson visit some Golf Clinics and watch them in operation and report to the Commission at a later date.

#### 5 - Newtonville Fire Station.

At the request of Mayor Whitmore, Mr. Johnson is to investigate the possible use of the Newtonville Fire Station on Washington St. as a Recreation Workshop.

NOTE: Inspection has been made and the Recreation Department does not want this building. It is obsolete, inadequate and will cost a minimum of \$20,000 to put it into proper condition for use.

#### 6 - Presentation of Preliminary Budget for 1958

##### SUMMARY

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>1957 TOTAL</u>	<u>1958 TOTAL</u>
Recreation Commissioner	7801.90	7900.00
Supervisors	19732.81	20923.56
Full Time Directors	11993.07	12300.00
Part Time Directors	66800.00	78232.00
Clerical Assistance	6917.36	7120.22
Recreation Foreman	4914.18	5100.00
Temporary Clerk	689.48	689.48
Office Expense	1100.00	1550.00
Equipment Maintenance	4700.00	4875.00
Automobile Allowance	1800.00	2250.00
Maintenance	90594.93	95090.00
Replacement of Equipment	7000.00	8324.00
Care & Alterations School Grounds	15728.95	18000.00
Travel Expense	500.00	400.00
School Department Transfer	5100.00	5100.00
New Equipment	7650.00	10535.00
Neighborhood Centre Expense	2000.00	2500.00
Fencing & Backstop	3450.00	13740.00
Construction-Hawthorn Backstop	---	---
New Construction	2500.00	4150.00
Multiple Use Courts-Maintenance	2000.00	11500.00
Pensions	11882.98	13877.95
Playground and Playfield Construction	---	10000.00
	<u>273955.66</u>	<u>334057.21</u>

NOTE: This budget reflects no pay increases beyond the pay schedule as approved in 1957.

There is a request for 2 additional maintenance personnel.

Analysis and Evaluation of the proposed budget was made and the Commission voted to approve this budget as the Preliminary Budget for 1958 and voted that it be submitted to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

7 - Smith House - Newton Centre.

Mrs. West presented the facts concerning the proposal to re-zone the property at the corner of Centre St. and Tyler Terrace. Rezoning this area to business will provide only one additional business unit. It will encroach on M.D.C. property. It will eliminate an historic site. It will cause additional traffic hazards to playground groups.

Mrs. West suggested that we give serious consideration to this problem both as individuals and as members of the Recreation Commission and that we voice our opinions based on our analysis.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY  
DECEMBER 16, 1957

Members present: Major William J. McCarthy  
Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Minutes of the November Meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Budget - 1958

Due to the plan to develop a new Budget System final revisions and totals of the proposed 1958 Budget cannot be submitted at this time.

The following comments and recommendations are made of record.

- a. Recommend re-evaluation of wages and salaries. Hold our budget requests open for change and so voted.
- b. School Department Transfer - recommended that we hold this item open pending the establishment of new pay rates for custodians.
- c. Neighborhood Centre Expense - Request shall be held at \$2500.00. Over half of the total cost of the Halloween Parties was paid from the Halloween Committee Account. Receipts from contributions were not as high as in 1956.
- d. Fencing and Backstops - Added the following:
  - (1) Richardson Playground - 600 ft. of fencing at \$4/foot - \$2400.00.
  - (2) Auburndale - Forest Grove & Private Property - 800 ft. of fencing at \$4/foot - 3200.
- e. Multiple Use Courts Maintenance - Item #4. High School Hard-top Courts to rebuild and seal-coat shall be deleted because this should be part of Capital Improvements Outlay.

2. Progress Report on Long Range Planning.

General Meeting of Board of Aldermen and Department Heads was called by Mayor Whitmore at which time Mr. Down made a preliminary report on a Newton Long Range Plan.

The Proposed Capital Improvements Plan for Recreation sets forth the following totals:

1958	\$227,500.00	
1959	217,500.00	
1960	232,500.00	
1961	135,000.00	
1962	100,000.00	
1963	97,500.00	
Later	3,787,500.00	to be studied with School Dept. Projects and Community Wide needs.

### 3. Newtonville Fire Station

Complete inspection and survey of the Old Newtonville Fire Station as a possible Recreation Storage and Workshop has been made.

Repairs and necessary changes will require an expenditure of some \$20,000.00, and the building will then be too small.

Recommended and approved that we reject this site as a possible Recreation shop and so inform Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

### 4 - Review of 1958 Budget.

The Recreation Department should turn back to the Treasurer about \$6000.00 in unexpended funds.

### 5 - Newton Centre Playground Project.

The total cost to this Department amounts to \$6425.61. There will be additional expenditures in 1958 for seeding the old Garden site of about \$300.00.

6 - Meeting with Brookline Recreation Department Representatives, Mr. Lynch, Director of Recreation and Mr. Sewell, Chairman of the Commission was held to discuss possible M.D.C. expansion for Swimming and Skating in the Newton-Brookline Area.

Question has been left open and there is suggestion that joint cooperation between two communities will lead to favorable action by the M.D.C.

7 - Copy of letter to Mr. Willard S. Pratt and Proposals for Capital Expenditures Projects in 1958 are made a part of this record.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

COPY

December 23, 1957

Mr. Willard S. Pratt  
Director of Public Works  
City Hall  
Newton Centre, Mass.

Dear Mr. Pratt:

The attached list of Capital Expenditures Projects for the Recreation Department in the year 1958 is submitted for your attention.

In each case you will note that any project requested for 1957 has the estimate of cost indicated on the first line.

In such cases, when a portion of a project has been completed, the estimate of cost will be less than indicated for 1957.

No new projects are submitted for 1958, but there are some additions to listed projects of 1957.

Very truly yours,

Recreation Commissioner

CEJ:KH  
Enc.

## CAPITAL EXPENDITURES PROJECTS - 1958

ORFHW

<u>ITEM</u>		<u>ESTIMATE</u>
1. Newton Highlands Playground		
Install lateral drains	5,000.00	\$30,000.00
<u>New Work</u>		
Establish proper grades and fill	\$25,000.00	
Construct 3 hard-top tennis courts-corner of Dedham Street & Upland Ave. - Install drain and seal coat surface. Enclose with standard chain link tennis court backstop. Remove old tennis courts-Establish proper grades and fill.		
Loam entire additional area and seed.		
2. Albemarle Playground		15,000.00
Grade and seed remainder of play area to the Watertown Street end.		
3. Richardson Playground		1,000.00
Construct bituminous concrete sidewalk from Allen Avenue to Beethoven Avenue adjacent to abuttor's property line.		
4. Lyons Playground		27,000.00
Install drains from Forest Grove Road to causeway. Establish grades- fill, loam and seed. (We should keep all the trees that we can).		
5. Angier Playground		24,500.00
Establish proper grades from rear of tennis courts to railroad property line. Set drains if necessary. Loam and seed entire area. Install fence (about 400 ft) along Dorset Road abuttor's property. Convert clay courts to hard-top with proper drains and seal coat for use as winter skating area.		
6. Boyd Park		5,000.00
Regrade, loam and seed play area from driveway at school to the new multiple use hard-top courts area.		
7. Victory Field		2,000.00
Remove tennis courts - Grade, loam and seed.		
8. Upper Falls		5,000.00
Re-construct tennis courts to black-top.		
9. Newton Centre		4,000.00
Construct black-top basketball court and multiple use area at present dirt court.		

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 10. Carr School                                  | \$1,400.00 |
| Black-top to f ountain                           |            |
| Black-top right of way to California Street.     |            |
| Seal Coat present area in back of school.        |            |
| 11. Crystal Lake                                 | 4,000.00   |
| Rebuild retaining wall, build sidewalk,          |            |
| re-grade and seed to foot of park area.          |            |
| 12. Weeks Junior High                            | 6,000.00   |
| Black-top basketball court area adjacent         |            |
| to tennis courts. Build complete fence en-       |            |
| closure.   |            |
| 13. Newton High School                           | 7,000.00   |
| Regrade and rebuild the black-top tennis         |            |
| courts and skating area adjacent to Hull Street. |            |
| 14. Meadowbrook                                  | 150,000.00 |
| Grade, loam and seed additional ten acres.       |            |
| 15. Montclair Playground                         | 19,000.00  |
| Construct baseball diamond                       |            |
| Install backstop                                 |            |
| Fence entire area                                |            |
| Install water line and drinking fountain         |            |

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1958

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. R. Victor Stout  
 Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
 Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

1. The minutes of the December meeting were approved as recorded.
2. Election of Chairman.  
 On motion, duly made and seconded, Mrs. Worthing L. West was elected Chairman of the Recreation Commission effective January 21, 1958.
3. It was voted that a resolution be drawn up recognizing the services of Major William J. McCarthy as member and chairman of the Commission, that the resolution be spread upon the records of this Commission and that a copy be sent to Mrs. McCarthy. Mrs. West agreed to prepare the Resolution for adoption.
4. A letter from Massachusetts Recreation Association expressing regret at the death of Major McCarthy was read. Voted to make this letter a part of the records of this meeting and that a copy be sent to Mrs. McCarthy.
5. It was Voted to table a request of Memorial School P.T.A. for flood-light at tennis courts at Memorial School.
6. Action on appointment of a Newton Representative to the Governor's Citizens Participation Committee deferred until further information was available as to meeting time, duties and functions of the Committee. Mr. Johnson was instructed to secure necessary information.
7. The application of Mrs. Muriel Margolis for a position as Dramatic Story Teller in our Program was held to be more in keeping with our summer program. Mr. Johnson was instructed to explore this possibility with Mrs. Margolis.
8. Activities Report.  
 Dancing - 13 classes  
 Beginning January 1958, all classes will pay \$2.00 membership fee, plus 50¢ party fee except those classes with registration of less than 20 where the membership fee will be \$3.00 and the party fee 50¢  
 Craft Classes - Classes - Attendance Good.  
 Games Program - Classes - Activities Varied.  
 Basketball - Three Leagues started the first week in January  
 Skating - Poor winter season for skating. We have had only 9½ days of skating to date. Flooded areas were active for 3 days before the storm and thaw. Attendance report will be submitted at the February meeting.

The Commission approved the withdrawal of the Skating Fee program for this winter due to the lack of good skating. It was voted that skating permits would be made available for the 1958-59 season on December 1, 1958.

Tobogganing - The Commission approved new rates for tobogganing as follows:

Afternoons - Monday through Friday	25¢/hour
Evenings	50¢/hour
Week ends - any time	50¢/hour

9. Recreation Programming.

a. Mr. Harold Clancy of the Boston Herald-Traveler has submitted to the Massachusetts Recreation Association a promotional program on Youth Fitness. 30 or more Greater Boston Communities have been invited to participate.

Mr. Johnson reports that Newton should definitely establish itself as a part of this program. Further information will be available at the next commission meeting.

It was also suggested that Mr. Stout and Mr. Johnson discuss a Youth Fitness Program for Newton with Mayor Whitmore.

b. Shoppers World in Framingham is offering facilities for Program Publicity to Neighboring Communities. Mr. Richard Ryan of Framingham and Mr. Louis Ghiloni are acting for Shopper's World.

Newton's interests are to be investigated and reported at the next meeting.

10. Budget Review.

The new Budget system will be submitted this year. We are working on the transition from our previous Item System to the New Coded System.

The Mayor has informed that he plans to recommend an increase in the minimum and maximum rates of \$150 for all salaried personnel, effective April 1, 1958. All persons entitled to step-rate increases during the year will receive them on the anniversary dates.

Labor Personnel will be recommended for 6¢/hour-increase effective April 1, 1958.

The Commission requested that Mr. Johnson excuse himself from the meeting at this time.

11. It was voted to send a letter of appreciation and congratulations to Mr. Guy S. Baker on his retirement.

12. Schedule of Commission Meetings.

It was Voted that the Commission meetings be scheduled for the week beginning with the third Monday.

It was indicated that Monday should be the preferred date but that other dates during that week might be selected in case of conflict of time schedules.

It was Voted that the February Meeting be scheduled for Monday, February 17th at 7:30 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

COPY

MASSACHUSETTS RECREATION ASSOCIATION

263 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston 16, Mass.

January 2, 1958

Superintendent C. Evan Johnson  
Newton Recreation Commission  
City Hall  
Newton, Mass.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

It is with sincere regret that we heard recently of the death of the Chairman of your Commission, Major William J. McCarthy.

Please convey our sympathy to the members of your Commission.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) William J. Ryan

President

Richard J. Ryan  
Chairman, Necrology Committee

mr

## NEWTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT

January 21, 1958

Mrs. William J. McCarthy  
61 Beaumont Ave.  
Newtonville 60, Mass.

Dear Mrs. McCarthy:

The Newton Recreation Commission expresses its sincere sympathy to you in the recent death of your husband, Major William J. McCarthy.

Major McCarthy was appointed to the Recreation Commission, June 25, 1945 and was elected Chairman of the Commission on May 9, 1950 in which position he served until his death.

Major McCarthy contributed much to our growth and understanding. His ability to analyze problems his attention to detail and his understanding and liberalism has made a tremendous impact on us as individuals and as a Commission.

We in the Recreation Commission realize that we have lost a valuable member, a sincere friend and an understanding gentleman.

We do therefore spread upon the records of this Commission, January 21, 1958, a copy of this letter that it may continually remind us of our responsibility to our youth and that it may serve to guide us in our deliberations as a Recreation Commission.

Very sincerely yours,

/S/ Jeannette C. West, Chairman  
/S/ T. Frank Copp  
/S/ Joseph Selden  
/S/ R. Victor Stout  
/S/ C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Recreation Commission



Receipts for 1957 from Fees and Charges were recorded as follows:

Swimming Permits	3110.05
Tennis Permits	257.40
Rent - (Newton Centre House)	140.00
Dancing Program	1939.00
Miscellaneous	19.25
Adult Craft Classes	<u>644.00</u>
Total	\$6109.70

These fees do not pay for total cost of programs but does show that people do pay for the activities and program of a specific nature.

### 3. Report on Golf School

The Golf School Program is in operation for a six week period from Monday, February 3 and Wednesday, February 5 to Monday, March 10 and Wednesday, March 12 under the direction of Mr. Robert Crowley of Pinebrook Country Club.

Two Classes are held on Mondays at Levi Warren Junior High School and three classes are held on Wednesdays at Meadowbrook Junior High School.

Registrations total about 70 which is a good representation for the first year.

Mrs. West requested that we investigate the prospect of a Morning Golf School.

### 4. Report on Skating.

January record showed  $9\frac{1}{2}$  days of skating. February showed 7 days of skating through Saturday, February 15.

During January 10 areas were flooded for skating in addition to the supervised program at Ware's Cove, Bullough's Pond and Crystal Lake.

February week of 9th to 15th, there were 12 areas flooded in addition to the Ponds.

### 5. Requests for Use of Facilities.

a. Lutheran Church of Newton for Family Picnic and cook-out on Sunday, June 8 was approved.

b. Camp Fire Girls request for Use of a Portion of Auburndale Playground for a Summer Day Camp during month of July, 1958 was approved subject to same condition as in 1957.

Mr. Johnson was instructed to notify the Camp Fire Girls Organization to that effect.

6. It was the consensus of the Commission that Newton should establish a program for Newton participation in the Boston Traveler Fitness Program.

The date tentatively selected for Newton, July 21, 1958.

It was also established that we do not promote the use of valuable or special prizes - but rather that we give awards of recognition.

7. The Commission approved the request for an appropriation in advance of the budget for the purchase of a new truck to replace Recreation Truck #2 which was damaged in an accident.

8. Mr. Johnson reported on the Basketball Leagues and the situation involving official baiting and unsportsmanlike conduct and the subsequent incident.

NOTE: This problem has been settled. The Official in question has been censured for resorting to strong arm tactics and the players involved have agreed to sign a statement guaranteeing sportsmanlike conduct and behavior which will be filed in this office.

9. Budget Review.

The new budget form was submitted for review and discussion. All activities and objects were discussed under each of the four budgets.

There was discussion of all budget requests and comparisons with the Mayor's recommendation.

On completion of the study, it was the consensus of the Commission that the Mayor has created a very tight budget for the Department and that under favorable Recreation conditions that we would have to request additional appropriations.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary Pro Tem.

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON SATURDAY EVENING

MARCH 1, 1958.

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Mr. R. Victor Stout was unable to be present due to a previous commitment.

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 P.M.

## 1 - BUDGET CHANGE

Mr. Johnson requested a change in our Budget Request under Budget 60 - 1 - 69 Automotive Equipment.

We had originally requested replacement of our two Ford Trucks purchased in 1948 and 1949. The 1949 Truck was damaged in an accident early in February so request was made for \$4750.00 to replace this truck before the budget was passed. The Board of Aldermen passed this appropriation and bids will be opened on March 6th.

The 1948 Truck is on the regular budget for change. After careful checking during this winter season and comparing with records of previous years, it is recommended that our budget request be changed from two trucks at \$8600.00 to 1 Truck and 2 Jeep Pick-up Trucks with no change in the requested amount.

Voted to approve this change.

## 2 - Crystal Lake.

There is some resentment against the rules adopted in 1929 which prohibit fishing thru the ice and skating and/or swimming in areas other than those supervised by the Recreation Department except such exceptions as are noted in the rules.

It is suggested that a survey and study be made of the present rules and conditions of use at Crystal Lake with the view to bringing rules and regulations up to date, to placing police control in the hands of the police and to make such revisions in control as may be deemed necessary but which will not affect the safety of persons using said Lake.

Consensus of Commission that a study and survey be made of the rules now in effect so that there may be no question of rights and privileges. (A copy of rules and regulations will be sent to each commissioner for study.)

## 3 - Sidney Hill Health Center.

Mr. Murray Sholkin has advised Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. that it may be possible for the City to enter into a lease agreement with Sidney Health Center for the use of their artificial ice skating rink which will be to the advantage of our City of Newton Skating Program.

The Commission voted to report to His Honor Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. that the city should not make any arrangement for the remainder of this winter season but requests permission to meet with Representatives of Sidney Hill Health Center to discuss the possibilities for the winter season of 1958-1959.

4 - Meeting adjourned at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Recreation Commissioner

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 31, 1958

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. R. Victor Stout  
 Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
 Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on February 17, 1958 and the Special Meeting held on March 1, 1958 were approved as recorded.

1 - Review of Budget as voted by Board of Aldermen.

Each of the four budgets were reviewed.

Under 60 - 0 - 13, Seasonal and Intermittent Employees, there was a cut of \$8472.00. The cut can be met in three ways

- 1 - employ fewer people.
- 2 - assign less time
- 3 - revise the rate structure and schedule.

Voted to inform His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, that we would have to request more funds if we are to maintain the rate structure as approved.

NOTE: The new rate structure plan has been put into effect on a step-rate plan so that the maximum rates will not be effective until 1960.

Budget 60 - 1, 60 - 2 and 60 - 3, reflect general reductions which will curtail services to be rendered on recreation areas for general improvement and maintenance.

Voted to make copy of final Budget Allowances a part of the minutes of this meeting.

2 - Summer Playground Season.

Voted to approve an eight weeks summer playground season from June 30 to August 22, 1958.

Voted to approve Crystal Lake Season for Swimming from Saturday, June 14, 1958 to Monday, September 1, 1958. June 13 - June 20, the Beach and Bathhouse will not be open in the forenoon because school is still in session.

3 - Golden Agers - Senior Citizens

Voted to grant leave-to-withdraw of request for Transportation Aid. Our budget for 1958 does not include Transportation Costs for program activities. Mr. Johnson was instructed to write the Senior Citizens Group to this effect.

4 - Newton Physical Fitness Day

Date has been set for July 21, 1958. Events of the Day will be basically track and field events in all classes. Afternoon Events will be demonstrations games and trials.

Evening Events will be demonstration and team competitions and Finals in Track and Field events.

5 - Stagemobile - Voted to invite Stagemobile to Newton again this summer. Two performances scheduled - morning and afternoon.

6 - Newton Playground Day at Fenway Park - Voted to request one date from Boston Red Sox for July or early August.

7 - Newton High School has requested that Hard top take off runways be constructed for Track Team and that trench be dug for cable for the pitching machine.

Note: 1 - Cable has been laid (This Department)  
2 - Request for Take-off runways referred to proper channels.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

Reminder - Mass. Recreation Association Board Members Dinner at Framingham Motel - April 8, 1958.

RECREATION BUDGET - 1958

DEPARTMENT - ACTIVITY

60-0 RECREATION - ADMINISTRATION & PROGRAM

Objects of Appropriation	
1. Personal Services - Other than Labor	\$119,381.99
3. Contractual Services	3,540.00
4. Supplies and Materials	8,275.00
5. Other Charges	14,556.95
6. New Equipment	2,335.00
9. Out of State Travel	300/00
	<hr/>
	\$148,388.94

DEPARTMENT - ACTIVITY

60-1 RECREATION - MAINTENANCE OF RECREATION  
AREAS EXCLUSIVE OF SCHOOLS

Objects of Appropriation	
2. Personal Services - Labor	\$75,542.78
3. Contractual Services	13,335.00
4. Supplies and Materials	9,650.00
5. Other Charges	50.00
6. New Equipment	2,550.00
7. Capital Outlays	1,940.00
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	\$103,067.78

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY

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60-2 RECREATION - SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS AND  
ATHLETIC FIELDS, CARE  
& ALTERATIONS OF

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Objects of Appropriation	
2. Personal Services - Labor	\$17,058.17
3. Contractual Services	2,400.00
4. Supplies and Materials	1,400.00
7. Capital Outlays	450.00
	<u>\$21,308.17</u>

DEPARTMENT - ACTIVITY

60-3 RECREATION - EXTENDED USE OF SCHOOLS

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Objects of Appropriation	
2. Personal Services - Labor	\$ 4,100.00
3. Contractual Services	900.00
	<u>\$ 5,000.00</u>

Respectfully submitted,

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 26, 1958

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. R. Victor Stout  
 Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
 Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the Meeting held on March 31, 1958 were approved as recorded.

Notice was taken of the Mass. Recreation Association Annual Board Members Dinner which was held at the Framingham Motor Inn on Tuesday, April 8, 1958. Guest Speaker was Mrs. Theresa Brungardt, Director of Recreation for the State of Vermont.

## 1 - SCHEDULE OF SUMMER DATES

A - July 1 1958 and every Tuesday for 8 weeks - New England Tennis Patrons Tennis Clinic at Newton Centre.

B - June 30 - July 4 - Mass. State and Tennis Center Championships - Newton Centre.

C - June 30 - Newton Chapter, American Red Cross - Learn to Swim Program begins at Crystal Lake.

D - July 21 - Newton Youth Fitness Day - High School Stadium

E - July 29 - Community Recreation Service - Stagemobile - Girl's Field, Newton High School

F - August 6 - Red Sox Baseball Game.

## 2 - SUMMER STAFF

We need 5 mature and experienced men and one woman for Playground Staff.

## 3 - NEWTON UMPIRES ASSOCIATION

Request had been made for \$6.00 payment for each Umpire.

Conference with Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. at which time it was indicated that full consideration had been given to schedule of rates and that \$4.50/game an increase of 12½% was a reasonable figure, that the Board of Aldermen would not consider any proposal for increased rates this year.

Mr. Johnson so informed the association and invited the members as a group and individually to accept this offer of employment.

Umpires decided as a group that they would not accept \$4.50.

Mr. Murphy and Mr. Tedesco approached each man individually and asked if they would accept employment as Umpires previous to the beginning of the season.

New Umpires have been signed up for the season. The Leagues will start on June 2, 1958.

4 - SUPERVISORY STAFF

Mr. Johnson announced retirement dates as follows:

- Mr. John F. Donahue - June 21, 1958
- Mrs. Ragna Hovgaard, July 1, 1958
- Mr. John Nazzaro, June 24, 1958

Attempts have been made to secure applications from prospective new employees and to clear with Civil Service on qualified listing.

No Civil Service List is available.

Mr. Johnson requests authorization to interview candidates and make provisional appointments until September 1, 1958, as a minimum.

In case of prospective permanent appointment a special meeting of the Commission will be called.

Authorization was granted.

5 - BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL LEAGUES

All League Schedules will be underway by June 2, 1958.

League Membership

Babe Ruth League	9 teams
National League	5 teams
American League	9 teams
Industrial Softball	8 teams
Club Softball	8 teams

6 - TENNIS CLINIC

Reference made to Summer Schedule starting July 1, 1958.

Mr. Malcolm Hill, representing New England Tennis Patrons has secured the services of Mr. William McClung, Dartmouth #2 Player to direct the Clinic.

Recreation Committee of the P.T.A. Council has made available necessary funds to carry on this Clinic Program.

7 - LAND SURVEY OF PROPERTY adjacent to the Albemarle Playground made by Mr. Sydney Holden, Chairman of the Board of Assessors was submitted.

Discussion of procedure to follow and estimate of need followed.

Heirs to the property have indicated they might want to include some special provisions on a negotiated sale.

VOTED: That the Commission submit a Recommendation to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. that certain lands adjoining the Albemarle Playground be acquired when the present owners (heirs) and Executors submit a firm proposal to this Recreation Commission.

8 - SWIMMING POOL AND ICE SKATING RINK

Mr. Johnson presented some preliminary sketches and plans for discussion. Suggestion had been made that private capital might be interested in such a proposal.

9 - REPORTS ON CONFERENCES

Mr. Johnson attended Conference of National Advisory Committee of national Recreation Association at New York on April 23, 24, 25, 1958, and New England Area Conference of National Recreation Association at Norwich, Conn. on May 18, to 21, 1958.

Meeting adjourned at 10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

PROV.

LIL SWARTZ  
appt'd

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FRANK SHEA appt'd

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, JUNE 23, 1958

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

Minutes of the May meeting were accepted as recorded.

1. APPOINTMENTS - Recommended provisional appointments to staff subject to establishment of certified lists by Civil Service.

Miss Lillian Swartz - Recreation Supervisor - General at beginning salary of \$4500/year for a period of 6 months.

Mr. Reginald E. Smith - Recreation Supervisor - General at a salary of \$4500/year for July and August only to supervise a summer playground district.

Mr. Francis V. Shea - Recreation Foreman in charge of Maintenance for a period of six months.

VOTED: To approve these appointments with following conditions.

Appointees shall revert to former positions at standard pay rates should they not qualify by examination for advanced position appointment.

Request should be made to Civil Service Commission that Civil Service appointments for Recreation Supervisor - General for men shall be effective as of September 1, 1958 if a certified list is made available before that date.

Request for Examination for Recreation Supervisor General for Woman Supervisor shall be for an open competitive examination and that applicants who have filed for position shall be notified.

NOTE: Examination for Recreation Foreman must be open to all Maintenance Personnel in Recreation Department who have served more than one (1) year (Civil Service Law).

2. SUMMER STAFF -

Roster of summer staff was submitted. There is one vacancy for a man at present. Background story given on new personnel. Attention called to new District Divisions, with 8 grounds in each district.

3. LAND ACQUISITION. -

No formal invitation to negotiate for land in Newtonville has been received as yet. Mr. Johnson has been informed that the proposal will be made.

4 - Crystal Lake Bathing Beach was opened on Saturday, June 14 with full staff of Lifeguards and bathhouse personnel. We have reduced the staff in each case by one person - but the time coverage will be the same as in previous years. We have not had good swimming weather. Record of Attendance is low. Permit sales are down - but will increase with good warm weather.

5 - The Newton Softball Leagues - Industrial Division and Club Divisions have voted to join the Amateur Softball Association. This membership qualifies all teams for tournament play. We have requested the Association to furnish accredited umpires to handle all Softball games at a fee of \$4.00/game. This fee is standard for Association Umpires.

6 - Baseball Leagues are in full swing. There have been very few postponements. Umpire Staff is functioning very well. League Directors, James E. Murphy and Nicholas P. Tedesco have arranged for an Umpires Clinic to be held the second week in July with Mr. Arthur Gores, former National League Umpire in charge.

7 - VOTED to include in this permanent record letters of congratulations to Mrs. Ragna Hovgaard, Mr. John F. Donahue and Mr. John Nazzaro on their retirement from the Recreation Department Staff.

8 - Summer Playground Season will begin on Monday, June 30, 1958 with an organizational staff meeting at the Edwin O. Childs Recreation Center, Hawthorn Playground.

9 - Special Report Items.

a. Budget Accounts - Labor Costs for Hourly Paid workers is \$660.00 over the expenditure for the same period in 1957. Only two days of over-time have been worked this spring by the Maintenance Crew.

b. Recreation Leadership costs are down by \$2483.00 despite new pay schedule. No great effect of new pay schedule to date. Baseball and Softball Leagues started June 1 instead of May 10.  
Work-time has been lost due to bad spring weather.

c. Newton Community Chorus have submitted some proposals for more effective organization as follows:

Change rehearsal dates and location.

Invite Junior College students to become members.

To set-up their own Library and Secretarial staff from membership (Volunteer Workers)

Request Recreation Department to make available for payments to Pianist the money previously spent for Secretary-Librarian.

d. There was open discussion about the Annual Fourth of July Celebrations at Newton Centre and Newton Upper Falls with the suggestion that we review the entire program with the respective Improvement Associations.

Notice was given that the next meeting of the Commission is not scheduled until September 15, 1958 - but that Special Meeting may be called if necessary.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

June 18, 1958

Mr. John Nazzaro  
9 West Street  
Newton, Mass.

Dear Mr. Nazzaro:

The Newton Recreation Commission is proud to congratulate you on your retirement as of June 24, 1958 after forty-one years of service to the Recreation Department and the citizens of Newton.

You started in the days of hard manual labor and have had a part in building many of the fine parks and playgrounds which we have in Newton. You have willingly given of yourself and have worked hard to promote the development of outstanding areas. No task has been too difficult and no program has been eliminated. You have worked for the common good.

We do therefore make this letter a part of the records of our meeting held on June 23, 1958 and wish for you many years of happiness in your retirement.

Very sincerely yours,

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

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\_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner

June 18, 1958

Mr. John F. Donahue  
70 Cherry Street  
West Newton, Mass.

Dear Mr. Donahue:

The Newton Recreation Commission is proud to congratulate you upon your retirement as of May 31, 1958 after more than forty years of service to the Recreation Department and the citizens of Newton.

You may be justly proud of your contributions to our recreation growth. Your interest in sports and athletics, your willingness to work hard and long in the promotion of baseball and basketball leagues, your leadership and guidance to recreation workers and to children alike and your devotion to the ideals of sportsmanship and fair play have been an integral part of our recreation growth.

We do therefore make this letter a part of the records of our meeting held on June 23, 1958 and wish for you many years of happiness in your retirement.

Very sincerely yours,

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

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\_\_\_\_\_ Commissioner

June 18, 1958

Mrs. Ragna Hovgaard  
21 Terrace Avenue  
Newton Highlands, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Hovgaard:

The Newton Recreation Commission is proud to congratulate you on your retirement effective on July 1, 1958 after forty years of continuous service to the Recreation Department and the citizens of Newton.

We are proud to recognize your tremendous interest in people, your desire to contribute to wholesome living and your devotion to the ideals which have made you so sincere in your work, all of which have been of tremendous benefit to our recreation growth.

We do therefore make this letter a part of the records of our meeting held on June 23, 1958 and wish for you many years of happiness in your retirement.

Very sincerely yours,

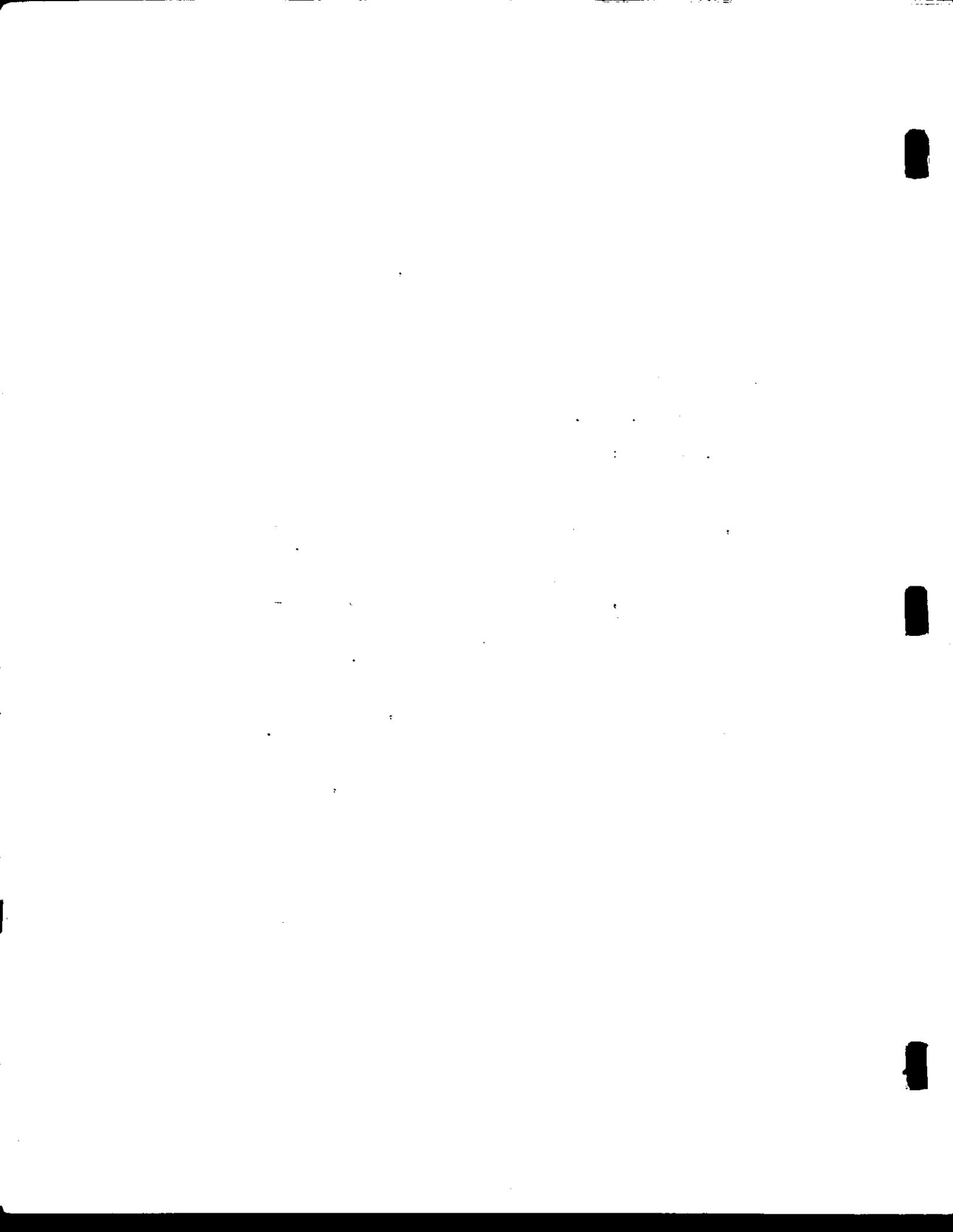
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Chairman

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner



~~the Newton Halloween Committee will have the receipts from sale of tickets to the High School students. (Page 119) C.E.J.~~

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1958

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. R. Victor Stout  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Minutes of the June Meeting were approved as recorded except that reference to acquisition of land in Spaulding School area was deleted.

1. REPORTS ON SUMMER PROGRAM

- a. Swimming - Program was limited to some extent by poor weather conditions in June and early July and by the closing of the Lake to swimming during the third week of July.

The program was extended to the end of Labor Day Week, September 7 because of the favorable swimming conditions during that week.

- b. Playgrounds - This was, without question, one of the busiest and most active summer sessions in the past ten years.

Program scheduling was extensive and well-planned. Inter-playground competition was most extensive.

- c. Each district had championship competitions in all boys and girls sports activities.

The Boston Traveler Physical Fitness program held on July 21, 1958 was outstanding. Each Playground had trials and competitions during the first three weeks of the season and selected representative team groups.

The program was held at the High School Stadium Field and attracted some 2000 competitors and few spectators.

The Boston Children's Theatre Stagemobile gave one performance at the High School Stadium in July - Attendance - 800 X

Field Days were held at all of the Playgrounds during the last week of the Playground season. There was outstanding competition at all of these affairs.

The Annual Trip to the Red Sox Ballgame took place on August 7, 1958. There was an attendance of approximately 800.

Boys and Girls Crafts and Craft Strip work were carried on at all grounds. Performance activity was extensive but numbers of participants was not as extensive.

The Tennis Tournament at Burr Playground had a participation total of 86 in four classes. Tennis should be on the up-swing.

2. COMPARISON OF RECEIPTS - 1958(to date) and 1957

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>
Furniture	\$128.00	\$134.00
Metalcraft	256.00	270.00
Pottery	210.00	240.00
Dancing	1091.00	1939.00
Tennis	527.00	257.40
Fireplaces	16.75	140.00 Rent
Swimming	5056.95	21.25 Misc.
	<hr/>	<u>3110.05</u>
Total	7285.70	6111.70

3. MAINTENANCE PROJECTS.

- a. Target House and Storage Constructed at Newton Centre Playground for Newton Centre Playground for Newton Archers.
- b. Levi Warren Football Field - \$2000 of Grounds Construction Funds from Street Dept. Budget to be used for purchase of loam for this Field. All construction costs out of Recreation Budget without Special appropriation.
- c. Boyd Park - Street Dept. grading, loaming and seeding between Tennis Courts and School Building.
- d. Montclair - Plans to be drawn for Ballfield and Backstop Construction. Remainder of area to be graded and seeded.
- e. Meadowbrook Junior High School - no work started on this project as yet.

4. FALL PROGRAM.

We are operating at 10 areas during the fall season. No requests have been made for additional areas.

Newton Soccer Team plays schedule of games at Hawthorn Playground on Sundays.

West Newton Merchants Football Team plays schedule of games at Albemarle.

5. HALLOWEEN

Mrs. Hovgaard has been invited to direct the program on a fee basis by the Newton Halloween Committee.

Program Plans are in good order.

Totem Pole Ballroom offers the Totem Pole for the High School Dance with the provision that it also be open for the regular public dance patrons. Mr. Farrington will absorb the costs of the evening and

the Newton Halloween Committee will have the receipts from sale of tickets to the High School Students.

6. Proposal made by Warner, Stackpole Stetson and Bradlee for the sale of Land of 324 Crafts Street to the City of Newton and to be designated "Avery Memorial Park" was studied most carefully.

VOTED unanimously to submit a recommendation to His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. that this land purchase be made and that money be appropriated. Also that the Department Letter to the Mayor be made a part of this record.

7. Information concerning Skating Rinks was presented and made of record in Department files.

8. VOTED to approve a program of a Basketball Officials Clinic to be held on 10 successive weeks at a fee of \$10.00. No costs to the Department. Fees to accrue to the Instructors of the Clinic. The Clinic is specifically for Newton residents but residents of neighboring communities are eligible if there are vacancies in class enrollment.

9. VOTED to support the activities of the Community Chorus by underwriting custodial fees at rehearsals and concert and to pay the accompanist fee for all rehearsals.

Requested that Officers of Chorus acquaint the Commission of Schedule and events sponsored by the Chorus.

10. Twilight League Champions - 1958

1. American League Champions - Corpus Christi  
Runner-up - Sons of Italy
2. National League Champions - Newton Centre  
Runner-Up - St. Bernards
3. Babe Ruth League Champions - Highlanders  
Runner-Up - Torro
  - A. Babe Ruth East Division Champions - Highlanders
  - B. Babe Ruth West Division Champions - St. Bernards
4. Softball City League Champions - Town Fuel
5. Softball Club League Champions - Art Carroll
6. Softball Industrial League Champions - Twon Fuel

11. Arrangements have been made to turn over the Craft St. Barn and Loft to the Recreation Department for a Maintenance Shop and Storage Warehouse.

The Building Department will make renovations in heat, light, entrances and water supply to meet the needs of a service department unit.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1958

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the September Meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Application of Newton Merchants for Night Football Game on November 13 was approved with the following conditions.

1. Costs of light installation to be paid by the Newton Merchants.
2. Police Supervision to be the responsibility of the Newton Merchants.
3. Donation Tickets only may be sold.

2. Report on Department Activities.

- a. Levi Warren Junior High Football Field has been reconstructed. \$1875.00 was made available from Street Department Account for purchase of loam. All other costs were charged to Recreation Maintenance Account.
- b. Street Commissioner requested that Recreation Department take over \$3800 of Construction of Grounds Account for Montclair Playground and that Baseball Diamond be constructed and Backstop be installed.
- c. Waban Playground at Angier School. All Playground Apparatus has been relocated in back of Tennis Courts. Four dead or diseased trees have been removed. Bleachers have been dismantled and are being repaired for installation at Montclair Playground. Area has been subgraded and about one acre of land has been reclaimed for playground use.

It is intended to loam and seed the entire newly graded area.

- d. \$5000 has been appropriated to the Building Department for repair and remodeling of the old Craft Street Stable for Recreation Dept. use as a Workshop and Storage Warehouse.
- e. Wooden Bleachers at the High School Stadium have been condemned by the State Inspector. Recreation Department dismantled the Bleachers at a total cost of less than \$400.00.

- f. Proposal in regard to purchase of land adjacent to Albemarle Playground has been submitted to the Board of Aldermen by His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

Estimates for costs of outside and inside repair of house totals about \$8000.00.

Questions have been raised as to possible uses of the house if it is repaired.

3. Budget Review for 1958.

- a. Indications are that some money will be turned back at the end of the year.
- b. There have been several transfers of budget money within Classes of Accounts and there may have to be some more.
- c. Some projects of Capital Outlay and Improvement will not be carried out this year because of unforeseen developments.

Backstops planned at Cabot, Albemarle and Richardson have been withheld pending further planning of lay-out.

Fencing at Upper Falls has been held because of some local opposition and because State has been doing construction work on the Lower Field.

4. Suggestion was made that this Department should indicate very strongly the amount of Recreation Funds which are expended for the promotion of School Programs in Athletics and Physical Education.

5. November meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1958

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Minutes of the meeting held on October 22 were approved as recorded.

1. Montclair Playground.

Letters from Waban Improvement Association, Waban Baseball Associates and His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. recommending that the new Playground in Waban be officially named Warren E. Lincoln Memorial Playground. This recommendation has the approval of Mrs. Warren E. Lincoln.

Discussion followed.

Voted - To take steps necessary to designate officially, that area generally known as Montclair Playground, as the "Warren E. Lincoln Memorial Playground".

Voted - To invite the Waban Improvement Association and the Waban P.T.A. and the Waban Baseball Associates to join with the Recreation Department to arrange for suitable dedicatory ceremonies probably in June of 1959.

2. Resolution was drawn up and unanimously approved on the death of John F. "Buck" Donahue.

Voted - To spread a copy of the resolution upon the records of this meeting and that a copy be sent to Mr. Donahue's sister, Miss Catharine Donahue.

3. Mr. Johnson requested that this Department go on record as requesting that any construction of grounds projects to be done by the Recreation Department should be referred as soon after the budget is passed as possible.

4. Voted - To include \$700.00 in the budget for 1959 for photographs of those Commission members who have not had such photographs taken previously.

5. Voted - To instruct Commissioner to confer with the Civil Service Commissioner and request that examination for Recreation Supervisor (General) Female shall be made promotional (within the Department) rather than open competitive.

6. Preliminary Budget Proposals

Total Budget	Amount
60 - 0 - Administration & Program	164,792.10
60 - 1 - Maintenance of Recreation Areas	137,078.00
60 - 2 - School Playgrounds & Athletic Fields	33,120.00
60 - 3 - Extended Use of Schools	<u>5,900.00</u>
TOTAL	\$340,890.10

Budgets 60 - 1 and 60 - 2 are to be entered at 10% above requested totals for 1958 pending survey of total Budget Requirements.

7. December Meeting to be held on Monday, December 15.

8. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

November 19, 1958

Miss Catherine L. Donahue  
70 Cherry St.  
West Newton, Mass.

Dear Miss Donahue:

At our first regular meeting this month, it is with profound sorrow that we, the Recreation Commission for the City of Newton record the death of our retired friend and co-worker, John F. Donahue on November 8, 1958.

Mr. Donahue or rather "Buck" gave his entire career in the interest of youth and Newton was indeed fortunate that so many years were given to service to our own city and our own youth.

Buck's interest in athletics, fair play and wholesome recreation was the backbone of his program and sports and athletics. His loyalty to the ideals which mean so much to us all, his desire to give of his talents to the success of the group and his strict adherence to the code and ethics of the true sportsman have been an inspiration to our youth and to those who have been privileged to work with him.

We do, therefore, unanimously spread upon the records of the Newton Recreation Commission a copy of this letter so that it may serve as a guide and reminder in our efforts to build a stronger youth and a better city.

Sincerely yours,

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Chairman

Members, Newton Recreation Commission

## MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 15, 1958.

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 7:55 P.M.

Minutes of the meeting held on November 19, 1958 were approved as recorded.

1. Report on Skating Area.

11 multiple use areas were flooded on Wednesday, December 10, 1958 and skating was allowed on 5 of these areas on Thursday, December 11, 1958 and on the remaining 6 on Friday, December 12, 1958.

Ware's Cove opened for skating on Thursday, December 11, 1958 and Crystal Lake and Bullough's Pond opened for skating on Saturday, December 13, 1958.

Skating permits went on sale for the 58-59 season at the three pond areas on the days they opened and through the cooperation of the Newton School Department skating permits went on sale at all of the schools during this week, December 15 through December 18, 1958.

2. Report on Construction Projects.

a. Levi-Warren Football Field.

The work was completed late in October. Grass seed germinated and there is a good catch of Fall grass which should hold through the winter season. The entire field is closed off by a wooden fence and it is our intention that this field shall not be used before the summer of 1959.

b. Montclair Playground.

There remains approximately one acre of ground for final raking and seeding. Over 2 acres has been loamed, fertilized and seeded, and the baseball diamond has been completed. Total charges to date against this account by the Recreation Department is \$5493.04. Some of these charges should be rebated because we have not used the rental equipment to the extent of our original orders. No charges for labor by the Recreation Department have been made as yet.

c. Angier Playground.

The area which was being worked and regraded for seeding has been completed and dormant seeding was done about November 15, 1958.

d. Boyd Playground.

Project work by the Street Department covering an area of approximately one acre has been loamed, graded, and seeded.

e. Countryside School.

This is a contract job under the direction of the Street Department. The rough grade has been completed, some loaming has been done, and the fence adjacent to abutters property has been installed.

f. Newton South High School.

There has been submitted to the School Building Assistance Committee of the State of Massachusetts a request for approval of \$175,000.00 for construction of the South High School outdoor physical education athletic plant. The plan as presented to the State shows bleachers for 3500 people, a quarter mile track with a football field enclosed and a baseball field overlay. A girl's field, hockey field with a football practice field overlay, four hardtop volley ball courts and 12 hardtop tennis courts.

Reference is made to the Commissioner's letter sent to Mayor Whitmore under date of December 1, 1958 which presents general information that the land area available is inadequate for a secondary school athletic plant and that the planned field layouts do not represent sound development and proper use.

g. New Recreation Maintenance Shop.

The brick work and changing of entrances to allow for trucks to drive in, the closing of entrances to the Street Department offices, and the changing of the entrance to the loft has been completed by the contractor. Electricians are now working on the installation of new lighting equipment and the plumbers are working on heating and plumbing installation. The Recreation maintenance personnel are cleaning up and painting the entire area.

3. Basketball Leagues.

Basketball leagues will begin play on Monday, January 5, 1959. The American and National Divisions will be under the direction of Mr. James E. Murphy and the Pony League and the Pony elementary school Saturday morning League will be directed by Mr. Robert Doherty.

4. Neighborhood Center Program.

Neighborhood Centers began operation on Monday, November 3, 1958 with 30 class groups meeting each week in various schools. There are 12 dance classes ranging in registrations from 14 to 71.

5. Supervisor Assignments.

Supervisor assignments for the Winter Season are as follows:

Mr. Nicholas P. Tedesco - Skating - Bullough's Pond  
Toboggan Slide - Newton Center  
Boy's Craft Program Neighborhood Centers.

Miss Lillian Swartz - Neighborhood Center Program  
Adult Evening Program

Mr. James E. Murphy - Skating - Auburndale  
Basketball - American and National Divisions

Mr. Robert Doherty - Skating - Crystal Lake  
Basketball - Pony League and Saturday morning league.

In addition the men of the Supervisory Staff will check all flooded skating areas throughout the City.

#### 6. Albemarle Playground.

The Board of Aldermen will have before them tonight consideration of the recommendation that the city enter into a purchase and sale agreement in order to acquire the property known as The Lebert Estate, 346 Craft St. and adjacent to the Albemarle Playground.

#### 7. 1959 Preliminary Budget.

The 1959 Preliminary Budget was studied and evaluation made and was approved in the following amounts:

60 - 0 - Administration and program	164,792.10
60 - 1 - Maintenance of Recreation Areas	184,507.64
60 - 2 - School Playgrounds and Athletic Fields	33,092.24
60 - 3 - Extended Use of Schools	<u>5,900.00</u>
Total	388,291.98

The Commission holds reservations concerning this budget because a number of Capital Improvement items are included which may be allocated to the Street Department Construction of Grounds Account in which case this budget will be substantially reduced.

#### 8. Next Meeting of the Commission to be held on January 19, 1958.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY,  
JANUARY 27, 1959

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Members were advised of the legal requirements concerning notice of Commission Meetings as set forth in letter from Mr. Matt B. Jones, City Solicitor.

Noted also that this department has set standard procedure for compliance with above requirements.

Minutes of December Meeting were approved.

1. The meeting was recessed so that the members of the Commission could visit and inspect the new quarters for our Maintenance Division at #90 Crafts Street.

Mr. Francis V. Shea, Recreation Foreman and Mr. Victor Serafini and Mr. Harry Simpkins, Carpenters were at the Shop and conducted the Commission through the entire shop area and explained the advantages of this new shop.

Mr. Johnson paid tribute to the cooperative interest and effort on the part of all the maintenance personnel in taking on all the work necessary to provide these quarters.

The meeting was reconvened at City Hall at 8:45 P.M.

1. Program Report

a. Skating - 43 days of skating to date  
125,000 / attendance  
\$3876.00 Permit Receipts: Total  
\$2323.00 Permit Receipts to 1958 Account  
\$1553.00 Permit Receipts to 1959 Account

b. Basketball Leagues - There are three Leagues with a total of 20 teams.

American League	8 teams
National League	5 teams
Pony League	7 teams

Games have been played 5 nights/week  
League rules were adopted by the Board of Directors of each League. Games have been well played with close scores and with excellent response from players and spectators alike.

c. Indoor Program -

- 12 Dance Classes
- 8 Boys' Crafts
- 11 Girls' Crafts
  - 1 Community Chorus (Adults)
  - 2 Pottery Work (Adults)
  - 2 Metalcraft Classes (Adults)
  - 1 Furniture Refinishing (Adult)
  - 1 Basketball Night - Meadowbrook
  - 4 Basketball and Games Nights - Emerson
  - 1 Girls Activity Night - Emerson
- 25 Afternoon Activities for Boys and Girls at  
5 Centers - Stearns, Lincoln-Eliot, Burr Play-  
ground, Hawthorn and Newton Centre

d. Golf School

Registrations at present total 83 members with every indication that we will have a full enrollment of 120 members when the school begins on February 3.

Schedule - Mondays - Warren Jr. High - 3 classes  
Wednesdays - Meadowbrook Jr. High - 3 Classes

Instructors: Mr. Malcolm Negoshian - PGA Member  
Mr. John Fitzgerald - Newton

2. Umpires School - Recommendation made by Mr. Johnson that the Commission approve the organization of an Umpire's School to be held for six consecutive weeks at Albemarle Field House starting February 15, 1959 with Mr. Arthur Gore, former National League Umpire as Instructor and under the direction of Mr. James E. Murphy as Director of the School.

It was also pointed out that there would be no expense to the City for this school.

Voted to authorize the formation of the Umpire's School.

3. Acquisition of Lebert Property.

Mr. Matt B. Jones, City Solicitor, has informed that the attorneys for the administrators are working out the details of a buy and sell agreement and that his office is making the necessary legal investigations.

4. Request by Nonantum Post #440 of the American Legion for permission to hold a Carnival at Victory Field from Tuesday, June 23 thru Saturday, June 27, 1959 was present.

Commission voted "Leave to Withdraw" and cited Commission action of February 10, 1947 as indicative of Commission attitude.

5. Grounds Construction - School Playgrounds.

- a. Newton South High School. Mr. Johnson reported that the available area for Athletic Field development was inadequate and that the School Department will have to request additional land. Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. has also expressed concern about this development.
- b. Levi Warren Junior High - The School Department has requested additional Land Taking on Washington Street beyond the Levi-Warren Jr. High School for Playground Development.

6. Budget Action

- a. Following additional Recommendations were submitted.

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1) Photographs of 14 Present and Past Commission Members  | \$700.00    |
| 2) Reconstruct Newton Lower Falls Playground  | \$20,000.00 |
| 3) Double Increment for Salaried Personnel who have been on maximum and who have served the city for 15 years or more | \$452.88    |
| 4) That Employees Insurance and Health Plan be adopted as soon as possible for the benefit of all City Employees.     |             |

Commission approved the above recommendations.

- b. Receipts - Mr. Johnson made record of \$11,227.66 turned in to the Treasurer from fees and charges during 1958.
- c. Appropriations before the Budget.

Record was made of Request for the following appropriations before the budget.

- |  |           |
|--|-----------|
| 1) Rotary Broom for Kut-Kwick Mower  | \$475.00  |
| 2) Willys Jeep with Rotary Broom on Power Take Off and Ranger Self-Lift Mower Unit | \$5300.00 |

- d. Total Budget Recommendations were approved as follows:

60 - 0 Administration & Program	\$152,317.75
60 - 1 Maintenance of Recreation Areas, Exclusive of Schools	194,903.70
60 - 2 Care & Alterations of School Playgrounds & Ath. Fields	48,839.70
60 - 3 Use of School Buildings for Recreation	5,900.00
	\$401,961.15

7. Commission Members held an open discussion and agreed to request an audience with His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. for the purpose of discussing

- (1) general salaries for Administrative and Supervisory Personnel and
- (2) general recreation needs.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

February Meeting to be held on Monday evening, February 16, 1959 at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 16, 1959

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
R. Victor Stout  
C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as recorded.

1 - 1959 Budget

The total 1959 Budget as approved by the Recreation Commission and with the Mayor's Allowances added was presented for Review and Appraisal.

The Commission made note of the following:

- a) That Recreation Leaders on Seasonal and/or Intermittent Basis should be employed at the rate approved by Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. for the 1958 Budget and which were not changed for the 1959 Budget even though there have been reductions in allowances for various units of activity.
- b) That information on fees and charges and the gross and net costs for operating the respective activities shall be presented to the Finance Committee at the Budget Hearing.
- c) That elimination of a full-time Recreation Leader is not in keeping with the development of our total Recreation Program.
- d) That we are in the position where our maintenance staff must be increased if we are to continue to maintain outstanding play-ground areas.
- e) That improvement and rebuilding of obsolete and worn out facilities must be given serious consideration in the next few years.
- f) That elimination of hard-top program at Angier and Newton Upper Falls Tennis Courts and the failure to approve retreating at Warren and Weeks Junior High Schools and at Newton High School Tennis Courts will create added expense when this work is approved and at present calls for expensive maintenance.

2 - Report on Land Taking of LeBert Property

Mr. Matt B. Jones reports that Mr. Melville Chapin, attorney for the administrators of the estate is working on the provisions of the Buy and Sell Agreement.

Mr. Jones also informs that the City of Newton may have to take this property by Eminent Domain since the price is more than assessed value plus 25%.

Mr. Jones will keep this Department informed.

3 - 1959 Projects:

In order of importance to our total program and facilities, we must complete the work at Newton Lower Falls and Waban (Angier School and Moffatt Road.) These areas must be developed so that we may have adequate play space.

Newton South High School - Definite action must be taken to provide adequate and complete outdoor athletic fields and play space for this School. The facilities must be ready when the school is opened.

4 - Personnel Organization Plans

There was discussion concerning the advisability of employing some adult Part-time Workers to supervise the Evening Playgrounds. This would mean that there was supervision but not supervised Play. It would also lend to better control of an area.

It was agreed to await personnel developments before we decide what action to take.

5 - Budget Hearing to be held before Finance Committee on Saturday, February 28, 1959 at 9:00 P.M.

6 - Next Meeting to be held on Monday, March 16, 1959.

7 - Meeting adjourned at 10:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, APRIL 27, 1959

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of February 16, 1959 meeting were approved as recorded.  
Meeting originally scheduled for March 16, 1959 was cancelled and rescheduled for this date.

Notice was taken of the Massachusetts Recreation Association Board Members Dinner held at Hotel 128 on April 14, 1959. Consensus was that the Massachusetts Recreation Association had a most successful annual meeting.

1. Budget Comparisons.

	1958 Appropriated	1958 Expended	1959 Requested	1959 Appropriated
60-0	\$147,933.18	\$143,787.05	\$152,317.75	\$135,434.66
60-1	111,697.22	105,654.88	194,903.70	149,482.29
60-2	21,308.17	19,075.50	48,839.70	22,894.55
60-3	5,525.00	5,433.79	5,900.00	5,900.00

Avery Memorial Park \$37,159.60  
Returned to Treasurer \$12,504.27

2. Summer Program

List of 31 Playgrounds submitted for summer activities. There are two changes. Levi Warren Junior High School will not have a playground due to school construction and Angier Playground will not be open due to planned program of grounds improvement.

Three playgrounds Burr, Cabot and Auburndale will be supervised from 9 AM to dusk on staggered shifts so that there will be noon and supper hour coverage.

Proposal was made that Playground hours during the summer season be scheduled 9 AM - 12 noon; 1:30 - 4:30 PM and 6 PM - Dusk. This schedule was adopted subject to concurrence of the District Supervisors.

Summer Dates - Opening Day, June 29, 1959. Closing Day August 21, 1959.

Newton will participate in Playground U.S.A. at Boston Common on August 26, 1959.

Crystal Lake dates - Saturday, June 13, 1959 to Sept. 7, 1959 (Labor Day).

General plans call for a Fitness Day Program at midseason at the Newton High School Field similar to the Boston Traveler Youth Fitness program of last year.

### 3. Fees and Charges

It was voted to continue the same schedule of fees and charges as were in effect in 1958 except that the fees for fireplaces and picnic areas should be discontinued.

4. Discussion concerning the use of playgrounds for PTA Fairs and Picnics. The Commission was instructed to check with other communities as to their regulations.

- (1) Who issues permits for Carnivals, Fairs and Festivals?
- (2) Is there a license fee?
- (3) Does the Recreation Department allow Carnivals, Fairs and Festivals on their areas?

Mr. Johnson was instructed to consider each application by a PTA group for a Fair on Recreation Grounds and confer with His Honor, Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. before granting any permit.

5. Several umpires have inquired as to our policy concerning the hiring of umpires in baseball and softball for the 1959 season. The following regulations were adopted and the Commissioner was instructed to inform those who have previously worked in this Department concerning the examinations and qualifications.

#### Regulations concerning Umpire's Staff:

1. That this department hold a qualifying examination open to those who have previously worked as umpires for this department.
2. First examination to be held not later than May 20, 1959. Examination for college students returning at a later date will be arranged.
3. That we retain Mr. Arthur Gore as examiner.
4. That assignments are to be made without special consideration to previous service and that umpires employed during 1958 and umpires who passed the requirements of our 1959 Umpire's School shall be eligible for regular assignments.
5. All umpires must be qualified to umpire at assignment at plate and/or bases.
6. Softball umpires shall be assigned from accredited list of American Softball association and by the Massachusetts Commissioner of A.S.A. James F. Jones.

6. Softball Season will open on May 18.

Baseball Season will open on June 1.

7. Avery Memorial Park.

*Bd order  
261-59*

This property, having been taken by eminent domain and the deed recorded, now becomes the responsibility of the Recreation Commission.

The following facts are important:

The house located at 346 Crafts St. is in very poor repair. It will cost a minimum of \$10,000 to put it in usable condition.

Heating costs are beyond the ability of a tenant to pay.

Any use of the property for Recreation purposes will call for remodelling and costly installation of safety features.

It was voted to request that the City take immediate steps to raze the house and to move in the direction of improving the property as a garden spot with planned landscaping and garden plots for flowers, shrubs, etc.

8. VOTED to request the Engineering Department to develop plans for the reconstruction work at Newton Lower Falls Playground and the Angier Playground. It is imperative that this work be undertaken as soon after the close of school as possible and that both grounds be ready for seeding not later than August 20.

9. Montclair Playground.

VOTED to ask Mr. R. Victor Stout of the Commission to serve on the Committee to be organized from Waban to arrange for proper dedication ceremonies at this playground sometime in June.

VOTED to designate this Playground as the Warren E. Lincoln Memorial Playground and to so notify Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr.

10. Staff Personnel for the summer are now being assigned. 94 of last summer's staff have been invited to return. New appointments will be made between May 10 and 15.

11. Mr. Johnson called attention to the meeting of the Newton Youth Advisory Committee scheduled for Tuesday evening May 28th.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,  
MAY 18, 1959

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Minutes of the meeting held on April 27, 1959 were approved with the following corrections. Item 9 to read. Voted to designate this playground as the Warren E. Lincoln Playground and to so notify Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. and the Honorable Board of Aldermen.

1. Summer Playground Staff.

Letters of Appointment have been sent to more than 100 Playground Leaders, Lifeguards and Bathhouse Attendants. Several have not replied to date. Additional appointments will be made before the end of this week to fill in for those who have refused assignment or who have failed to reply.

Our staff to date is made up as follows:

Adults - 11 Men	18 Women	
College Students - 17 men	27 Women	
High School Students - 7 Men	3 Women	

2. Recommendations on Supervision.

Mr. Johnson requested further time for study of this problem. There must be some division so that full responsibility of management decision shall be in the hands of the person in charge.

3. Report on Construction Projects.

a. Newton Lower Falls

Plans have been drawn for this project. Specifications and Plans have been submitted to the Purchasing Department so that bids may be received very shortly.

b. Angier School.

This project is being surveyed. Drain line will be necessary along the top of the embankment. Grade change may not be necessary but recommended that Baseball Diamonds be relocated.

4. Vandalism.

There are groups operating at various locations in the city who have no regard for public property. Our worst area at present is at the Albemarle Playground and the adjoining Lebert Property recently taken by eminent domain.

5. Report on Leagues.

Softball League began play tonight, May 18, 1959 with 18 teams in two Leagues.

Baseball Leagues will get underway on June 1.  
Babe Ruth League has 9 teams, American and National Divisions will have 6 teams each.

6. Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 1959 with representatives from Waban organizations to discuss Dedication Plans for the Warren E. Lincoln Playground. June 1, 1959 has been selected as the date for Dedication.

7. New England Lawn Tennis Patrons Program

Mr. Malcolm Hill has requested permission to reserve Courts at Newton Centre during July and August for a Tennis Clinic and School with Competitive Team Play Matches.

Each person who registers shall pay a 50¢ fee per lesson. There will be instruction on Mondays and Tuesdays on 3 - 4 Courts from 1 - 5 P.M. Matches will be played on Wednesdays and Thursdays on 2 - 3 Courts.

All details of organization and program must be approved by the Recreation Commissioner.

Approval voted for this program.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

June meeting date was set on Monday, June 15, 1959.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1959

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the May 18, 1959 meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Summer Program and Staff

a. Copies of Staff Assignments were submitted to members of the Commission. Training and experience of Staff Personnel was outlined.

b. Program Activities are scheduled much the same as last year.

Playground Groups will be encouraged to take trips.

Red Sox Baseball Day will be scheduled in August with Kansas City as the visiting team.

All Districts will organize District League competitions.

Tennis Tournament at Burr - first week in August.

Girls Softball Tournament at High School - second week in August.

Midget and Junior Baseball Championship Games second week in August.

Playground Field Days on August 18.

2. Report on Construction Plans.

a. Newton Lower Falls - Bids have been taken. We expect to be able to seed the grounds in late August.

b. Angier Playground Plan is being drawn up. New drain system will be installed at the embankment near the M.T.A. line and the entire playfield will be reseeded and seeded. It is planned to change the location of the baseball field and to make it a Junior diamond.

c. Levi Warren Field will be reconstructed during the next year to meet the needs of the School according to expansion plan. Presently, it is planned to construct 4 Hard top tennis courts on the southwest side of the Building Addition.

d. Newton South High School - \$110,000 has been appropriated to haul fill from Levi Warren site development of the Outdoor Physical Education Plant at Newton South

3. Report on Newton City Leagues.

- a. Baseball Leagues - Babe Ruth
  - National . . . . . 9 teams
  - American . . . . . 7 teams
- b. Softball Leagues - Industrial Division . . . . . 9 teams
  - Club Division . . . . . 9 teams

4. Mr. Malcolm Hill of the Youth Tennis Foundation of New England was granted permission to promote their Tennis Instruction Program for a period of six weeks at Newton Centre Courts.

Classes would be organized with lessons to last for 1 hour. Membership fee was fixed by Youth Tennis Foundation at \$1/lesson.

5. Recommended that a study be made of rules and regulations governing use of Crystal Lake with the possibility of amendment and revision.

6. Letter of Appreciation from Mrs. Warren Lincoln was read and placed on file.

7. Letter from Mr. Kenneth Bringhurst was read and placed on file.

8. Letters from Mr. Charles E. Reed and Mr. Waldo Hainsworth of National Recreation Association were read and placed on file.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday evening, September 22, 1959.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY  
OCTOBER 19, 1959

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Noted that Mr. Joseph Selden had requested permission to be absent.

Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved.

Notice taken that the Commission Meeting scheduled for Monday evening, September 21, 1959 had been cancelled because a quorum could not be present.

1. REPORTS ON SUMMER PROGRAM.

30 Playgrounds had been supervised during the 8 week summer season with a full complement of Leaders and Assistants. There were three resignations during the summer.

We must exert every means to secure more mature and competent leadership. Our \$10.00/day maximum pay scale does not attract the top notch play leader.

Our Summer Program was heavy.

Junior and Midget Baseball Leagues with Championship Competition toward the end of the season. Outstanding Players of Championship teams were selected and received recognition at the Annual Baseball Dinner.

Girls Crafts averaged approximately 1000 units of Craft projects per week.

Boys Crafts program was effective but did not involve so many projects nor as many participants.

There were more trips this year than ever before.

Red Sox Baseball game drew over 900.

Inter-playground games and competitions were heavy.

Tennis Instruction and Tournament were well attended.

Girls Softball became an important part of girls activities. The Tournament drew 16 teams. The Tournament Champions were Carr Playground.

Bicycle Safety Instruction was provided in each district.

Field Days were scheduled and held on the last Tuesday of the summer season at all playgrounds except the Read Fund Picnic which was held at Burr Playground on the last Wednesday.

The Achievement Awards were presented to the outstanding Playground Boy and Girl at each of our thirty playgrounds.

Crystal Lake was well patronized with an attendance of 108,000 even though we were closed twice during the summer. Chlorine Tablets were fed into the water manually after the second closing. There was no appreciable change in the condition of the water.

## 2. SUMMER DAY CAMPS

Letters of appreciation from the Camp Fire Girls and from the Newton Boys' Club for the use of Auburndale Playground and Allison Park respectively for Summer Day Camps by these groups were read, and placed on file.

## 3. GROUNDS CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

a. Newton Lower Falls - Entire playground has proper drainage and has been graded and seeded. The new grass has been cut six times to this date. Baseball diamonds will be laid out in the Spring of 1960.

b. Lincoln Playground - \$1152.00 has been transferred from the Waban Playground Fund to Recreation Capital Outlays for the installation of a drinking fountain.

This construction has been requested by letter addressed to the Street Commissioner.

c. Albemarle. The area of the Lebert House at 324 Crafts Street has been loamed and seeded.

The bog area opposite the Little League Field has been filled. More grading will be necessary to improve this area.

d. Angier. The drains have been constructed. Work was started on this contract after school opened. The area has now been graded and new loam has been added. The area will be seeded next week.

e. Little League Fields at Richardson and Peirce have been resodded and topped with new loam.

f. Repair work has been done on the infields at Newton Centre, Albemarle, High School, Cabot Park and Lincoln Playground.

4. Construction under control of other Departments.

- a. Newton South High School - This Athletic Field and Physical Education Plant as planned is inadequate and it is doubtful that it will be ready for the opening of School in 1960.

This Department is on record concerning this project.

- b. Countryside School Playground. The area has been graded, loamed and seeded. No cutting of grass on this date.
- c. Bowen School - area has been graded, loamed and seeded. No cutting of grass on this date.
- d. Spaulding School - Bids have been taken on construction of the addition to this playground.

5. MAINTENANCE - Our staff is now 24 men. This unit has done a tremendous job during the past year and particularly this past summer. In addition, the requests by the Junior High Schools for new and additional fields have placed a heavier burden on the men.

6. FALL AND WINTER PROGRAM

- a. Supervision-outdoors on 9 Playgrounds and in three Recreation Buildings.
- b. Indoor Program - will begin on November 2.
- 17 Dance Classes
  - 1 Copper Class - may add 1
  - 1 Furniture Refinishing
  - 2 Townline Pottery
  - 4 Boys' Activities - Evenings at Emerson
  - 1 Girls' Activities - Evenings at Emerson
  - 4 Sports Programs - Hawthorn
  - 1 Boys Basketball - Meadowbrook
  - 3 Adult Men - Meadowbrook - Countryside - Memorial
  - 2 Mothers' Hobby Groups
  - 1 Indoor Sports Club - Physically Handicapped.
- Childrens Indoor Programs on Afternoons at Hawthorn, Stearns, Boyd, Burr, Newton Centre, Bowen, Emerson, Hamilton.

7. HALLOWEEN

The Halloween Program is well organized Credit to Nicholas P. Tedesco, Mrs. Dorothy Garon, James E. Murphy and Dr. R. Emerson Sylvester.

8. BUDGET Analysis and Record of September 30, 1959 was presented and dismissed. Our accounts are in good condition. There should be no need for requesting additional funds.

## 9. PLANNING.

Plans for a Skating Rink and Outdoor Swimming Pool drawn by Mr. Frank T. Eskrigge were presented and discussed.

It was indicated that the Skating Rink and area would cost an estimated \$750,000 and the Swimming Pool would cost an estimated \$60,000.

It was voted that Mr. Johnson should present these plans to the Mayor for his consideration and recommended action.

10. Letters of correspondence from the following were read and placed on file.

Mrs. Ida M. Lockwood  
Miss Helen B. Andersson  
Miss Gladys Forbush

11. It was voted that the land located at the corner of Goddard and Christina Street in the Newton highlands area originally held for the recreation Department should be released for sale by the City. This action is now taken because the land at the head of Stephens Place originally desired for Playground Expansion has been sold to a Real Estate Developer by the previous owner.

12. November meeting to be held on Monday November 16th at 7:45 P.M. for the discussion of preliminary budget.

13. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

~~8. BUDGET Analysis and Record of September 30, 1959 was presented and dismissed. Our accounts are in good condition. There should be no need for requesting additional funds.~~

~~9. PLANNING.~~

~~Plans for a skating Rink and Outdoor Swimming Pool drawn by Mr. Frank T.~~

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1959

All members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner

Minutes of October 19, 1959 meeting approved as recorded.

1. VOTED that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Dorothy Garon for her excellent work as program chairman in coordinating and promoting our 1959 Halloween Parties.

2. Noted that a card of appreciation had been received from the family of Mrs. Dorothy McCarthy, wife of our former Commission Chairman, Major William J. McCarthy.

3. VOTED to approve recommendation that all Basketball Teams in the Newton City League for 1960 must limit their rosters to legal Newton residents as of date, December 31, 1959. The Basketball League season will begin on January 4, 1960.

4. VOTED that Block 15, Section 14, Lot 18, located at Hawthorn Street opposite the Edwin O. Childs Recreation Center is not essential to our Recreation Program and that our approval of Chapter 102 of the Acts and Resolves passed by the General Court of Massachusetts during the Session of 1956 relative to sale of this land is still effective. This vote was unanimous.

5. NEWTON CENTRE PLAYGROUND HOUSE

Discussion concerning the part played by this building in our Recreation Program.

a. Is the program and activities demand adequate for such a structure?

b. Is this building a hazard when we plan for Recreation use?

c. Are there facilities available for our use in the new Mason Rice School?

d. Can we justify the operating cost of this building for utilities alone in the amount of \$75.00/month?

e. What were the conditions under which this property was transferred to the City of Newton? See record of deed of transfer or gift and all pertinent information.

VOTED: to table this discussion until further information could be made available.

6. Communication from Mr. James F. Sullivan of Stop and Shop, Inc. to Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. offering cooperation of the Stop and Shop, Inc. for the promotion of Recreation Programs at their parking lot facilities.

Referred to Recreation Commissioner for further study and for conference with Mr. Sullivan.

7. Preliminary Budget for 1960 presented for study and survey. The following schedules were approved. All special recommendations will appear at the end of the Budget Schedule.

60 - 0 - ADMINISTRATION AND PROGRAM.

1 - Personal Services		\$132,793.00	
3 - Contractual Services		5,020.00	
4 - Supplies and Materials		12,061.00	
5 - Other Charges		650.00	
6 - New Equipment		8,275.00	
9 - Out of State Travel		250.00	
	TOTAL	<u>\$159,049.00</u>	159,049.00

60 - 1 - MAINTENANCE OF RECREATION AREAS  
EXCLUSIVE OF SCHOOLS

2 - Personal Services-Labor	\$102,775.11	
3 - Contractual Services	11,950.00	
4 - Supplies and Materials	15,475.00	
5 - Other Charges	75.00	
6 - New Equipment	12,305.00	
7 - Capital Outlays	<u>35,000.00</u>	
	TOTAL	\$177,580.11

177,580.11

60 - 2 - SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS AND ATHLETIC FIELDS

2 - Personal Services - Labor	\$ 19,968.93	
3 - Contractual Services	4,400.00	
4 - Supplies and Materials	2,150.00	
7 - Capital Outlays	<u>29,000.00</u>	
	TOTAL	\$ 55,518.93

55,518.93

60 - 3 USE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS FOR RECREATION

2 - Personal Services - Labor	\$ 5,500.00	
3 - Contractual Services	<u>1,000.00</u>	
	TOTAL	\$ 6,500.00

6,500.00

TOTAL BUDGET ESTIMATE \$398,648.04

\$398,648.04

Special Notice is given to the following recommendations.

BUDGET 60 - 0

1. Salaries - What steps can be taken to provide a longevity schedule which will benefit the long time dedicated worker with 25 years or more of service?
2. Salaries - Recommended that a letter be submitted to the Mayor's Office requesting reclassification of Recreation Supervisors from Class 13 to a new Class 15A with a maximum salary of \$6000.00 and that with this reclassification immediate adjustment shall be made to maximum for Mr. Nicholas P. Tedesco and that other adjustments shall be mutually agreed upon between His Honor, the Mayor and the Recreation Commissioner.
3. Salaries - That a letter be submitted to the Mayor's Office requesting reclassification of Recreation Leaders (full time) from Class 6 to Class 9 with a new maximum of \$4750.00 and that persons employed in this category shall have their salaries adjusted by mutual agreement between His Honor, the Mayor and the Recreation Commissioner.
4. Salaries and Personnel - Part-Time Leaders.
  - a. That supervision and control at Crystal Lake must be maintained at a High Standard and that increased rates must be granted to capable Guards and assistants.
  - b. That all costs for Umpire Services should be paid by the City and that no charges be levied against the Home Team. As a result our leagues should have better organization and we may have more and better teams. (Note: Cost to outfit a team and furnish necessary supplies can run over \$500.00/year minimum).
  - c. Our part-time leaders pay schedule is below the average paid for part-time leaders in surrounding communities. Our summer pay schedule must be increased if we are to attract the well trained playground leader.

BUDGET 60 - 1

1. Personal Services - Labor

The increase in this object is reflected only in the request for 5 additional laborers and the request for 50 additional days of overtime pay. With our tremendous expansion of the past few years, it is impossible to maintain our grounds with only 25 men.

2. Contractual services show only a normal increase in appropriation request (12%) over appropriation of 1959.

3. Supplies and Materials - \$1040 over total requested for 1959. Request last year was reduced by \$1935.00. We have been unable to purchase some of the basic supplies needed for the year particularly tools and equipment.

6. New Equipment.

Aluminum or Steel Diving Board is absolutely essential. The old type laminated wooden board will not stand up at a public beach.

Floodlighting at Crystal Lake will still be a good investment.

A new tractor and front end loader will pay for itself in a year. We have to haul from stockpile over 1000 yards of loam, subsoil and clay. We have to load rubble and rubbish from large playground areas. We do considerable regrading and reseeding. We haul from warehouse about 50 ton of Calcium Chloride each year. Manual labor versus Machine equipment.

Sparton Mower units must be replaced. Another year, we will have to add an additional 3 mower unit to our equipment.

7. Capital Outlays - All of these items are part of a progressive program of improvement and development. The Baseball Field developments can be done by Department Personnel. All others should be by contract with rigid specifications as part of the contract agreement.

BUDGET 60 - 2

3. Contractual Services

Hard Top Courts must be repaired and resealed.

7. Capital Outlays

These are essential to maintaining a modern High School Athletic Plant.

The Fencing Recommendation is made because the School Department is anxious to secure better crowd control and better supervision of admissions to football games and other sports programs at the High School Field.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY EVENING - January 11, 1960

Members present: Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Mr. Johnson acted as Chairman of the meeting due to the absence of Mrs. Worthing L. West (Mrs. West had called earlier in the day to inform that she would be unable to attend the meeting).

Record was made that the December meeting of the Commission had been set back to this date, January 11, 1960.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as recorded with correction insert of approved 1960 Preliminary Budget.

1. reports:-

a. Skating

Started at Edmands Park on December 25, 1959  
Started at Ware's Cove on December 24, 1959  
Started at Crystal Lake on January 6, 1960  
No skating at Bulloughs Pond as yet.  
First day on Flooded Areas- December 24.  
Flooded areas re-flooded by storm on December 30, 1959.

b. Dancing Program.

The mid-term dancing parties will be held during the week January 18-22, 1960.

There are 16 classes now functioning at thirteen schools. Total registrations are over 600 pupils or an average of 38 per class.

c. Basketball Leagues started play on January 4, 1960. There are 3 divisions with 7 teams in the American League, 10 teams in the National League and 6 teams in the Pony League. Schedules have been mailed to members.

d. Indoor Crafts and Activities Programs were operating on a full schedule. There are 46 active groups (afternoon and evening) at 17 centers in addition to the dance groups.

2. On report that the Board of Aldermen had voted to accept the land offer made by Mr. Ray Miller for playground land on Hawthorn Street identified as Sec. 14, Block 15, Lot 18 - it was voted to request that the sale price of \$5,000 be appropriated to the Recreation Department with such additional funds as are necessary to provide for the construction of Laycold sealed hard top tennis courts in place of the Clay courts and to provide for the construction of 2 regulation Bocci courts at the Hawthorn Playground.

3. Budget Study.

Re-evaluation of the 1960 Preliminary Budget was made. Final budget figures are to be made a part of the Record of this meeting on receipt

of recommendations made by Mayor Donald L. Gibbs concerning salaries and wages.

The following Budget Totals were approved.

a. Administration and Program			
Code No's.	Appropriated 1959	Expended 1959	Requested 1960
60-0	\$136,442.74	\$130,663.87	\$154,963.86
b. Maintenance of Recreation Areas Exclusive of Schools			
60-1	150,597.06	141,012.51	185,650.48
c. Care & Alterations of School Playgrounds and Athletic Fields			
60-2	22,894.55	20,402.24	57,400.00
d. Extended Use of Schools			
60-3	5,900.00	5,723.97	6,500.00
Totals	<u>\$321,734.35</u>	<u>297,802.59</u>	<u>404,515.34</u>

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
FEBRUARY 9, 1960

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Budget review

The following Budget Totals were approved by the Mayor for 1960.

<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>REQUESTED</u>	<u>APPROVED BY MAYOR</u>
60 - 0	154,963.86	142,811.93
60 - 1	185,650.48	145,447.48
60 - 2	57,400.00	26,853.00
60 - 3	<u>6,500.00</u>	<u>6,400.00</u>
Total	404,514.34	321,512.41

The Mayor has reduced the requested budget by \$83,000.00 or 20.5%

It is indicated that services will have to be cut back both as to supervision and care.

Purchase of new equipment has been eliminated except for a tractor-loader and replacement mowers for our Sparton Mower Units.

There will be practically no construction work done on our areas this year either at School Grounds or Playgrounds.

Request for 5 additional personnel on the Maintenance Staff was reduced to 3 men.

General Comment.

1. a. Our services based on Leadership will have to be curtailed.
- b. Our program of supervision and control at Crystal Lake will have to be completely revised.
- c. Maintenance Program will be hard pressed due to limitations of Budget.
- d. There will be no New Construction work or rebuilding work. Practically all Capital Outlays have been eliminated.

2. Communications.

Letter from Newton Little League Advisory Committee requesting that Recreation Department become sponsors of the Newton Little Leagues and that this department underwrite the Leagues by providing one umpire per game and two baseballs per game.

VOTED to grant Advisory Committee leave to withdraw their request and that proper explanation based on budget limitations and services already provided by the Department for 8 - 12 year olds in baseball be given in the letter.

### 3. Crystal Lake rules & regulations.

The recreation Commissioner is trying to arrange a meeting with Mr. DiNatale's Office (State Dept. of Public Works) to review the present rules and regulations with a view toward revision. (Note-a telephone request has been received that Crystal Lake be opened to sailing (which will include instruction and racing.)

4. A Resolution on the death of Mr. Nicholas P. Tedesco was adopted and it was voted that it be sent to Mrs. Tedesco and that a copy be spread on the records of this meeting.

### 5. Winter Program report.

a. Skating - Wares Cove - 27 days with attendance of over 40,000.  
 Crystal Lake - 22 days with attendance of over 25,000.  
 There were 14 flooded areas which have been used a great deal.  
 Attendance at these areas will average between 50 - 75 per day during the school week at each location.

#### b. Indoor Program.

55 Classes a week  
 43 daytime sessions - 12 evening sessions  
 17 Dancing Classes

c. Basketball - Games played 5 nights per week. Competition for playoff positions is very keen. General consensus is that the Leagues are stronger and teams are of reasonably equal strength. The rule limiting membership to Newton residents has been a wise one.

#### d. Dancing Classes.

17 Classes in operation. One class will be dropped and two will be combined in the second term so that we will have a total of 15 classes. We will discontinue when classes drop below a registration of 20.

### 6. Consultant Architect on Skating Area and Swimming Pool.

a. Mr. Johnson will seek to have the Mayor clarify our position in relation to Mr. Frank Eskrigge who has done so much on a design program.

### 7. Recreation for Physically & Mentally Retarded.

This program is a possibility with guarantee of State Aid if the Community organizes.

## 8. Capital Outlays (School Grounds)

Mr. Johnson was instructed to write to the School Committee informing them that the budget as presently approved by Mayor Donald L. Gibbs does not include

- a. Protective Safety Wire at the High School Field
- b. New Take-off Run Ways at High School Track
- c. New surface at Hardtop Courts at High School
- d. Protective Fencing at Weeks Junior High School

## 9. Vacancies

Mr. Johnson was instructed to secure a ruling from Civil Service concerning qualified persons to be interviewed to fill the vacancies existing for Supervisor and full time recreation Leader. Notice is to be given to the Commission members as soon as information is available.

10. Meeting with Finance Committee is scheduled for Thursday, March 10, 1960 at 9 P.M.

11. March meeting of Recreation Commission to be held on Monday, March 21, 1960 at 7:45 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1960

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as recorded.

1. The Commission interviewed Mr. William J. Barry and Mr. Ralph W. Hamilton, candidates for the position of Recreation Supervisor. These men are listed one-two on the Civil Service list. Both men were informed that no appointment would be made before April 1, 1960.
2. Mr. Johnson read a letter of thanks received from Mrs. Nicholas P. Tedesco.
3. Summary of Winter Program. - Second Term.

Basketball	3 Leagues	118 games
American	(1) Burke Drug	(2) Newton Elks
National	(1) Auburndale Juniors	(2) Boys Club Juniors
Pony	(1) Untouchables "Y"	(2) Hawthorn Hawks
4 Nights per week at Bigelos		1 Night per week at Hawthorn

Evening Programs

Recreation Basketball - No Leagues	-	10
Recreation Hobby Groups		8
Golf School		2 - 6 Classes
Newton Badminton Club		1
Sacred Heart School Basketball		3 (weeks)
Club Groups - Basketball & Games)		18
Scout Groups		4
Total	-	51 Periods/week

Afternoon Programs - Dancing Crafts Games Hobbies

14 Schools	16	14	10	1
3 Recreation Cent.	0	2	21	2
Total	-	66 periods/week		

Skating - 27 days - Summary Report made at February Meeting has not changed.

4. Rules & Regulations Concerning Use of Crystal Lake.

State Department of Public Works - Licenses and Permits advises that we may revise as we deem necessary. Arrange for a review of the proposed revision by their office.

We must certify that the Recreation Commission performs the duties of the original Playground Commission. Proposals for revision of rules and regulations are to be submitted at the May meeting.

Should turnstiles be installed as a means of attendance control? Discussion of merits. No decision reached. Investigate further the use of turnstiles.

#### 5. Report on Proposed Swimming Pool & Skating Rink.

Mayor Donald L. Gibbs had advised that any development along these lines appear to be at least three years away and requests that I so notify Mr. Frank Eskrigge (architect who has spent much time on designing these facilities). Mr. Gibbs will discuss the matter with Mr. Eskrigge if it becomes necessary.

The Commission is much concerned that these Capital Improvements must be postponed and instructed the Commissioner to write an appropriate letter to His Honor the Mayor expressing our concern at the delay in providing essential Recreation facilities for the people of Newton.

#### 6. Program for Physically and Mentally Retarded

There have been interested groups suggesting that Newton take advantage of the opportunity to develop a program for this group with the financial aid program offered by the State.

Miss Margaret Otto of the School Department and Mr. William A. Perry of the Mass. Association for Retarded Children have made surveys of these groups and have submitted reports to this office.

Mayor Gibbs has indicated that he is favorable to this program with State Aid and if it can be worked into our program schedule.

Commission voted to support program and instructed that staff be selected and arrangements be made for organizing the group.

#### 7. Newton Centre Playground House.

Our costs for General Maintenance and Supervision of the building will range between \$2500 and \$2600 per year. The average cost per person who uses this building for Indoor Programs is approximately \$1.00 for each period. Seven periods per week are reserved for special groups such as Scouts, Archers, Scout Leaders, Sacred Heart Girls Group. The remaining periods are for our own Recreation Program and is attended chiefly by a very small number from Sacred Heart School. The Playground itself is used extensively for baseball, tennis and summer playground. Average attendance at the Indoor Programs is 25. Other attendance is credited to Baseball, Tennis, Skating, Tobogganing, Coasting and Summer Playground.

Suggested that further study be made and that we explore the possibilities of a modern field house installation to meet the needs of the area.

The present structure is obsolete, a fire hazard, unsightly and a costly part of our total upkeep program.

8. Spring Program.

Softball Leagues to begin May 16 or 23.

VOTED:

(1) All members of Industrial League Softball Teams must be bonafide employees of company represented.

(2) All members of Club League Softball Teams must be bonafide residents of City of Newton. (Assessed poll book.)

Baseball Leagues to begin June 6.

Outdoor Playground Supervision will begin on April 20 at the following locations.

Boyd Park  
Carr Playground  
Hawthorn Playground  
Stearns  
Franklin  
West Newton Common

Burr Playground  
Cabot Park  
Auburndale Playground  
Newton Centre  
Lincoln Playground

9. Summer Playground Staff

Applications are about half of previous years. There are very few with playground, camp or teaching experience.

10. April meeting will be the Annual Board Members meeting of the Mass. Recreation Association to be held at the Colonial Inn at Lynnfield on April 5, 1960.

11. May meeting will be scheduled for May 16.

12. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

Special Notice - March 19, 1960

Mr. William J. Barry was notified this date of election and appointment to position of Recreation Supervisor effective as of April 18, 1960.

Mr. Ralph W. Hamilton was notified of the decision to appoint Mr. Barry to the position of Supervisor.

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 1960

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. R. Victor Stout  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner  
 Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved as recorded.

Record is made of attendance at the Massachusetts  
 Redrecreation Association Board Members Dinner on April 5, 1960 at Lynnfield.

1. Miss Mary L. Vara appeared before the Commission as a candidate for the position of full-time Recreation Leader-General.

After the interview, there was discussion as to the need for a full time leader at this time. It was voted to instruct the Commissioner to withdraw our requisition to Civil Service for full-time Leaders and to inform Miss Vara of our decision.

(Note: (Mr. Johnson has written to Civil Service requesting that names of persons not now available for employment as Recreation Leaders (full-time) or who have not worked for several years be removed from the Civil Service List.)

2. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Education has approved our request for a Recreation Program for Handicapped & Retarded Children in the City of Newton in accordance with Chapter 69, Section 29D of the General Laws.

We are now in the process of interviewing candidates for the leadership of this program. Any person employed must be certified by the State Department of Education if we are to receive State Aid. We will also explore the possibilities of transportation for those who register.

Program and Time Schedule.

July 6, 1960 - August 16, 1960

9:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M. Daily, Monday through Friday

Program intent is Recreational with some attention to habits and coordination.

There are 41 known eligibles at present.

recommended that salary of 2 leaders be fixed at \$75.00/week and if assistants are needed to fix their salary at \$60/week.

3. Reports on Maintenance.

- a. Drinking fountain installed at Lincoln Playground.
- b. Waban Improvement Association will install a Flagpole.
- c. Contracts drawn for
  1. Front-end Loader and 6 Sparton Mower Units
- d. Repair Problems

Heavy run of repairs on Jeeps and trucks  
Tractor Roller needs overhaul.

- e. All tennis courts conditioned and in use.
- f. All baseball and softball fields in operation
- g. All Little League Fields are being used to the limit.
- h. Heavy rains and Wet Spring have increased our maintenance work.
- i. Wellington Playground - Much damage by vandalism. Cost over \$200.00 for repairs.
- j. Personnel  
Frank Shea has been appointed Permanent Foreman.  
3 new laborers have been employed.

#### 4. Leagues & Schedules

- a. Softball Leagues - letter from Mr. William Barry, Director of Softball Leagues requesting that we rescind rule limiting team membership to Newton residents in Club League. Commission denied the request.
- b. Baseball Leagues will begin season on June 6.

#### 5. Communications.

- a. Request of United Cerebral Palsy Association for permission to operate Day Camp at Newton Centre Playground from July 6 - July 29, 1960 was approved.
- b. Request of Newton Boys Club for permission to use Allison Park for Day Camp Program from June 27 to August 6, 1960 was approved.
- c. Invitation from City of Boston to attend symposium on Recreation at Boston University on Tuesday, May 31, 1960 was read.
- d. Letter from Community Recreation Service of Boston inviting Newton to book the Children's Theatre Stagemobile during summer at \$100.00 for two shows.  
Commission approved booking.

#### 6. Summer Program

Tentative List of Summer Staff was submitted.

Our summer staff schedule does not extend beyond our budget appropriation.

Two areas of difficulty on staff are in our Crystal Lake Lifeguards and in adult trained leaders to be in charge of playgrounds.

#### 7. Fourth of July.

Newton Centre Improvement Association has made all arrangements for their Annual Field Day and Fireworks Display.

There is general feeling in the area that the Fireworks with the consequent traffic and crowd control problems are not essential and should be eliminated.

8. New England Area Conference was held at Swampscott May 16 - 18, 1960. Conference meetings were very well planned and the program was most valuable.

9. Notices.

- a. Each member of the Commission will receive a letter of instruction concerning photographs to be taken by Bachrach.
- b. June meeting to be held on Monday, June 20, 1960 at 7:45 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1960

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner  
Miss Katharine L. Howard, Secretary

Minutes of the May meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Reported that permits for two Day Camp Groups of Red Feather Agencies and one for Cerebral Palsy Association had been approved, namely: Newton Boys Club - Allison Park; Camp Fire Girls - Auburndale Playground; Cerebral Palsy Association - Newton Centre Playground.
2. Announced that a Day Camp Program Experiment for physically handicapped and Mentally Retarded Children was to be held at the Spaulding School with Mrs. Dorothea Donahue of Medford, Mass. and Mr. Clement McCann of Newton as Directors. Letters of invitation will be mailed on Tuesday to Parents of all children who are of record. Transportation arrangements have not been completed.
3. Report given on Symposium on Recreation held at Boston University. Basic subject concerned Recreation Development for Boston.
4. Review of Fees and Charges.

There was discussion of the present rates established by this Department with a review of the returns from these charges.

It was recommended that a survey be made of this problem in our neighboring towns and a report and recommendations be submitted at the September meeting.

5. Twombly House Fund.

The Board of Trustees consisting of Mrs. Worthing L. West, Mr. Wendell R. Bauckman and Mrs. Edwin Hawkrigde held a meeting in this office.

Recommended that Mr. Johnson call a meeting of interested citizens of the Upper Falls District namely, Mr. Joseph Gattuso, Mr. George Braceland, Mr. Robert McLaughlin, Mr. Albert Carroll and Mr. John Shaughnessy with the request that they make a definite recommendation to the Board of Trustees. (Note: This meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 22, 1960).

6. Summer Staff Organization:

Members received the staff assignment lists as in effect to date. Two resignations were noted as of this date. We have 44 new leaders and assistant leaders assigned for this year. We also have 4 new lifeguards and 6 new bathhouse attendants assigned. There is approximately a 45% turn-over in personnel for this summer season.

7. There was some general discussion of program needs for the summer. Particular stress was given to the possibilities of trips to concerts and museums and in extended inter-playground activity.
8. General Report on the conditions of our grounds and reference to the cooperation and help of the Police Department in locating those responsible for vandalism on our grounds.
9. September Meeting will be held on Monday, September 19, 1960.
10. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1960

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner

Minutes of the June meeting were approved as recorded.

Mr. Johnson reported officially the retirement of Miss Katharine L. Howard, Principal Clerk, after 42 years of service in the Recreation Department.

Voted-that a letter of appreciation and congratulations be sent to Miss Howard from this Commission.

Mr. Johnson announced the transfer of Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith from the Comptroller's office to the Recreation Department to take over the position of Principal Clerk.

1. Report of Summer Season and Program.

- A. Day Camp for retarded & handicapped at Spaulding School.  
22 Campers registered. Average daily attendance was 17. Camp operated for six week period 5 days per week. There were no postponements of activity periods. Some periods were shortened on the few days when we had rain. Two parties were held-one at the home of Mr. McCann, one of the instructors-the second one was held at the camp site and was in the nature of a birthday party for the children who had had birthdays during the camp season. Awards were presented for perfect attendance and for camp membership at this party.

Program was excellent. Children looked forward to each days activity.

Total cost of program \$2,240.21.

Requested reimbursement from State \$1,120.10.

Leaders were Mrs. Dorothea Donahue and Mr. Clement McCann. They are to be commended for their excellent work.

B. Summer Playgrounds.

Regular programs carried out on 32 grounds. 16 of these areas had full time day-time supervision and evening supervision Monday through Friday.

General Comments by Staff-  
Request 9 to 10 week season.

Inter playground activity for Girls' Teams.

Adult interest necessary (particularly evenings).

Wider range of activity for children under 9.

Modern playground equipment.

Problems for Department-

More mature staff needed-means a better pay scale.

Training Institute for Leaders with pay.

Longer Season seems necessary.

Program for early Teen-Agers.

How to cope with Vandalism.

Development of Swimming Facilities.

Attendance Report-

Playgrounds (from Report Sheets)	166,748
Crystal Lake (count on checking)	89,095
Baseball & Softball (361 games)	54,150
Picnics (3 locations)	<u>6,400</u>
Total	316,393

... .. Crystal Lake-

... .. attendance totals 89,095.. Lifeguard staff of 14 men.

... .. We picked up four new guards who did excellent work.

... .. Swimming Team was organized and had one meet with Brae

... .. Burn Country Club. Mr. Mark Peterson did an excellent job

... .. as Beach Manager. regular check programs were held for

... .. all guards through the season under his direction.

... .. Baseball-

... .. Babe Ruth League-

... .. 90 Regular season games

... .. 7 Playoff Games

... .. Newton Centre Sinoyans-Champions

... .. Newton boys' Club-Runner-up.

... .. Games played at-

... .. Newton Centre-Lincoln, high School.

... .. Ten Team League-all teams had sponsors.

National League-

45 Regular Season games

11 Playoff games

Waban Indians-Champions . . . .

Boys' Club-Runner-up.

American League-  
 56 Regular Season Games  
 11 Playoff Games  
 Cabot Club-Champions  
 Auburndale Merchants-Runner-up.

Total Regular Season Games	191
Total Playoff Games	<u>29</u>
Total Games-Season	<u>220</u>

Softball- .

Newton Softball League-Industrial Division.  
 Championship vacated because Raytheon and Stowe-Woodard were violating rules and using ineligible players.

Newton Softball-Club

Art Carroll Club-Winner and received championship award.

2. Fall Season Assignments.

Recreation Department-Fall Season Program

September 12, 1960

<u>Location</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Schedule</u>
Boyd Park	Caleb Scully	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.
Carr School	Mrs. Edith Wolcott	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.
Franklin.	John Mooney	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.
Burr Park	Mrs. Esther Toher	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.
Cabot Park	Thomas Lynch	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.
Auburndale	Del Ryan	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.
Newton Centre	Paul Sheehan	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.
Stearns School	Frank Perros	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.
Hawthorn	Ralph Hamilton	Mon.thru Fri.P.M.-Sat.A.M.

3. Discussion of need for Swimming and Skating Areas.

General discussion of inadequacies of Crystal Lake and our facilities there.

Letters from Alderman Theodore D. Mann and Mayor Donald L. Gibbs concerning the swimming problem were read.

There was general discussion of following questions:

What type of pool do we want? Indoor or outdoor.

Shall it be M.D.C. tax supported or privately owned (subscription or shares)

What cost must we estimate?

Next step-Confer with Mr. Charles Downe, to discuss problem. Certain definite facts must be established. Conference to be arranged with Planning Board and others.

Mr. Johnson was directed to write to Mr. Frank Eskrigge and advise him that until such time as we have some definite plans of promotion or direction that it would be unwise to continue his work on plans. When our plans are more definite, he will be given the opportunity to make application to draw plans and organize development.

4. Budget Program for remainder of 1960.

- A. Construction work at Thompsonville and West Newton Ball Diamonds will start next week.
- B. One Fencing contract for work at Lincoln Playground has not been awarded as yet. Dr. Sherman (an abutter) requests Cedar Strip Fence. We want a part of his land.
- C. Record is being kept of work being done for Hurricane Donna clean-up. This has retarded our fall development work.
- D. Vandalism and damage to fall sport installations are a difficult problem.

5. Survey Report on Fees and Charges.

Reports were received from 10 communities.

Study of Reports show that Newton's fees are not out of line. In most cases our fees are lower.

Voted-to continue fees for 1960 as originally adopted.

Voted-to discontinue class in Town-line Pottery as there are not adequate facilities for representative class groups, and because the costs do not warrant support for a program for 16 people.

Mr. Johnson was instructed to secure approval from M.D.C. for skating permit fees at Auburndale from all persons who use the area.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 17, 1960.

Mrs. West invited the members of the Commission to the Halloween supper on October 31 at her home.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1960

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Minutes of the September meeting were approved as recorded.

Letter read from Mr. Jerome Grossman, President of the Newton Council of Parent Teachers Association re. Mr. Alvin Caplan, 11 Glastonbury Oval, Waban 68, attending the Recreation meeting as liaison representative between the Commission and the Council.

The Commissioner reported that he had written to Mr. Caplan advising him of the date of this meeting and the agenda.

1. Swimming Facilities-

VOTED: That Mr. Charles Downe, Planning Consultant, a member of the School Department, or School Committee, and a representative of the Park Commission be invited to attend the November Commission meeting to discuss the possibilities of providing an indoor swimming pool in the area of the Newton High School which would be used for school and community on a full schedule. This site was suggested because the city may be able to secure School Building Assistance funds to reduce the cost to the city. A general discussion followed on the kind of pool, indoor or outdoor, locations, such as Albemarle, Ware's Cove, Newton Upper Falls, Cold Spring Park area, and Edmands Park. Victory Field and Allison Playground were ruled out as these areas are too much on the fringe of Newton. Edmands Park was considered very favorably.

The Commissioner reported on a suggested survey being made by Allied Biological Control Corp., Messrs. Jason Cortell and Gerard A. Hearn to free Crystal Lake of pollution and algae original cost \$7,000 to \$9,000, maintenance cost not over \$1,000 a year or \$10.00 a day. Allied Biological Control Corp. would make this survey with no cost to the city and no guarantee that we purchase from them. A study of Bulloughs Pond was also suggested by this company at an initial cost to the city of about \$1,000, and a maintenance cost of about \$300. per year.

Mr. Johnson recommended that he first secure the Mayor's permission to make this study.

The Chairman advised the other members of the Commission that she had received an excellent report from Mr. Mark Peterson, Manager of Crystal Lake Swimming Program. It was voted that a copy of this report be mailed to all members of the Commission.

The Chairman advised the Commissioner that a row boat was moored on Crystal Lake. Mr. Johnson will investigate.

The Preliminary Budget will be discussed at the November meeting and plans for swimming facilities and Mr. Peterson's suggestions for Crystal Lake should be among the projects incorporated in this budget.

II. The program schedule for the fall was submitted and approved. Copy of this schedule to be sent to each member of the Recreation Commission.

It was reported that Town Line Pottery has been discontinued as attendance had fallen off and it was being run as an advanced class, no beginners. Mr. Johnson will look forward to attending their exhibits. Should be very successful as a single unit.

Vandalism at various recreation areas was discussed. Damage done at High School four Saturdays in a row. Once goal posts are pulled down we will dismantle them.

Mr. Johnson stated that he has said many times if he could go one year without vandalism he could build the city a new playground.

Many requests have been made for marking soccer and football fields at the various elementary schools. These are taken care of. We are one city that maintains a marking crew of four men from April to December. Mr. Stout explained that at Boston University they use wet lime for marking with excellent results. Newton uses wet lime for marking.

Basketball program was discussed. The Commission were told that the program would be carried on for Industrial Teams again this year if any desired admission. Officials would be assigned about January 1st. Rate of pay would be \$5.00 per game, \$10.00 per night. Two officials would be used for every game. This rate of \$10.00 has been in effect for the past three years.

Custodial fees were increased a year ago. We pay a custodian his hourly rate plus one-half hour on each end of assignment. We anticipate no rate change until after the budget is passed.

Plans for skating were discussed briefly and Commissioner advised that everything would be ready when skating season starts.

Chairman, Mrs. West, explained a situation that has arisen at Newton Centre of children asking at private homes to use toilet facilities on Saturday afternoons. Commissioner said he could keep a man there but he would only be employed in the capacity of a "Caretaker". Matter was dropped for the present.

Regarding Indoor Activities: Mr. Johnson reported that he had been approached by two representatives of the Chestnut Hill Players, a dramatic organization, for suggestions as to where they might store scenery. They were referred to the Community Council since the Recreation Department does not have any such places for storage available.

Mr. Johnson reported that he had been approached by Mr. Harrison Rowbotham concerning assignment as Tennis Instructor and Administrative Worker. He is a member of the U. S. Lawn Tennis Association. Mr. Rowbotham is taking a leave of absence from the B. B. Chemical Co. and is anxious to get in a field called Public Relations, etc.. Interested in prospect of becoming a part of the Recreation Department in that field as well as doing administrative work in some other city department. Since this involves another department the Commissioner will discuss this matter with the Mayor. This matter to be investigated further by Mr. Johnson.

It was reported that the Golf School would be held again in January and February. Basketball leagues and hockey and skating will be conducted starting January 1st.

### III. Construction Work-

Commissioner reported that we have rebuilt ball field at Thompsonville, have made a little league size diamond. Rebuilt baseball diamond at West Newton Common and re-seeded. Both these projects were planned for this year and have been accomplished. These places will be in good shape for this spring. A regulation diamond will be laid out at the Hamilton School this spring. Two fields at Angier and a junior field at the Hamilton.

The Newton South High School are practicing at the Newton Highlands playground.

Mr. Johnson stated that he still refuses to accept the work that was done at the Spaulding School and if asked, at the Levi Warren Junior High. Also South High School Problems are involved and they will have to be straightened out. Spaulding will be re-done. Levi-Warren is still in question.

The loam that we have at Newton Centre is being used at the various recreation spots. We have salvaged enough of this loam when rebuilding two fields to treat five fields, three baseball fields, and two little league fields. Have enough loam to take care of three more fields.

Mr. Johnson reported that a letter had been sent to Miss Howard which is to be incorporated in the minutes of the meeting.

Mr. Johnson stated that he had attended the National Recreation Conference in Washington, D. C. This conference was one of the best he had ever attended. Miss Swartz was granted time off and attended at her own expense.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary.

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1960

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The following invited guests were also present:  
Mr. Charles Downe, City Planner  
Mr. Stanley Russell, Administrative Assistant to the  
Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. J. Howard Loughman, Member of Park Commission  
Mr. Stanley Miller, Member of Park Commission  
Mr. U. M. Schiavone, City Engineer

Minutes of the October meeting were approved as recorded.

Mr. Charles Downe opened the discussion for swimming pools for Newton with the showing of a map pinpointing the various sites where private indoor and outdoor swimming facilities might be made available to the public. Mr. Downe suggested that a questionnaire could be sent out to these various clubs and organizations inquiring as to whether or not these swimming facilities could be made available to the public, at what hours, and at what cost.

Mr. Downe suggested that a summary be made of existing facilities in the city both natural and artificial, private and public facilities. A study should be made of the relationship of swimming facilities to an educational program. Site plans should be prepared.

A second map showed the population distribution in the various sections of Newton. This could be an important factor in planning the location of a swimming pool.

A third map showed basic information of tax exempt properties, parks and playgrounds.

A fourth map showed areas where there was vacant land available in Newton.

Another map was shown pointing out residential and commercial areas, recreation areas, golf courses, etc. An analysis should be made of all of these plans.

The suggested questionnaire was to be sent to various organizations and groups in the city having swimming facilities. Purpose is -

1. To get information as to the type of pools.
2. Costs
3. Extent to which the pool would be available to other than the organization, and type of activity it carries on. (Water Safety Programs, if none were available would be one program we would need).

A general discussion followed on the kind of swimming facilities which would be most needed in Newton. (Indoor or outdoor)

Mr. Selden - There is a more urgent need for outdoor swimming pool. Indoor swimming pools should be the responsibility of the School Department.

Mr. Loughman - There is a greater need for outdoor swimming pools at the present time. The season should be extended from June 1st to October 1st. Budget allows for a Swimming Season from June 1st to September 10th.

Mr. Russell - An outdoor pool could only be used for about three months of the year whereas an indoor pool would be available for the whole year.

Mr. Stout - Should we consider a Civic Centre which will include many facilities?

Mr. Whitmore - At the present time city funds would not be available to develop any indoor swimming pool. Extensive study should be made as to whether an indoor or outdoor pool would serve the city better, whether it should be a project financed by the city or by private funds. In any event nothing should be done until the whole situation has been thoroughly studied. P.T.A. could be contacted to see what ideas they might come up with. This could give us a very good idea of what the trend of public opinion might be.

Mr. Downe and Mr. Johnson were asked to study this whole plan and contact other cities and towns to find out how they provided for swimming facilities.

It was unanimous that the Newton High School would be the best site for an indoor swimming pool together with the building of new locker rooms.

Mr. Johnson was requested to send copies of this part of the Minutes of the meeting to the Park Commission and the School Department.

It was suggested that the Park Commission and the School Department submit their recommendations for swimming facilities for the City of Newton to the Recreation Department.

Special discussion closed and the guests excused themselves and the Recreation Commission proceeded with the regular business of the Commission.

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 1961

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Minutes of the November meeting were approved as recorded.

Mr. Johnson reported that he had attended meeting of a committee sponsored by Newton Community Council to study and report on the need for a Council for the Aging.

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Schedule of Basketball Leagues were submitted.  
Discussion of Team membership rules.

The following rules were approved:

1. Industrial Teams may have as members any full-time employee of their Newton plant.
2. Club teams may enroll as members such players as were members of the League continuously during the previous year although they may be now living outside of Newton.

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The Commissioner read a letter from Allied Biological Control Corp. dated December 27, 1960 re. their study of bacterial contamination problem in the beach area of Crystal Lake. When report is completed they will present their findings to the Commission. Commission voted to invite Dr. Phillips, Director of Public Health, City of Newton, to attend meeting when report is submitted.

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The Commission instructed the Commissioner to inform Mr. Eskridge that the Recreation Commission is submitting a Capital Improvement Program for 1961. After approval of the Annual Budget by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen Mr. Eskridge will be advised as to what programs are planned for 1961.

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The Commissioner reported on his attendance at an open meeting held at the Carr School. Mr. Charles E. Downe, City Planner, discussed schools on the north-side of the city.

A copy of the 1961 Preliminary Budget was distributed to all members of the Commission present.

A discussion of the salary rates to be incorporated in the Final Budget for 1961 was held. The Commissioner presented his recommendations for the various positions and suggested a new position be approved to be known as Program Director or Assistant to the Commissioner, Grade 17. It was voted by the members of the Commission that this be held until the entire Commission was present and until the report was received from the Evans Associates who have been conducting a salary survey for the Mayor.

The recommendation was made that Frank Shea, Foreman, be placed on Salary, Group 12, effective April 1, 1961.

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Commission approved request for appropriation in advance of the budget to Code 60-1-40- Not Otherwise Classified for a Rotary Broom (installed on Jeep)- \$500.00.

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It was voted that a special meeting be called in January, if necessary, to approve various items in the budget which will be presented after the salary survey has been completed.

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Meeting adjourned at 11:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

The Total Budget Requests for the Recreation Department as approved and corrected in accordance with Salary and Wage Recommendations submitted by the Evans report are listed as follows:

60-0 ADMINISTRATION AND PROGRAM

<u>Expended 1959</u>	<u>Expended 1960</u>	<u>Dept. Request 1961</u>
\$130,663.87	\$132,410.12	\$169,131.28

60-1 MAINTENANCE OF RECREATION AREAS EXCLUSIVE OF SCHOOLS

<u>Expended 1959</u>	<u>Expended 1960</u>	<u>Dept. Request 1961</u>
\$141,012.51	\$125,758.71	\$198,526.89

60-2 CARE AND ALTERATIONS OF SCHOOL PLAYGROUNDS & ATHLETIC FIELDS

<u>Expended 1959</u>	<u>Expended 1960</u>	<u>Dept. Request 1961</u>
\$ 20,402.24	\$ 30,270.58	\$ 57,981.00

60-3 EXTENDED USE OF SCHOOLS

<u>Expended 1959</u>	<u>Expended 1960</u>	<u>Dept. Request 1961</u>
\$ 5,723.97	\$ 5,570.75	\$ 6,900.00

Note- On the basis of Recommendations made by Evans Associates and as a result of conference with members of the Commission on Saturday, February 11, 1961, there is submitted a request for approval of a new position, "Assistant to the Commissioner in Class S-18 as indicated in the Department Final Budget Recommendations.

## MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 1961

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner

Absent: Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.

The meeting was called to order at 8 P. M. and then adjourned to meet with the Finance Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen for the purpose of discussing the Recreation Department budget recommendations for 1961.

The meeting reconvened at 11:20 P.M. in the Recreation Department office.

The minutes of the January meeting were approved as recorded.

Record is made that no meeting was held in February, 1961.

Announcement was made that the Basketball Championship Playoffs were now under way and will continue for the next three weeks. All members were invited to attend such games as they could plan to attend during that period.

Mr. Johnson presented the facts and conditions relative to the petition by the Atino-San Marco Mutual Benefit Society for variance in zoning to permit the erection of a masonry and steel meeting room and banquet hall at Rustic Street, Ward I. The Commission indicated its continued opposition to this petition for the reason that such non-conforming use in a residence area and immediately adjacent to a public playground is undesirable and encourages nuisance conditions.

The Commission approved the action of the Commissioner to assist the N. E. Lawn Tennis Association to carry on a Tryout Indoor Tennis Program at Newton South High School provided that the Newton School Department will make the school available and that the N. E. Lawn Tennis Association will pay all the charges incidental to this use.

The Commission authorized the issuing of permits to operate a Day Camp Program to the Newton Boys' Club and the Newton section of the Camp Fire Girls for the season of 1961 if such request is made. The conditions of permit was to be the same as have pertained during the previous years of these day camp associations on Newton Playgrounds.

The meeting adjourned at 11:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

## MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 15, 1961

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Hon. Howard Whitmore  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

The minutes of the March meeting of the Commission were approved as recorded.

Record is made that the regular April meeting was combined with the Massachusetts Recreation Society Board Members Dinner at the University Club, Boston, on April 13, 1961. The speaker of the evening was Mr. Stephen H. Mahoney, retired Recreation Superintendent of Cambridge, Mass.

The Staff membership for the Summer Season was presented. This list is complete to date. Some vacancies still exist.

The schedules of Babe Ruth League and Newton Softball Leagues were submitted. The schedules of the American and National Baseball Divisions of the Newton Twilight Leagues will begin on the first Monday in June.

Commission approved a plan to contract for the Stagemobile of the Community Recreation Service for a full day's production.

Commission approved a plan to arrange for cooperative Practice Leadership (Field Work) with the University of Massachusetts to send a student or students to work under direct leadership at a Newton Playground during the year 1961-62.

Commission approved request of New England Lawn Tennis Association that we allow the Youth Tennis Foundation of New England to organize a Tennis Instruction Clinic of 5 lessons of 2 hours each at Newton South High School and possibly Levi Warren Junior High School during the summer season. Each member is urged to make a \$10.00 contribution to the New England Lawn Tennis Association.

Commission voted leave to withdraw petition of Carmen Society for Fireworks and celebration on July 16, 17, 18 at Allison Park.

Commission voted Leave to Withdraw of Petition of Lasell Junior College for Construction of a Cinder Block Boathouse at Auburndale Playground for storage of their War Canoes.

Application of New England Lawn Tennis Association to play matches of New England Interscholastic Tennis Tournament at South High School on June 16, 17 and 18 was approved subject to approval of Newton School Dept.

Application of New England Lawn Tennis Association for week-end Tennis Tournament for Working Boys at Newton South High School on Saturday-Sunday, July 22 - 23 was approved subject to approval of Newton School Department.

Commission approved requests of Newton Boys Club for Day Camp privilege at Allison Park and the Newton Wellesley Cerebral Palsy Association for Day Camp during month of July at Newton Centre.

It was noted that the Camp Fire Girls have withdrawn their request for Day Camp privilege at Auburndale Playground.

Request of Newton Soccer Club for right to charge admission or sell donation ticket for their scheduled games at Hawthorn Playground was denied.

Commission agreed that we should oppose sale of public lands on Beacon Street near Beethoven School. Opinion was offered that we should explore possibility of adding this land to Recreation Lands.

Commission denied application of Horace Mann-Stearns P.T.A. for Square Dance at Hawthorn on July 3rd. (Note: Application made for June 22nd previous to Playground Season after this denial. Permit granted with time restriction of 7:30 - 10:30 P.M.)

Mr. Johnson was appointed to represent Commission at Newton Youth Advisory Committee.

Messrs. Stout and Johnson were designated as delegates to Newton Community Council.

Letter from Mr. Frank M. Simmons, Director of Athletics for Newton Public Schools was presented. This letter requested certain information concerning our budget expenditures for schools.

Matter was tabled with suggestion that we explore further the intent and purpose of the letter.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT NEWTON CITY HALL  
ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 1961

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Members present: - Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner

1. Minutes of the May meeting were approved as recorded.
2. Summer Staff Lists were submitted and approved. All appointments have been made within the budget estimate for wages of Leaders, Assistant Leaders, Lifeguards and Bathhouse Attendants.
3. The Commissioner reported on the conditions pertaining to the claim of Mr. David Freedman, 20 Rogers St., Newton Centre, concerning his rights to Crystal Lake and his claim of property ownership. This case is in the hands of Mr. Matt B. Jones, City Solicitor.
4. Record was made of approval for use of the Newton Centre Playground for the 4th of July Celebration under the direction of the Newton Centre Improvement Association with the recommendation that a thorough study be made of Newton's July 4th Program and that recommendations be made for future years.
5. Record made of approval for July 4th Celebration at Newton Upper Falls under direction of Upper Falls Improvement Association with same recommendation as for Item #3.
6. Voted: To endorse request of School Committee for improved Field Events Area at Newton High School and to request appropriation for same based on plans and specifications to be submitted.
7. Announced that the Department Maintenance Staff would begin on rebuilding and renovating ball fields at Auburndale and Newton Highlands in early September.
8. Communication from Mr. U. M. Schiavone indicating final acceptance of Site Development of loamed and seeded areas for Athletic Fields at Newton South High School.

Note: The Recreation Commissioner did not agree that the area was satisfactory for an athletic field. He did agree that if the City Engineer approved the work as meeting the specifications of the contract that the Recreation Department would assume the responsibility of maintenance.

9. The Levi Warren Dield addition in back of the new Tennis Courts has been accepted by the City Engineer and we have assumed responsibility for maintenance.
10. Voted: To continue to our Time schedule on Tennis Courts on Sundays with courts to be open at 9:00 A.M.
11. Voted: To grant "leave to withdraw" on request of use of some Playgrounds for Dog-Training Classes.
12. Mr. Donald Kesselheim of Newton High School in conjunction with Tufts University have organized a summer school course in Citizenship Training and Responsibility and request the right to use Edmands Park as a Laboratory for experimental work in reclaiming overgrown park areas. There would be no special costs or demands on the Recreation Department.  
  
Voted: To grant permission for this experiment with the recommendation that all phases of the work project be cleared through the Recreation Commissioner.
13. Mr. Johnson requested authorization to contact the Headmaster's Association to ask for a review of their Baseball Tournament Program with the aim of securing better cooperation concerning scheduling and programming of the Tournament Games so that Recreation Department Maintenance Personnel can better meet the schedule.
14. Next meeting scheduled for September 19, 1961 if business warrants such a meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT NEWTON CITY HALL  
ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1961

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Members Present: - Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

1. Minutes of the June Meeting were approved as recorded.
2. Mr. Eliot Craft and Mr. David Krongard, representing the Meadowbrook P.T.A. presented a letter written by a student of the Meadowbrook Jr. High - Donald W. Todrin, and a plan drawn by Robert Wexler, for improving the play area at the Meadowbrook Jr. High. After discussion the Commission recommended that the Meadowbrook P.T.A. should present their plan to the Newton School Committee for action and to forward their recommendations to the proper authority. The Recreation Commission agrees that there is a need for the development of a playground and a physical education and athletic field area at Meadowbrook Jr. High.
3. No action has been taken on the case involving David Freedman, 20 Rogers St., Newton Highlands as no finding has been reported by the City Solicitor.
4. It was recorded in the Minutes that the Recreation Department request for an appropriation in the amount of \$3,500. for Field Events Area at Newton High School was denied by the Board of Aldermen on Aug. 7, 1961. The Commission recommended that this be made a Budget item in the 1962 Budget.
5. Suggested that Members of Commission visit the South High School Playing Fields and make an inspection of the total work effort.
6. The Commissioner reported on the Summer Program. We kept within the Budget for salaries despite the limitation set by the vote of the Board of Aldermen on Total Appropriation for Leadership. Leaders who received increases in June for summer work will not suffer pay reductions for the Fall season.

It was reported that the following playgrounds had very poor attendance: Angier, Oak Hill School, Richardson, and Warren. A study will be made of conditions at these areas.

The Baseball Season started in June and all playoffs were completed during Labor Day week.

The Babe Ruth League held their banquet at Valle's Steak House.

The Newton Twilight Softball-Baseball League held a very successful Banquet at Elks Hall. The use of the hall was donated by Mr. Steve O'Brien - Exalted Ruler.

A definite ruling must be made before next year's baseball season  
That all players in the League must be bona-fide residents of Newton.

It was reported that the Swimming Season at Crystal Lake had been very  
successful. The attendance was over 103,000.

The Lake was closed for one day due to the treatment of the water by  
the State for algae.

The Commissioner suggested that turnstiles be considered for Crystal  
Lake next year. This would greatly reduce the expense both for permits  
and in operating costs at the Lake.

The restriction of 1 hour of swimming could be enforced by issuing a  
card to each bather.

The extension of the Swimming Season was discussed but due to Personnel  
Problems and Budget restrictions it was not considered feasible.

5. Letter from Mr. Martin Manzelli- abutter to the Cabot Playground was  
discussed. It was agreed that a clarification be requested from the  
City Solicitor as to the City's liability should damage be done to  
Mr. Manzelli's property from a baseball being hit over the backstop.
6. Request from University of Mass. for Seminar on Recreation to be held  
for University of Mass. students under the direction of the Newton  
Recreation Dept. was approved pending selection of a satisfactory date.
7. The Commissioner reported on the excellent job done by the Maintenance  
Dept. on the Auburndale Baseball Field. Work has practically been  
completed.  
  
Newton Highlands Baseball Field should be finished early in November.
8. Report on Meeting in Mayor's office on October 16th was given by the  
Commissioner. From the discussion it would seem that the 4th of July  
Celebrations, at least pertaining to Fireworks would be abolished after  
this year. A program of competitive sports may be held, however.
9. The Halloween Program is progressing very smoothly under the direction  
of Mrs. Dorothy Garon. Donations for this program are falling off, and  
some other means of sponsoring this program may have to be taken another  
year.
10. Mr. Johnson made a report on the Fall schedule. There will be 55 sessions  
per week starting Nov. 1st at eleven different areas. Fees and charges  
will be the same as in previous years.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY EVENING  
NOVEMBER 29, 1961

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. R. Victor Stout  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

1. Minutes of the October meeting were approved as recorded.
2. The following recommendations were approved:
  - a. Commissioner was advised to send a letter to Mr. Willard S. Pratt, Director of Public Works, stating that certain lots of land on Goddard Street, Newton Highlands, specifically lots 31, 32, 33, and 35 of Section 83, block 33, be released for land offers as may be deemed advisable by the City Government. Commission voted that Recreation Department has no further use for these lots of land for playground development.
  - b. That Building Commissioner be advised to recommend the following improvements in his 1962 Budget:
    1. Eliminate shower room at Burr Playground.
    2. Modernize showers and toilet facilities at Crystal Lake before 1962 Swimming Season opens.
  - c. Request Mayor Donald L. Gibbs to authorize razing and removal of the Temporary Check House at Bulloughs Pond (erected in early 1930's as a temporary structure).
  - d. Request Mayor Donald L. Gibbs to take steps to secure plans and specifications for the construction of a proper building at Bulloughs Pond to be erected during the year 1962.
3. Letter dated Sept. 16, 1960 from Hon. Donald L. Gibbs, Mayor - re: receipt of letter from Alderman Theodore D. Mann regarding a Swimming Pool for Newton was discussed.

VOTED: That this matter be held for further study.

4. VOTED: All members of our basketball teams must be legal residents of Newton. This includes St. Jean's, Newton Boy's Club and any other groups that might be organized in the City.

5. Preliminary Budget was recommended as follows:

60-0 Administration & Program	\$ 165,919.68
60-1 Maintenance of Recreation Areas	209,789.14
60-2 School Playgrounds & Athletic Fields	63,889.08
60-3 Extended Use of Schools	6,900.00
Total .....	<u>\$ 446,497.90</u>

Copies of this total budget has been submitted to His Honor, Mayor Donald L. Gibbs and are on file in the Recreation Department office.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF RECREATION COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY,  
DECEMBER 20, 1961

All members present.

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. West.

Mrs. West welcomed Mayor Donald L. Gibbs to the meeting as ex-officio member of the Commission.

Mayor Gibbs presented the following letter of resignation from the Recreation Commissioner:

December 18, 1961

Honorable Donald L. Gibbs  
Mayor of Newton  
City Hall, Newton Centre 59, Mass.

Dear Mayor Gibbs:

I respectfully submit my resignation as Recreation Commissioner for the City of Newton to be effective on February 22, 1962, and request that I be relieved of my duties as of January 31, 1962.

I shall submit application for retirement under the Veteran's Act, Chapter 32, Section 58-B to the Newton Retirement Board with the request that retirement be effective beginning February 23, 1962.

Very truly yours,

C. Evan Johnson (signed)

COMMISSIONER

cc: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chrm.  
Newton Recreation Commission

Respectfully submitted,

Recreation Commissioner

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY EVENING  
JANUARY 16, 1962

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. C. Evan Johnson, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

1. Minutes of the November 29, 1961 meeting were approved as recorded.
2. Minutes of the Special Meeting held December 20, 1961 were approved as recorded.
3. The following recommendations, approved at the November 29th meeting were reported on by the Commissioner:
  - a. Elimination of shower room at Burr Playground.  
The Commissioner visited Burr Playground building with Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner and reported that Mr. Burns will draw up plans for the improvement of Burr Playground building.
  - b. Modernize showers and toilet facilities at Crystal Lake.  
Mr. Burns will draw up plans for these improvements.
  - c. Razing and removal of temporary check house at Bulloughs Pond.  
Mayor Gibbs authorized the Commissioner verbally to have this done. Letter was sent to Mayor confirming completion of this work with a copy to Alderman Earle D. Wood, Chairman of Finance Committee.  
Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner, visited Bulloughs Pond with Mr. Johnson and agreed to have plans drawn up for the construction of a modern building at Bulloughs Pond.  
The Building Commissioner felt that the above projects would be incorporated in his Capital Outlay Program for 1962.
4. VOTED: That verbal ruling by Assistant City Solicitor George Elbaum re-non-residents of Newton being allowed to participate in our basketball program, be clarified further by stating that residency means legal resident, domiciled in Newton so that the ruling shall read as follows:

"All members of our basketball teams must be legal residents domiciled in Newton. This includes St. Jean's, Newton Boys' Club and any other groups that might be organized in the City".
5. The final Budget for the Year 1962 was discussed. It was Voted to submit the Final Budget with no changes from the Preliminary Budget originally submitted to the Mayor. Copies of this Budget will be sent to each member of the Commission upon completion.

Budget to be submitted as follows:

60-0	Administration and Program	\$166,357.67
60-1	Maintenance of Recreation Areas Exclusive of Schools	209,189.14
60-2	Care and Alterations of School Playground and Athletic Fields	64,389.08
60-3	Extended Use of Schools	<u>6,900.00</u>
	Total.....	<u>\$446,835.89</u>

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner reported on a Recreation Leadership Training Program for Recreation Leaders to be conducted at the University of Massachusetts on June 22, and 23. Tuition will be \$11.00 per person. Newton Recreation Department should have Recreation Leaders attend this Institute. It may be of value if Recreation Department set up an amount of roughly \$250.00 to defray expenses at this Training Program for some of our Recreation Leadership Personnel.

Letter from Vincent J. Kohen, Coach of Manchester, Conn. West Side Recreation Centre re-Basketball Team for boys 13 and 14 years of age participating in games was discussed. Commission agreed that we should not enter into any schedule agreement out-of-state at the present time.

The Commissioner reported receipt of Statement from Archie R. Whitman, City Treasurer that Twombly House Fund had a balance of \$338.28 as of November 30, 1961.

A request was presented by the Commissioner from Mrs. Gordon representing the Ward School P.T.A. that Spring and Fall supervision be provided at the Ward School this year. Recommended that supervision be provided on an experimental basis this Spring. It was suggested that P.T.A. through the school inquire as to how many children might be interested in taking advantage of such a program.

July 4th Celebration for Newton was discussed. The Commission will meet with the Mayor to determine what the program of celebration for Newton will be and to decide on the Fireworks question at Newton Centre and Newton Upper Falls Playgrounds.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

February 15, 1962

Minutes of two special meetings of the Recreation Commission duly called and held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, February 13 and 14, 1962 in the Recreation Department office, City Hall, Newton at 7 p.m. The purpose of the meetings was to interview candidates for the position of Recreation Commissioner for the City of Newton as requested by His Honor, Mayor Gibbs. Written applications had been received from those candidates who were to be interviewed by the Commission members. Present were T. Frank Copp, Joseph Selden, Howard Whitmore, Jr., and Mrs. Worthing L. West, chairman. Due to illness, R. Victor Stout was unable to be present. The Mayor was present for part of the meeting on Tuesday and for the entire time on Wednesday.

Listed here are those applicants interviewed:

Tuesday, February 13

7 p.m.	John Penny	8.45	Herbert Kopf
8 p.m.	Lawrence Fortier	9.30	Robert Doherty

Wednesday, February 14

7 p.m.	David Jones
8 p.m.	Paul Kincare
8.45 p.m.	James Murphy

Following the final interview on Wednesday, the Commission members and the Mayor adjourned to the Mayor's office where a full and complete discussion was held, and a potential solution was arrived at. From now on the matter will be handled by the Mayor.

Signed:

Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Recreation Commission  
City of Newton

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD THURSDAY EVENING  
MARCH 1, 1962

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
T. Frank Copp  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
James E. Murphy, Acting Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P.M.

The minutes of the January 16, 1962 meeting were approved as recorded.

1. The Budget of the Recreation Department for the Year 1962 was discussed in detail with the Acting Commissioner. Mr. Murphy explained each item of the budget as recommended or reduced by the Mayor.

The final amounts as recommended by the Mayor are as follows:

	<u>Dept. Rec.</u>	<u>Mayor's Rec.</u>
60-0 Administraton & Program	\$166,357.67	\$159,963.26
60-1 Maintenance of Recreation Areas Exclusive of Schools	209,189.14	168,334.54
60-2 Care and Alterations of School Playground & Athletic Fields	64,389.08	61,789.08
60-3 Extended Use of Schools	<u>6,900.00</u>	<u>6,900.00</u>
	<u>\$446,835.89</u>	<u>\$396,986.88</u>

The Commission was reminded that they would meet with the Finance Committee on Saturday morning, March 3, 1962 at 9:00 A.M. to discuss the Recreation Dept. Budget for 1962.

2. The rules and regulations governing Crystal Lake were discussed and the Acting Commissioner was requested to contact Mr. Jones, City Solicitor before going to the State Conservation office to clarify rules and regulations as applying to rights of abutters, etc. If necessary rules and regulations should be rewritten to cover present day problems.

3. VOTED: To appoint Mr. Selden to substitute for Mr. Stout as a representative from the Recreation Commission to the Civic Group of the Community Council. The Recreation Commissioner is the paid delegate to this Council.

4. It was recorded that it would not be necessary to designate a member of the Recreation Commission to replace Mr. Johnson to the Newton Youth Advisory Board as this Board has been dissolved.

5. The Harding Memorial Fund for Carol and Ellen Ellison was discussed. Mr. Murphy, Acting Commissioner, reported that \$1,000.00 was available in this fund to be spent for a memorial in the Nonantum District. The Hawthorn Playground was selected as the best playground in the Nonantum area to set up some sort of a memorial.

Mrs. West, Chairman, requested Mr. Murphy to investigate this matter and report back to the Commission as to what might be a suitable memorial for Hawthorn Playground or Hawthorn building.

6. The Acting Commissioner reported that March 18, 1962 would commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Newton Playground Department. It was recommended that the Acting Commissioner write something for the local papers on this subject. It was also suggested that a Resolution be drawn up for the Board of Aldermen.

Meeting adjourned at 11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

February 15, 1962

Minutes of two special meetings of the Recreation Commission duly called and held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, February 13 and 14, 1962 in the Recreation Department office, City Hall, Newton at 7 P.M. The purpose of the meetings was to interview candidates for the position of Recreation Commissioner for the City of Newton as requested by His Honor, Mayor Gibbs. Written applications had been received from those candidates who were to be interviewed by the Commission members. Present were T. Frank Copp, Joseph Selden, Howard Whitmore, Jr., and Mrs. Worthing L. West, chairman. Due to illness, R. Victor Stout was unable to be present. The Mayor was present for part of the meeting on Tuesday and for the entire time on Wednesday.

Listed here are those applicants interviewed:

Tuesday, February 13

7 PM John Penny  
8 PM Lawrence Fortier

8:45 Herbert Kopf  
9:30 Robert Doherty

Wednesday, February 14

7 PM David Jones  
8 PM Paul Kincare  
8:45 PM James Murphy

Following the final interview on Wednesday, the Commission members and the Mayor adjourned to the Mayor's office where a full and complete discussion was held, and a potential solution was arrived at. From now on the matter will be handled by the Mayor.

Signed:

Jeannette C. West

Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Recreation Commission  
City of Newton

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY  
EVENING, APRIL 10, 1962

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
T. Frank Copp  
R. Victor Stout  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
James E. Murphy, Acting Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. West at 9:30 P.M.

The minutes of the meeting held January 16, 1962 and the two Special Meetings held February 13 and February 14, 1962 were approved as recorded.

1. The Chairman read a letter received by her from John L. Arnold, Treasurer of Lasell Jr. College re- permission to use, purchase or lease certain land now owned by the City, approximately 3,000 sq. ft., said land located on the Charles River at Wares or Pulsifers Cove at Auburndale. Chairman advised that she had written to Matt B. Jones, City Solicitor, on February 14, 1962, for an opinion on this request. All correspondence regarding this matter was turned over to the Acting Recreation Commissioner.

2. Letter dated March 13, 1962 from Mario DiCarlo, Adjutant General re- Members of the Recreation Commission participating in the Memorial Day Parade was read. Any member wishing to take part in the parade agreed to contact Mr. DiCarlo personally.

3. Communication dated February 9, 1962 from Monte G. Basbas, City Clerk, re- fishing at Crystal Lake was read by the Chairman. It was voted that rules and regulations should be re-written to coincide with rules of Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Acting Commissioner was requested to draw up set of rules and regulations and submit them to the City Solicitor for this approval.

It was voted to acknowledge City Clerk's letter and advise him that rules were going to be re-written.

4. Mrs. West discussed notice from Allard M. Valentine, Treasurer, re- formation of a group called Newton Conservators Inc. for the purpose of protection and preservation of natural areas in Newton, its wooded lands, streams and wetlands. Commission agreed that this group should approach the Commission directly if they had any requests to be made to the City of Newton.

After the foregoing matters were discussed the Chairman turned the meeting over to the Acting Commissioner, Mr. Murphy.

5. The Recreation Department Budget for 1962 was discussed and each reduction by the Board of Aldermen was noted.

6. Letter dated April 8, 1962 from Reevan I. Levine, M.D. was read. Dr. Levine expressed his desire that Bulloughs Pond be stocked for fishing and also his willingness to contribute to the purchase of two swans for the Pond. Commission voted to acknowledge Dr. Levine's letter and advise him that we are not prepared to accept his offer at this time.

7. Acting Commissioner reported that buildings at Bulloughs Pond have been razed and a new building would be erected as soon as plans could be made by the Building Commissioner.
8. Letter dated March 27, 1962 from the City Solicitor re- David Freedman vs. City of Newton was discussed.

The Commission requested the Acting Commissioner to write to the City Solicitor and notify him that they voted to unanimously adopt his recommendations as outlined in his letter dated March 27, 1962. It was also voted to request the City Solicitor to give his opinion on a few clauses to be presented to Mr. Freedman, namely:

1. That a waiver be signed by Mr. Freedman releasing this department from any damages to property or persons presently or in the future.
2. That the Freedman family notify the Bathhouse Manager either in person or by phone of the number of bathers and the time that they would be in the water. (This is only for the protection of the individuals and our Lifeguards.)
9. The Commission were invited to attend the Spring meeting of the Massachusetts Recreation Society on April 24, 1962 at 6:00 P.M. at Ken's Steak House. Mr. Copp and Mr. Whitmore signified they could attend. Mrs. West, Mr. Stout and Mr. Selden regretted they could not attend due to previous commitments.
10. The Acting Commissioner reported that the Spring season was opening April 9th at the following places: Stearns, Boyd, Franklin, Burr, Ward, Auburndale, Lower Falls, Newton Centre, Cabot, and Hawthorn.
11. The Acting Commissioner reported that we have about 150 applicants for positions for the Summer season. The suggestion was made by Mr. Murphy that practically all summer personnel be given a 50¢ increase per day. The Commission approved of this increase.
12. It was reported that the hardtop tennis courts were all ready for use. Some clay courts were ready and others would be ready for use very soon.
13. Bids have been 1st out for the Construction of the Upper Falls Tennis Courts by the Purchasing Department.
14. The swimming permits and tennis permits have been ordered for 1962.
15. The personnel to handle our Handicapped Children's Program at the Spaulding School have signified their willingness to conduct this program.
16. Supervisor William Barry and Supervisor Robert Doherty suggested to the Acting Commissioner that he request permission of the Commission to raise the entry fee of teams participating in the Softball and Baseball Leagues to \$25.00 instead of \$15.00. This would eliminate unorganized teams who are not too serious about playing. Each team will receive four banquet tickets at the end of the season, cost of such tickets would come out of the entry fee of \$25.00. Approved by Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy G. Smith,  
Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD MONDAY EVENING  
MAY 7, 1962

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
T. Frank Copp  
R. Victor Stout  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Harold T. Pilsbury, Acting Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. West, Chairman, at 7:45 P.M.

The minutes of the meeting held April 10, 1962 were approved as recorded.

1. Freedman case vs. City of Newton was discussed and Chairman read letter dated April 11, 1962 from Acting Commissioner James E. Murphy to Mr. Jones, City Solicitor regarding certain clauses which should be presented by City Solicitor to Mr. Freedman for use of Crystal Lake. Recommendations were for the protection of the individuals using the lake and our Lifeguards.

The Secretary was requested to send a copy of the Rules and Regulations Governing the Use of Crystal Lake to each member of the Commission.

2. Letter dated April 27, 1962 from Matt. B. Jones, City Solicitor, re-permission for Lasell Jr. College to use, purchase or lease certain land owned by the City at Auburndale Park was discussed. Mr. Jones advised the Chairman that this was a matter between Arthur M. Hicks of Lasell Jr. College and J. Howard Loughman, Chairman, Newton Park Commissioners.

3. It was voted that new rules and regulations governing Crystal Lake would have to be written at a later date, but Acting Commissioner was advised to acknowledge letter from Monte G. Basbas, City Clerk, dated February 9, 1962 to Chairman West re-fishing at Crystal Lake, and thank him for bringing this matter to the attention of the Commission. No further action was to be taken at the present time.

4. Acting Commissioner was requested to acknowledge letter dated April 8, 1962 from Reevan I. Levine, M.D. re- Bulloughs Pond being stocked for fishing and his willingness to contribute two swans for the Pond. Dr. Levine's offer will be discussed at a later date.

5. Bids for the construction of Upper Falls Tennis Courts were received. L.P. Quinn Co., the only bidder, submitted a bid of \$11,000. Since the amount appropriated was only \$10,000 it was voted to request Purchasing Agent to do a little research on the project.

6. Communication from Dr. Sawyer, Acting Health Director, re-exterminating rats at Countryside Playground was read. Also complaint about unsightly condition of playground due to Contractor dumping fill on the grounds. Acting Commissioner contacted Forestry Department and they put a non-poisonous chemical there. Mr. Pratt, Director of Public Works will check with Contractor to find out whose responsibility it is to level off the grounds.

7. Communication dated April 23, 1962 from Clapper Co. to the Mayor was read re- Model "U" Aerifier. Recreation Department has used this piece of equipment without charge for a few years and now they would be willing to sell it to the Recreation Department for \$364.00.

Acting Commissioner was advised to acknowledge this letter from Mr. Orville O. Clapper and convey to him the Commission's appreciation for the loan of equipment over the years. The matter will be held in abeyance until a future date.

8. Communication from John E. Gilleland, Director of Business Services, School Department, dated April 17, 1962 was read. Mr. Gilleland requested that the back rail on the bleachers at the High School field which had collapsed last fall be repaired before Graduation Exercises in June. Acting Commissioner was to contact Purchasing Agent and request his advice as to what steps should be taken to bring about the repair of these bleachers. It was also voted that the City Solicitor be contacted to make sure there are no litigations or negotiations pending.

9. Request of Newton Council P.T.A. by Mrs. Harold J. Rosenberg, re-subsidizing transportation for the Skating Program was discussed. It was voted to acknowledge Mrs. Rosenberg's letter and advise her that the Recreation Department budget did not allow for any such expenditure.

10. Voted- to issue a permit to the Newton Boys' Club for the use of the Allison Park field for their Day Camp Program June 25th to August 3, 1962, Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Request received April 16th from Dennis J. Driscoll of the Board of Directors.

11. Letter from Daniel G. Valente, 22 Pettee Street, Newton Upper Falls, forwarded from Chief of Police to Mayor Gibbs was read. Mr. Valente requested that the backstop at the Emerson Playground be moved to another area to protect his property. Commission voted to have Acting Commissioner acknowledge Mr. Valente's letter and explain there was no money available at the present time to make any changes at Emerson Playground. This matter will be considered at a later date.

12. Communication dated April 30, 1962 from Harold A. Clark, Assistant Director of Business Services, School Department, was read. Mr. Clark reported that the Oak Hill Park Association Group who had a permit to use the Meadowbrook gymnasium each Wednesday evening from October 18, 1961 through March 14, 1962 had failed to notify the Custodian, Mr. Carmine Testa that they would not use the building on January 17th and March 7th. Mr. Testa was not reimbursed for these two evenings.

Commission voted that any group using school buildings must notify Custodian in advance if buildings were not to be used on assigned evenings. If Custodian was not notified, groups should assume charge for custodial service.

13. The purchase of a Marking Machine was discussed and it was the Commission's opinion that the advice of the Purchasing Agent should be sought as to what type of Marking Machine would be the best for use on the play areas.

14. Mr. Pilsbury reported that a great deal of vandalism was going on at the Cold Spring Playground and that the building was very unsightly. Mr. Whitmore moved that the Building Commissioner be requested to demolish the building. Approved by the other members of the Commission.

15. Letter from Leston L. Havens, M.D. re-work P.T.A. would like done at the Pierce School was referred to the Newton School Committee.

16. Communication dated May 4, 1962 and signed by Mrs. Sally Wheeler, 44 Hereward Rd., Newton Centre, together with Mrs. Catherine F. Flanagan, and Mr. & Mrs. A. L. Sliker re-fence along their property on Hereward Rd., adjacent to the Weeks Jr. High Playground was read. Commission voted to have Acting Commissioner acknowledge this letter stating that there were no funds available in the 1962 Budget to cover this request. Commission would take this matter under consideration before next years budget requests were made.

17. Letter dated May 5, 1962 from Mrs. Warren F. Meyer, 27 Upland Rd., Needham, Mass. re- situation which exists at her father's property at 62 Elm Street, West Newton. Balls are being hit from West Newton Playground across the street and have broken many windows in her father's home. Conditions are very dangerous. Mr. Whitmore agreed to investigate this matter personally and Acting Commissioner was requested to acknowledge Mrs. Meyer's letter stating that she would hear from the Commission at a later date after Mr. Whitmore had reported his findings on the matter.

Mr. Whitmore suggested that a letter be sent to the Police Department requesting that added precautions be taken by them to protect private property abutting our playgrounds.

18. Petition signed by abutters adjoining Hawthorn Playground was read. This petition requested the removal of the Newton Soccer Club from the Hawthorn Playground.

The Commission agreed to acknowledge petition to Mrs. Frank DeLuca, 30 Hawthorn Street, Newton, and advise her that two members of the Commission, Mr. Whitmore and Mr. Copp would attend the game on Sunday, May 13th to observe conditions and report back to the Commission their findings and recommendations.

19. Mr. Mario Cappola, 26 Howard St., Watertown, was advised in writing on May 10th that no more permits would be issued for his team to play Soccer at Hawthorn after May 20, 1962. When Commission had finished their study of the situation at Hawthorn they would write Mr. Cappola.

20. Letter dated April 13, 1962 from Richard C. Gove, 75 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands re- closing Crystal Lake on Sundays and perhaps on Saturdays to solve the pollution problem was read. Commission voted to have Acting Commissioner advise Mr. Gove that they were grateful for his interest and suggestions but felt they should continue the policy which is in existence for the many who use Crystal Lake.

21. The Commission voted to advance Miss Lillian Swartz, Recreation Supervisor the sum of \$75.00 to defray her expenses in attending the N. E. Area Conference at Wentworth-by-the-Sea, Portsmouth, New Hampshire, from Sunday May 13th through Wednesday, May 16, 1962.

Voted- that the next meeting of the Commission be held Tuesday evening, June 5, 1962.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENING  
JUNE 5, 1962

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
T. Frank Copp  
R. Victor Stout  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Harold T. Pilsbury, Acting Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

The minutes of the meeting held May 7, 1962 were approved as recorded.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Action directed to Mr. James E. Murphy re- Final Decree of Freedman vs. City of Newton- Use by the Freedmans without interference by the City was discussed. Decree forwarded by Francis C. Newton, Jr., Attorney. It was agreed by the Commission that the Recreation Department would not be liable for any mishap that might occur. The Freedmans or their guests would have to sue the City.

Mr. Pilsbury was requested to advise the Manager of the Bathhouse and all other personnel at Crystal Lake of the findings of the court.

2. Acting Commissioner reported that he had replied to Dr. Reevan I. Levine that Commission could not accept supervisory responsibility of swans at Bulloughs Pond at this time.

3. Mr. Pilsbury reported Purchasing Agent had advised the Mayor that L. P. Quinn had offered to do construction of Upper Falls Tennis Courts and Rebuild Upper Falls Playground and Baseball Field for a total of \$20,000. Mayor agreed that this was a good offer and Commission voted to leave the final decision up to Mayor Gibbs. Work should get underway late this summer.

4. Mr. Pilsbury reported that the first step had been made to improve unsightly condition of the Bleachers at Newton High. The collapsed rail had been removed. Conference is to be arranged with a group consisting of members of the School Department, Building Commissioner, etc. for re-constructing the bleachers in the Fall.

5. Newton Highlands Playground has been leveled off and some of the neighbors have written letters of appreciation.

6. Acting Commissioner acknowledged letter to Newton Council of P.T.A.'s re- Subsidizing of Transportation advising that there was no money available in the Budget for this project at the present time.

7. Building Commissioner's answer to request to remove structure at Cold Spring Playground was read. Building Department do not have funds available to do this work in 1962. Mr. Whitmore recommended that Building Commissioner be requested to seek a special appropriation this year to demolish this building.

8. Mr. Daniel G. Valente, 22 Fettee Street, Newton Upper Falls, was advised that money was not available to move backstop at the Emerson Playground at the present time.

9. Mrs. Sally Wheeler, 44 Hereward Rd., Newton Centre, Mass., was advised by the Acting Commissioner that money was not available to erect a fence along her property on Hereward Road adjacent to the Weeks Jr. High Playground this year.

10. Acting Commissioner advised that he had written to Mrs. Warren F. Mayer, 27 Upland Rd., Needham and advised her that Mr. Howard Whitmore, Jr., a member of the Recreation Commission would personally look into the matter of balls being hit on to her father's property at 62 Elm St., West Newton. Mr. Whitmore reported that it was a matter of concern and we should ask the City Solicitor as to advisability of Recreation Department doing repair work. Commission agreed that any person whose property is damaged could file a suit against the City with the City Clerk addressed to the Board of Aldermen.

11. Mrs. West advised the members of the Commission that she had acknowledged letter from Mr. Robert W. Habel, 166 Careswell St., Green Harbor, Mass. re-Application for position as Recreation Commissioner.

12. Mr. Copp reported on his visit to Hawthorn Playground to see the Newton Soccer Team in action. Mr. Copp found everything in order and could not see any grounds for complaints received from abutters lead by Mrs. Frank DeLuca, 30 Hawthorn St., Newton. Commission agreed to continue to grant Newton Soccer Team permission to use Hawthorn Playground.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Acting Commissioner presented a request from Rev. David Buenfiglio of Our Lady's Parish for Use of Allison Playground by Our Lady's Soccer Team. Commission agreed to grant this request. Mr. Copp will give a report to the Commission after he investigates this Club further.

2. Acting Commissioner presented a petition dated May 7, 1962 from the Newton West Little League headed by James Cokely that the Recreation Department provide and maintain a suitable baseball playing field in Auburndale. Acting Commissioner was advised to write to Mr. Elbaum, Assistant City Solicitor regarding our obligation and/or legal right to continue to maintain Gill Stadium in as much as the Gill Stadium property is not owned by the City of Newton.

Mr. Pilsbury was advised to write Mr. Cokely that the Commission would take his request under advisement.

3. Letter dated May 13, 1962 from Mario Coppola, Manager of the Newton Soccer Club advising the Recreation Commission that all permits were to be made out in both his name and Mr. Guido Cetrone, 41 West Street, Newton, was filed.
4. Letter from Youth Tennis Foundation re-Group lessons at Newton South High School from Harrison Rowbotham was discussed. It was voted to grant the use of the tennis courts but the regular fee for a tennis permit for 1962 would be charged.
5. Seventeen Petitions containing 235 signatures requesting a fishing program at Bulloughs Pond and Crystal Lake was discussed. It was voted that the Commission hold this matter awaiting ruling from Matt B. Jones, City Solicitor.
6. Purchasing Agent has contacted New Bedford Wire & Iron Works, Inc. re-Contract C-1743 dated Nov. 1, 1961 regarding concrete footings crumbling. Contractor has agreed to repair this condition.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD MONDAY EVENING  
SEPTEMBER 24, 1962

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 P.M.

The minutes of the meeting held June 5, 1962 were approved as recorded.

1. Report was given on the Swimming Attendance at Crystal Lake for the summer season 1962. There was an attendance of 93,162; 15,000 less than 1961.
2. Commissioner read report from James E. Murphy on the Twilight League Banquet. Banquet was held Sept. 17th at Vallee's Steak House.
3. A report on the Babe Ruth League was read. There were twelve teams in the League this year. The Recreation Department contributes approximately \$2,500.00 to this League.
4. Tennis report from Mr. Robert Mullen was read.
5. Complaints were registered by Mrs. West and Mr. Selden about the poor condition of the Newton Centre tennis courts. Suggestion has been made to install meters and charge 50¢ an hour. It was pointed out that all money must be turned into City Treasurer and cannot be used by department for upkeep of courts. Clay purchased by city last year was very poor causing continuous maintenance problem.
6. Miss Moore from Chestnut St., Waban, questioned Mr. Selden as to who was conducting the tennis program at Newton South High School. This is a private group which obtains permit from the School Department. Mr. Penney reported that he loaned Mr. Dick Carey of the Indoor Tennis Club two light weight tennis nets. He believes the Recreation Department should cooperate with any legitimate group if possible. Commission agreed this should be continued until such time as it involves an expense to the Recreation Dept.
7. A report was made on the Softball League. Cost of the program for Umpires and Softballs amounted to \$1,900.00. Teams are increasing and interest is on the upswing.
8. A report was made on the Fall Playground Schedule. We have eleven playgrounds under leadership afternoons after school, with most of these playgrounds being open Saturday mornings.
9. The Halloween program is going along on schedule.
10. The following maintenance work is underway:

Upper Falls Tennis Courts. Contract awarded to L. P. Quinn Co. at a cost of \$10,000. The project is under the supervision of the Engineering Department. Mr. Penney has requested the Contractor to submit a price on making the whole court green.

Newton Upper Falls baseball diamond and Warren Jr. High baseball diamond are being constructed by our own men. We are hiring the necessary equipment from Chester Drake & Son, Framingham, Mass. Mr. Schiavone, City Engineer is giving us any help we need.

High School jumping pits are being rebuilt with new "rubcor" surfacing.

Custom Welding Co. Newton, Has been engaged to repair the Bleachers at Newton High School. Work is now in progress.

Mr. Penney discussed the condition of the Newton South High School play area at great length. The area has broken glass imbedded in soil. Mr. Pratt feels that the condition of the fields could be remedied by areating and fertilizing the field. Then taking one-third of the field and spread loam on worn spots. When good turf was established this could cover up all stones, glass, etc. Only \$2,000. has been appropriated which would not be sufficient to complete the whole area. The Commissioner is letting the Street Department do this since it is scheduled. He has serious doubts that this is the complete solution.

11. Routine field marking is being done for the School Department and for all the different groups who play football on our various playing fields.

12. The Commissioner reported on a request received by the Mayor from Dr. Lanes, P.T.A. Chairman for getting playground equipment back on the Oak Hill playground. Request has been made to Building Commissioner for \$900. plus from School Building Bonds for this purpose. Our original request to Board of Aldermen for a special appropriation was withdrawn.

#### Old Business:

- Mr. Penney was requested to follow up letters to City Solicitor re-
- a. Petition to allow fishing in Crystal Lake.
  - b. Re-writing Rules and Regulations governing Crystal Lake.
  - c. Stocking Bulloughs Pond and Crystal Lake for fishing.
  - d. Boating on Crystal Lake.

Horace Mann School was discussed. Suggestions have been made to take part of the Albemarle Playground for the site of the new Horace Mann School. The Building Commissioner has no further information on this project and the Mayor is not ready to discuss this further at the present time with the Commission.

Maintenance of Gill Stadium was discussed and it was Voted that the Commissioner write again to the City Solicitor about the legality of the Recreation Department doing any maintenance work on the field.

#### New Business:

Boyd Playground bank on Watertown side was discussed. On the Newton line there is a retaining wall and a cement sidewalk. There is an erosion on part of the dirt sidewalk on the Watertown side. A retaining wall must be put in order to build a new sidewalk. The Director of Public Works has recommended that this wall can be built at a cost of \$1,300.00 to the city. Mrs. West suggested that the Commissioner talk with the Mayor about this matter as it creates a dangerous hazard to anyone using this sidewalk.

Requests have been made for fences, etc. at the following places and it was suggested that these requests be incorporated in the 1963 Budget Requests:

Victory Field  
Hawthorn Playground  
Wellington Playground  
Williams School  
Wellington Playground (backstop at home plate).  
Spaulding School (new bubbler).  
Lighted field for Softball. (Victory Field has been suggested).

Mrs. West was reminded that she should have her photograph taken at Bachrachs.

Tell it to Joe letter was discussed.

Petition was received with several signatures requesting that something be done about the dust menace on the High School Tennis Courts, Elm Rd., Newtonville. This matter with other requests from Frank Simmons of the High School will be taken up in preparing the 1963 Budget.

The Commissioner reported that the League of Women Voters have requested that they be allowed to make a study of the Recreation Department. Mrs. West suggested that Commissioner inquire from the Library Department as to the success of the study of their department by this Group.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENING OCTOBER 30, 1962

Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
Victor Stout  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner and  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary  
Also, John Gilleland, Director of Business Services,  
Newton Public Schools  
Vincent Burns, Building Commissioner  
Mr. Morse Architect, William Hoskins Brown Associates, Inc.

Meeting called to order at 8 P.M.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Work at the South High School was discussed. Commissioner reported that one-third of the field has been reseeded by Street Department and whole area raked. The Commissioner will have to meet with members of the School Dept. before the 1963 budget to discuss what can be done next year to improve this area and eliminate rock and glass problem.

2. The Commissioner read a letter from Mayor Gibbs, and presented a plan of the proposed piece of land to be taken for school purposes. Mayor Gibbs requested that the Commission discuss this matter of relinquishing a part of the Albemarle Playground for a site for the new Horace Mann School. Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner, Mr. Gilleland, Director of Business Services, School Department, and Mr. Morse, Architect representing William Hoskins Brown Associates, Inc., presented a plan drawn up by William Hoskins Brown Associates, Inc., showing in detail the area to be taken and discussed at length the type of school to be erected on the property. After discussion the Commission, by unanimous vote, approved the transfer of land at the Albemarle Playground to the School Department for the purpose of the construction of the new Horace Mann School. This transfer is dependent upon a ruling by the City Solicitor that the Recreation Commission has the legal right to make such transfer. The land involved is 70,720 sq. ft. at the corner of Watertown St. and Albemarle Road as described on Drawing No. SF-1 by William Hoskins Brown Assoc. Inc.

The Commission, in making this transfer voted to go on record to the Mayor that they are concerned over the loss of recreational land space involved in this project, and request that needs of the Recreation Commission be given first consideration when any land becomes available in the future. The Commission also voted to request the Mayor to include the Recreation Commissioner as a member of the planning committee for this proposed new Horace Mann School so that its use for after school, evening and school vacation recreational use can be given proper consideration.

3. The Commission discussed the matter of the Park Commissioners. The

Commissioner was requested to inform the Mayor that it was the opinion of the Recreation Commission that the functions of the Park Commissioners would be most appropriately performed in Newton by the Recreation Commission, and that the membership of these two committees should be one and the same. This request was to be presented to the Mayor for his consideration and if there was no objection by the present Park Commissioners, who are the Planning Board, the Mayor would consider transferring the functions and title of Park Commissioners from the Planning Board to the Recreation Commission.

4. Alderman E. Dietz was introduced and presented a plan to the Commission for the acquisition of land by the City adjacent to the Cold Spring playground for a municipal golf course. Commission voted to request City Solicitor to investigate deeds, etc. of land involved in this project before further study can be made.

5. Letter from Orville Clapper was read requesting that the Recreation Commission consider conversion of the Pine St. dump into a par-3 golf course. Commission voted to hold this request for further study and Commissioner was requested to check and see if this land is park land and also request the Mayor that the Recreation Department be given first choice before City decides to dispose of this land.

6. Commissioner read a letter from Mayor Gibbs making known his wish to form a citizen's committee to study the swimming pool situation and asking the Commission's endorsement and cooperation. Mr. Whitmore requested that he discuss this matter with the Mayor and report their findings at the next meeting.

7. Commissioner reported that he had looked over the land on which the New England Peabody was situated. Mr. Penney felt that this site could possibly be developed for a beginners slope ski tow. Commissioner emphasized the need to hold on to and also acquire any available land for future recreational purposes. This is to be made into house lots to finance purchase of the remainder of the Peabody property for school use.

8. Commission voted that regular monthly meetings be held on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings to be scheduled for 7 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENING,  
NOVEMBER 13, 1962

Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. Victor Stout  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary  
Janet Schoonmaker  
Minutes of the October meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Commissioner Penney introduced Janet Schoonmaker, a Senior at the University of Massachusetts who has been sent to Newton Recreation Department by Dr. Harlow to do off campus practice leadership, a six-credit practicum devoted to organized recreations in various settings in New England. Miss Schoonmaker will be in Newton for eight weeks from Nov. 5, 1962 through Jan. 18, 1963 excluding normal University holidays.

Miss Schoonmaker has been working on a project pulling all programs together. She is working under the supervision of Miss Swartz.

2. Mr. Whitmore reported on his meeting with Mayor Gibbs re- Swimming Pools. The Mayor will be very willing to go along with any suggestions the Commission might come up with. Our next step will be to draw up a set of procedures and objectives. Special meetings should be held solely to promoting this study. Mr. Penney will study old records of the Commission meetings to acquaint him with what the Commission had done in the past. Each member of the Commission was asked to outline their thoughts on how plans for this swimming pool should be handled and present them at the next meeting of the Commission.

3. The Commissioner discussed Capital Outlay projects which he felt should be incorporated in the 1963 Budget. These will be presented to the Commission at the meeting to discuss the Preliminary Budget for 1963. The Commissioner was to meet with Mr. Gilleland, Director of Business Services, School Department and discuss special projects that should be set up for the school playing fields.

4. Mr. Penney reported on special projects that had been completed in 1962- namely:

Rebuilt part of South High School field.

Levi-Warren-Rebuilt Baseball diamond, took out track, removed old bleachers. Seeded whole field. Funds should be carried over to 1963 to fertilize and reseed field.

High School Special Field Events project was completed.

Rebuilt Upper Falls Baseball diamond and Tennis Courts.

Removed warming house at Bulloughs Pond.

Replaced and repaired collapsed Bleachers at High School field.

Graded field at Frank A. Day Jr. High, removed tennis court posts and wire fabric.

5. Rules governing Crystal Lake were discussed. Commission agreed that the existing rules and regulations for the use of Crystal Lake should not be changed at the present time.

6. Mr. Stout expressed his thanks to the Recreation Commission for their granting permission to Boston University to use the Hawthorn Soccer field.

7. Mr. Penney reported to the Commission that Recreation Department is starting a Pee Wee Hockey Program at St. Sebastian's Hockey Rink. Program will be for boys 8 - 12 years of age starting Saturday, December 1st. and continuing through the month of December. If successful program will be continued in January & February, 1963. Appropriation should be requested to handle this program in 1963.

8. Mrs. West read a communication asking the Commission to support the program of the National Recreation Association.

9. Mrs. West and Mr. Penney reported they had attended a meeting of the Newton Conservators Association. Mr. Downie, City Planner, was the principal speaker.

10. Old Business- following are being held for further discussion:

1. Petition for a diamond for the Newton West Little League.
2. Maintenance of Gill Stadium by the Recreation Department.
3. Park Commission and Recreation Commission combining.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

## COMMISSION MEETING - DECEMBER 11, 1962

Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
 John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

Meeting called to order at 7:25 P.M.

Minutes of the November meeting were approved as recorded.

Mrs. West read a communication from Mrs. Rose Greene, 153 Edinboro St., Newtonville complaining about the elimination of 8 and 9 year olds from the hockey program at St. Sebastians after they had registered. Mr. Penney explained how the program had become overcrowded, and a separate session for the younger boys was being planned for Bullough's Pond when natural ice is available there. Mr. Penney will answer the letter.

The 1963 preliminary budget was discussed at great length. No additions or deletions were made to the budget as prepared by the Commissioner. A priority schedule for capital improvement projects was set up since it was felt that all would not be approved.

The request from Mr. Sam Crocetti, Director of the Newton Boys Club to allow members of the boys club from Watertown to participate in the Pony and National division of basketball leagues. The request was denied as the commission reaffirmed its policy to restrict participation in all these basketball leagues to Newton residents.

*Rockets*

The request for use of a playground for the purpose of shooting model rockets by Mr. Daniel M. Gordon, 177 Langley Road was considered. Mr. Penney explained that Mr. Gordon proposed a boys rocket club with he as advisor. The rockets were demonstrated to Mr. Penney and Mr. Champagne of the Police department on December 8, 1962 at Brewer Playground. In their opinion the area was too small. Subsequent investigation revealed the Police Chief Purcel was against the program. Also it was learned from the Fire Chief Perkins that this type of rocket would come under the fire works display law. Permission and bond from the Fire Department would be required, and would be denied. Request for use of Playground area for this purpose was denied.

Next meeting set for 7:15 P.M. Tuesday, January 8, 1963.

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENING  
JANUARY 8, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
T. Frank Copp  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary  
and  
Daniel Gordon, P.T.A. Council

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. West at 7:30 P.M.

The minutes of the Dec. 11th meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Mr. Daniel Gordon, 177 Langley Road, Newton Centre, Mass., attended the meeting. Mr. Gordon had requested permission to sit in on the Recreation Commission meetings and act as a liaison between the P.T.A. Council and Recreation Commission. Mrs. West welcomed Mr. Gordon to the meeting but suggested that he act as appointed delegate from the Council not as a liaison. Mr. Gordon would attend the meetings as an observer and carry back to the Council any views as presented by the Commission. Certain things need to be done and he would present them to the Council for action. He is to sit in on the meetings until the Commission go in to Executive Session.

2. Mr. Penney reported that he had attended the P.T.A. Council meeting on Thursday evening, Jan. 3rd, which was attended by representatives from the various P.T.A.'s in the city, Dr. Brown, Supt. of Schools, Mr. Basbas, City Clerk, and Dr. Greenleaf, Health Officer.

3. Mrs. West reported that Mrs. Cotton of the League of Women Voters had telephoned her and asked if she would attend their meeting on Jan. 16th and give the background of the Recreation Department. Mr. Penney agreed to attend this meeting also.

4. The Commissioner read a report on the Basketball Leagues which started Friday evening, Jan. 4th. We have four divisions participating - 8 teams in the National Division; 6 teams in the Pony Division; 8 teams in the American Division; 8 teams in the International Division.

Basketball teams play every night at Warren Jr. High. Custodial and referee fees will be greater in 1963 due to the number of games scheduled.

Additional informal basketball programs are conducted at Hawthorn, Emerson, Memorial and Newton Centre. Burr is open year round and Auburndale is covered approximately year round.

The Commissioner reported that he had requested a whole series of repairs and refurbishing of all recreation buildings. Some discussion followed about the merits of fixing up the Newton Centre building, and the possibility of replacing the old building with a new one.

5. Report on skating was read by the Commissioner. Through Saturday, Jan. 5th, we had twenty days of skating at Auburndale, fourteen days at Crystal Lake, and five days at Bulloughs Pond. Estimated attendance at all skating areas - about 39,000. Under 2,000 permits have been sold. Heat has been turned on at Crystal

Lake and skaters seem quite appreciative of this. Skaters at Bulloughs Pond have not been charged as building has not been completed and lights have not been turned on. Pond is closed at 4:30 P.M. All other small skating areas have fairly good skating conditions.

6. Mr. Penney reported he had received a complaint from a parent that her youngster had gone in to the brook while coasting at Newton Centre. Commission agreed this was a dangerous condition and Mr. Penney was instructed to put up a snow fence in this area.

7. Commissioner reported that Waldo Hainsworth, Representative of National Recreation Association had advised him that there was a possibility of getting a foundation grant within the Greater Boston Area to promote a Physical Fitness Program. Mr. Hainsworth asked that the Recreation Commission write a letter to the National Recreation Association endorsing such a program. The Commission voted to comply with Mr. Hainsworth's request. Mr. Penney would also forward a letter expressing his experience with such programs while in New Hampshire.

8. Mr. Gordon asked that the Recreation Commission's views on Swimming Pools be discussed. The Commission agreed that this matter could not be discussed until the Commission had met and decided on a specific course of action for formulating plans for construction of swimming pools.

9:00 P.M. - Mr. Gordon left the meeting and Commission went into Executive Session.

9. Hockey Program at St. Sebastians was reported as progressing very well.

10. Letter dated Dec. 10th, copy of which was sent to each member of the Commission from Robert F. Barry, 26 Hope St., Auburndale, was read. Commissioner read his reply to Mr. Barry's letter and a copy of this is to be forwarded to each member of the Commission. Letter was in connection with the original plans for a hockey school at St. Sebastians.

11. The Commission agreed that since all members of the Commission were not present the subject of Swimming Pools would be discussed at a special meeting of the Commission to be held on Thursday evening, Jan. 17th.

Meeting adjourned at 10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING HELD  
THURSDAY EVENING JANUARY 17, 1963

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M.

PRESENT: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
T. Frank Copp  
Victor Stout  
Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

A long discussion of the pros and cons of the proposed M.D.C. swimming pool and skating rink proposal and its location. A hearing is scheduled on the bill to build such a facility at 10:00 A.M., Wednesday, January 23rd at the State House before the Metropolitan Affairs Committee.

It was decided that the Recreation Commissioner should attend the hearing to represent the Commission. He was directed to speak in favor of the proposed pool and to point out that the Commission had been advocating additional swimming facilities for Newton for many years. He was further directed to propose an amendment to the bill on behalf of the Commission offering to have the City of Newton through the Recreation Commission maintain and operate the facility after it is built, thus saving the district the operating cost for years to come. Since the Newton Recreation Commission has been providing playgrounds, skating and swimming areas and other public recreational facilities since 1912, the operation of this proposed new facility could naturally be added to its responsibilities. He was further directed to ask that a decision on the exact location of the proposed facility be deferred until a later date when the Commission could give it further study in consideration of the changing conditions regarding schools and playgrounds.

The Commissioner was directed to check with Representative Bradley to find out exactly what he was proposing, and to get a copy of the bill to see exactly how it read.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

John B. Penney

Recreation Commissioner

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD  
TUESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 12, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Joseph Selden  
T. Frank Copp  
Victor Stout  
John B. Penney, Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

The minutes of the Jan. 8th and Jan. 17th meetings were approved as recorded with correction.

The Commissioner reported on activities as follows:

Skating:

Ware's Cove - 44 Days of Skating  
Crystal Lake - 37 Days of Skating  
Bulloughs Pond - 26 Days of Skating

Estimated attendance of 73,500 at three skating areas.

No permits have been sold at Bulloughs Pond as skatehouse has not been completed.

Income from Sale of Skating Permits and Toboggan Slide to date:

Ware's Cove -	\$1,500.00
Crystal Lake	746.00
N. Centre Toboggan Slide	154.50

The Chairman suggested that Leaders at the various skating areas wear some sort of identification. Commission voted that arm bands be worn by Leaders for 1963-1964 season.

Mr. Penney reported that the Skating Derby held at Crystal Lake on Saturday, Feb. 2nd, was very successful.

A report was given on the Special Swimming Class for Handicapped Children at Sydney Hill on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. Program has been planned by Mr. Penney and a group from the P.T.A. Mr. Gilbert Champagne is the paid instructor for this program and is assisted by six girl volunteers from the Sacred Heart College and two boys from Newton Jr. College. Robert Doherty is the supervisor.

Mr. O'Brien of State Division of Special Education visited this program and approved for the State.

Archery Program is being conducted on Thursday evenings at Newton Centre. Two instructors from the Newton Archers Association are volunteering their services together with Eben Baker from the Teepee Archery Shop. Mr. Murphy is the supervisor.

Basketball Leagues are continuing each week.

Dancing Classes and Crafts Programs are proving very beneficial.

A copy of the 1963 Budget with the Mayor's Recommendations was distributed to each member of the Commission. Mr. Penney explained the Mayor's reductions.

Mr. Penney reported several changes in classification as recommended by the Evan's Associates.

Laborers employed at Burr, Newton Centre, Hawthorn, High School and Cabot to classification of Groundsmen since they work not under direct supervision.

Upgrading of one working foreman II to working forman III. Joseph Taranto is being recommended for this position.

The Commissioner recommended creating the position of Senior Recreation Supervisor instead of the originally proposed Assistant Recreation Commissioner. Letter has been written to Director of Civil Service requesting advice as to how to set up such a position. James E. Murphy has been recommended by the Commissioner for this position.

The Commissioner is to notify the Commission as to when they are to meet with the Finance Committee as soon as he is notified.

On Saturday, Feb. 16th the Commissioner will visit various playground buildings with Mayor, Building Commissioner, and Committee from Board of Aldermen. Commissioner has submitted a list of repairs necessary in various playground buildings to be incorporated in Building Department budget.

The Commissioner reported on memo sent to Chief of Police on Jan. 18th, at the request of City Clerk regarding fishing at Crystal Lake. Fishing is to be allowed at Crystal Lake during the regular State fishing seasons including ice fishing. No cutting of ice or fishing through the ice is to be allowed in the area set aside for skating or within 50 yards of the skating area. No boating is to be allowed on the lake without permission of the Recreation Commission.

The Commissioner reported that there have been no definite developments on the proposed M.D.C. pool for Newton.

Mr. Penney reported that he had attended a meeting of the Conservators in Wellesley. Mr. Fink, Engineer for the M.D.C. spoke on areas for swimming along the Charles River. Commissioner wrote to Mr. Fink requesting information on proposed sewer construction along the swimming areas of the Charles River and if successful the possibility of swimming in the future at Upper Falls and Ware's Cove in Auburndale.

Mr. Penney reported that he had had a meeting with Mr. Downe, Planning Consultant, on proposed development at Norumbega Park. Commission agreed that they would not take any action on this matter at the present time.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

SECRETARY

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENING MARCH 19, 1963

Members present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Joseph Selden  
 T. Frank Copp  
 Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
 John B. Fenney, Commissioner  
 Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

The minutes of the Feb. 12, 1963 meeting were approved as recorded.

1. The Commissioner presented a monthly report for January and February 1963. This report shows Program Activities, Sessions and Attendance; Use of department facilities by other groups; Use of school buildings by groups under department permit at users expense, and a report of work done by the Maintenance Division.

This report will be submitted to the Commission and the Mayor each month. It will be of great value when compiling the Annual Report.

The Commission moved to place this report on file.

2. The Commissioner read a letter dated March 1, 1963 from His Honor Mayor Gibbs requesting the Commission to select a site for the proposed M.D.C. pool and to suggest names for a citizens committee to study and make recommendations for swimming facilities.

After a lengthy discussion on different sites for an M.D.C. pool the Commission voted to go on record to the Mayor that such a pool be constructed on the site of the Horace Mann School, Watertown Street, Newtonville which is to be abandoned when the new school is built on part of the Albemarle Playground.

3. The Commissioner was requested to submit the following names to Mayor Gibbs as members of a citizens committee to study swimming facilities for Newton:

Mr. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

The five members of the Commission with one member serving as Chairman.

Mr. Charles Downe, City Planning Consultant.

Mr. Benjamin Shattuck, 327 Franklin St., Newton, Mass.

Mr. Daniel M. Gordon, 177 Langley Rd. Newton Centre, Mass. (P.T.A. Council)

Mrs. Arno H. Heyn, League of Women Voters, 21 Alexander Rd., Newton Highlands.

Mr. Ed Wilson, Representing the Newton Elks and Auburndale section.

Mr. Cleo Jaillet, 95 Glen Ave., Newton Centre. (Newton Centre & Sacred Heart)

Mr. Sidney Shuman, 5 Shuman Circle, Newton Centre (Oak Hill & Little League).

Mr. James MacLean, 1395 Walnut St., Newton Highlands (Newton Highlands A.A.)

Mr. Victor Nicolazzo, 50 Fairway Drive, West Newton.

Mr. C. Evan Johnson, 9 Proctor St., Newtonville.

A member of the Newton Federation of Womens Clubs to be appointed by Mrs. West.

Mr. Selden to suggest a person from Newton Upper Falls.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Letter from Mr. Bernard N. Gehr, 20 Marshfield Rd., Newton Centre re- sailing on Crystal Lake was read. The Commission voted to continue their practice of issuing permits to abutters only on request.

2. Letter from Hoblitzell re- use of tennis courts at Newton South High School for N. E. Championships and forwarded to Commissioner by Mr. Russell of the School Committee was read. Commission agreed to grant this use again this year from June 24th through June 29th.

3. Letter from Mr. C. Jason M. Cortel, Biologist, 506 Harvard St. Brookline was read. Mr. Cortel would like to talk to the members of the Commission re- pollution and aquatic growth in Crystal Lake. The Commissioner was asked to invite Mr. Cortel to attend the next regular meeting of the Commission to be held on April 16th.

4. The Commissioner reported that he had scheduled a meeting on Wednesday evening, March 27th with representatives of Baseball and Softball teams to discuss use of available fields.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENING - APRIL 16, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Joseph Selden  
 T. Frank Copp  
 Victor Stout  
 John B. Penney, Commissioner  
 Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary  
 Daniel Gordon, representing P.T.A. Council

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

The minutes of the March 19, 1963 meeting were approved as recorded.

1. The Commissioner reported that names had been submitted to the Mayor for a Citizens Committee to study and make recommendations for swimming facilities in Newton. Mayor Gibbs will delay action until he returns to Newton.
2. Mr. Harrison Rowbotham, President of the New England Lawn Tennis Association and Mr. Harold Soule, Chief Instructor of the Youth Tennis Foundation attended the meeting. Mr. Rowbotham outlined a plan for offering tennis instruction to youth and adults on our city courts. The Recreation Department would grant the Foundation the use of several courts at specified times to conduct small group and semi-private lessons. The cost of this program would be covered by the individuals making a contribution to the Youth Tennis Foundation, a tax-exempt agency.

The Foundation would also be able to furnish instructors for the free childrens group lessons on the playgrounds. The cost of this program would be covered by the city making a contribution to the Youth Tennis Foundation.

The Commission went on record authorizing the Commissioner to set up a program with the New England Youth Tennis Foundation to conduct free childrens group lessons, small group and semi-private lessons, free clinics and exhibitions and city-wide tournaments. Since our regular Tennis Instructor, Mr. Mullen will not be available this year, the Commission agreed this program would furnish the children of Newton with expert tennis instruction at a nominal cost to the city.

3. Mr. Jason Cortell, Biologist from Brookline, formerly with Allied Biological Controp Corp., addressed the Commission and presented his findings on a survey he conducted in 1961 on the algae growth in Crystal Lake. In previous years Crystal Lake has been closed by the Health Department because of pollution. Mr. Cortel gave a very interesting talk and showed slides of the cause of this pollution. As a result of his survey Mr. Cortel felt that the Elodes, a water weed growing at the bottom of the lake, could be eliminated by chemicals. The installation of an artificial water circulating system known as the Beley Wells Aqua-later and chlorine feeders would prevent pollution from bathers. This equipment could be installed for no more than \$5,500.00. This cost would include:

- |                                       |            |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Equipment installed                | \$3,000.00 |
| 2. Chlorine equipment                 | 400.00     |
| 3. Necessary piping                   | 100.00     |
| 4. Services of Biologist (Mr. Cortel) | 2,000.00   |

(Erection of a fence around equipment would be extra)

Maintenance cost by our staff would be approximately \$250.00 a year. Program would be fully guaranteed, equipment could be returned if not satisfactory.

Mr. Stout moved to await Mr. Cortel's report and estimate, and advised the Commissioner to discuss this matter with the Mayor as to the advisability of the Commissioner requesting a special appropriation to install this equipment under the direction of Mr. Cortel. Mr. Selden seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

## MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD - TUESDAY EVENING MAY 14, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
John B. Penney  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary  
Daniel Gordon, Representative from P.T.A. Council

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M.

Minutes of the April 16th meeting were approved as recorded.

1. April monthly report was distributed to all members of the Commission.
2. The Commissioner reported on the progress of the Crystal Lake reclamation program as follows:

Presented his plan to His Honor, Mayor Gibbs, who advised him to clear with Board of Sanitation, State House, as to any matching funds which might be available for such a project. Mr. Penney found that the State did not have any matching funds for such a program but endorsed a city or town conducting such a project. Mr. Penney, on the advice of the Mayor and City Clerk met with the members of the Finance Committee and presented his plan. The Finance Committee were very interested in this program and voted informally to approve the appropriation at the next meeting of the Board on May 20th, after details were worked out with the City Solicitor.

3. Mr. Penney met with the Mayor regarding the Tennis Program with the Youth Tennis Foundation. After discussion, the Mayor agreed to have the Commissioner get the City Solicitor's opinion on such a program. Mr. Penney met with Mr. Elbaum, Assistant City Solicitor, and Mr. Rowbotham of the Youth Tennis Foundation and Mr. Elbaum agreed to draw up an agreement with the City of Newton and the Youth Tennis Foundation.
4. The Commissioner reported that he had discussed with the Mayor the formation of the Mayor's Committee on Swimming facilities for the City of Newton. Mayor Gibbs requested that a member of the Recreation Commission, either Mr. Whitmore or Mr. Copp, be appointed Chairman of this committee. The Commission voted to appoint Mr. Copp as Chairman with all members of the Commission and the Commissioner serving as members of this Committee. Mr. Penney was advised to submit to the Mayor the names of Mr. Robert Proctor, Newton Upper Falls (recommended by Mr. Selden) and Mr. Domenic Taglienti, Thompsonville (recommended by Mr. Whitmore) as members of the Mayor's Committee.
5. Commissioner reported that a plaque was to be presented to the volunteer workers of the Newton College of the Sacred Heart and the Newton Jr. College for their services in making the swimming program for retarded children conducted at Sidney Hill such a success. The Commissioner was instructed to send a letter of appreciation to the Manager of Sidney Hill Country Club from the Newton Recreation Commission.

6. Conflict of interest law was discussed as to it's effect on the Recreation Department doing business with members of the Commission, namely, Mr. Copp (Edwards Lumber Co.) and Mr. Selden (Highland Pharmacy). Mr. Penney will ask Mr. Elbaum to clarify this law regarding the Recreation Department, since purchases must be made through the Purchasing Department anyway.
7. Letter from Mr. Cetrone of the Newton Soccer Club was read. The Commission voted to deny their request to lease Hawthorn Playground for a period of ten years at a time, to conduct soccer games.
8. Location of lighted softball field at Albemarle Playground was discussed. The Commission voted to leave the decision as to location up to the Commissioner. The City Engineer has been requested to look in to filling in the existing drain adjacent to the proposed softball field.
9. Mr. Penney reported that he had received an order from the State Department of Public Safety to move playground apparatus from Horace Mann Playground. The Commissioner also received a letter from Mrs. Mintz, member of the School Committee asking that this equipment be moved to the Albemarle Playground. The Commissioner had already arranged for the removal of all apparatus from Horace Mann to Albemarle Playground and Department of Public Safety and Mrs. Mintz were so advised. Plans call for assigning leaders to Albemarle Playground rather than Horace Mann as in past years.
10. The Commissioner reported that he had consulted with Mr. Carmen, Mrs. Thresher and Mr. Byrne of the Newton Housing Project re- starting a Golden Age program. This program will commence as soon as the people are settled and it is the intention of the Commissioner to put Mrs. Esther Toher in charge of this program.
11. Mr. Penney reported that he had notified his appointees for summer playground work.
12. Lincoln Playground is to be eliminated this summer and will be combined with Angier School Playground. Attendance did not warrant staffing this area since it is so close to Angier. These leaders will be assigned to Angier rather than two at each. The baseball diamond at Lincoln will be utilized for the Angier program.
13. Crystal Lake staff is still to be appointed as we are awaiting list of Lifeguards and Bathhouse Attendants from Civil Service.

The next meeting of the Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday evening, June 11th.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD  
TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 11, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
John B. Penney

Commission met at City Hall and left immediately for a tour of various facilities as follows:

Checked the abandoned Horace Mann School as site for possible use as M.D.C. pool. Also voted that all playground apparatus will be removed and moved to Albemarle. The summer playground will be conducted at Albemarle, and Horace Mann will be abandoned as an active playground.

Went to the Albemarle Playground where Mr. Penney pointed out where the playground apparatus would be installed. Mr. Penney explained why the little league field was selected to be remodeled into a softball diamond for the night lighted field project. The diamond nearest the Watertown Street end (new Horace Mann School) site will become the new little league field.

Visited Richardson Playground where Mr. Penney pointed out that the abutting property owner had landscaped about 8' of playground land, which made complications about the installation of a new perimeter fence. Commission voted to install the fence on the property line rather than to make any arrangement to give or sell the land in question to the abutter. If abutter objected to this then no fence at all should be installed until further consideration.

Following the tour the Commission met at Mrs. West's home on Tyler Terrace.

The minutes of the May meeting were read and accepted.

Commissioner Penney presented the monthly report for May.

Commissioner Penney reported that the Crystal Lake Reclamation Project had been approved by the Board of Aldermen with a special appropriation of \$6,000. Mr. Cortel, the Biologist, has started his survey. He reported also that the Tennis program had been arranged with the Youth Tennis Foundation to provide tennis instructors for playground lessons and help conduct tournaments.

The Retarded Childrens Day Camp program will be held at Bowen School rather than Spaulding because of the lack of shade at Spaulding. Arrangements have also been made to combine the Cerebral Palsey Camp with our program. The C.P. willpay their own instructors, but we will transport all Newton youngsters.

Mr. Penney reported that he had surveyed the Cold Spring area with Colonel Ekhoff of the National Golf Foundation and Alderman Dietz, Colonel Ekhoff's

opinion is that an 18 hole "par 60" course could be constructed and which would be successful financially. He recommends that we engage Mr. Cornish, a golf course architect to check his evaluation.

It was reported that Commission member Vic Stout was resigning because he had moved from Newton, and would now make his year-round residence on Cape Cod. It was voted to send him a letter acknowledging his resignation.

A discussion followed concerning swimming pools, and the method of procedure to be used with the Mayor's Citizens Study Committee scheduled to hold its first meeting June 13th.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Penney

Recreation Commissioner

MINUTES: MAYOR'S SWIMMING POOL COMMITTEE MEETING - September 12, 1963

Present: Mr. Copp, Mr. Penney, Mr. Burke, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Sacks, Mr. Tagliente, Mrs. West, Mrs. Norris, Mr. Simmons, Mr. MacLean, Mr. Daniel Gordon, Mr. Selden, Mr. Shuman

Chairman Copp opened the meeting at 8:55 P.M. and called on Mr. Johnson for a report of the location sub-committee.

Mr. Johnson reported that the sub-committee on location recommended the following swimming facilities be provided in the following time sequency:

1. a. An indoor-outdoor combination pool at South High School
- b. An outdoor pool at Albemarle Playground with facilities for wading, swimming and diving.
2. a. An outdoor pool at Auburndale Playground (on land to be purchased adjoining the Playground) with facilities for wading, diving and swimming.
- b. Improvement and enlargement of the beach and facilities at Crystal Lake.
3. An indoor-outdoor pool at Newton High School as a part of the renovation of that school.
4. Smaller neighborhood outdoor pools at Upper Falls Playground and Hamilton School playground in Lower Falls.

He qualified the above to the effect that

- 1 - If it was determined that neither of the items under #1 above would be ready for the 1964 season that the improvement of Crystal Lake should move up on the time schedule.
- 2 - If it was determined that the swimming pool at Newton High School could be constructed immediately this should be done because the construction of these two pools should be given number one priority. It was to be assumed that there would be a few years delay before the High School renovation would be completed, and that the construction of the Albemarle Pool should proceed at once.

Chairman Copp then called on Mr. Selden to give a report of the sub-committee on design. He gave a detailed report giving many details and reported on visitation to indoor-outdoor pools at Hampden and New Haven, Connecticut High Schools. The cost of the Hampden pool was \$330,000 complete. A copy of his committee report is attached.

Chairman Copp opened the meeting to discussion.

Mr. Johnson was questioned on the reason for selecting the site at Auburndale when recent newspaper publicity indicated that swimming would be possible in the Charles River within five years. He questioned that this would come about. Mr. Penney also reported that his conversations with local and State health departments following up on the newspaper stories indicated that counting on the Charles River for regular swimming was dubious because there were so many variables. Even the elimination of sewerage pollution on a total basis is not fully assured.

Mr. Whitmore reported that the architect at South High School was revamping his original plans for a pool at that school which was not completed and would shortly have them ready along with a cost estimate.

Mr. Whitmore questioned Mr. Johnson's time schedule of construction and felt that it might be possible to expedite the construction of the pool at Newton High School. Mr. Penney reported that Mr. Gilleland had indicated that the renovation would not be completed until 1967. Again it was pointed out that pools in the two schools were number 1 priority, and if anything could be done to speed the construction of this pool our report should indicate this. Mr. Simmons also noted that our report should be carefully worded that the Newton High School pool has priority and its construction should not be delayed because of the construction of any others.

Mr. Shuman proposed that a tots wading pool be constructed at Memorial School in Oak Hill Park. It was pointed out that this area was heavily used in the summer. Mr. Burke pointed out that Burr Playground was another area of heavy use. This playground has a wading pool which needs renovation. Spray pools perhaps would be better than wading was indicated.

The report of the location committee was accepted unanimously with the addition of spray or wading pools at Memorial and Burr.

Costs of these facilities were estimated at:

Indoor outdoor pools at schools with school building assistance:  
\$250,000 each.

Neighborhood pools - \$75,000 - \$100,000

Large outdoor - \$200,000 - \$300,000

Spray wading pool - \$5,000 - \$15,000

It was decided that Mr. Penney with the help of Mr. Downe should put together a preliminary report based upon committee minutes, sub-committee reports and survey information for presentation to another meeting of the whole on October 3rd.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEE ON SWIMMING POOLS  
Character and Design

A meeting was called Thursday, August 22, 1963, and held at the Recreation Office at City Hall.

The meeting came to order at 8:10 P.M.

Those present were: Mrs. Melvin Norris, Mr. S. Shuman, Mr. Joseph Selden, Commissioner John Penney

Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was voted unanimously to recommend the following for swimming pools in the City of Newton:

TYPE: Indoor-Outdoor Combination - Heated.

Deck area to be a minimum of 16 feet on skidproof tile. The deck to be pitched from lip of pool to overflow gutters extending completely around the deck with drains spaced at every 5-6 feet.

Outdoor pools to be L shaped with separate wading pools. Outdoor pools in length 130 x 60 feet with twelve (12) feet at deep end and three (3) feet at shallow end with one area for diving. The deck area to have a minimum of twenty (20) feet of concrete to the grass.

CAPACITY:

Pools to be located at the high schools. School population to be served: 1500 to 2000 at each school.

SIZE: Our recommendations for minimum requirement for each pool are 45 x 75 feet. This would allow six (6) seven foot lanes for competitive swimming.

DEPTH: The deep end to be 11 1/2 feet in depth with one meter diving board. The shallow end to be 3 1/2 feet. The shallow end to forty (40) feet would show a decline to five (5) feet which would permit wading and free swimming.

GALLON CAPACITY:

Approximately 160,000 gallons.

USE OF POOLS:

Physical Education as part of the school program, competitive swimming, recreational swimming, water safety courses.

FACILITIES:

Locker rooms, coin operated or otherwise; showers; toilet facilities; spectator area should begin at a minimum height of four (4) feet above deck on one side of the pool. Office of Pool Director should have a clear and unobstructed view of the entire pool area.

FILTRATION SYSTEM:

Diatamitious earth; sand and gravel or Duscharm pressurized gravel free sand filter which seems to be the most up-to-date.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 P.M.



MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD-TUESDAY EVENINGOCTOBER 15, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
John B. Penney, Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of September meeting were approved as recorded.

Commissioner reported that Mrs. Isabelle Mackey, Assessor, had approached him and inquired if the Commission was still interested in the land on Christina and Goddard Street in the Newton Highlands area for Recreation use. Upon investigation it was found that according to the minutes of the Recreation Commission meeting of October 19, 1959, it was voted "that the land located at the corner of Goddard and Christina Street in the Newton Highlands area originally held for the Recreation Department should be released for sale by the city." Commission voted to reaffirm its vote of October 19, 1959 and notify the Assessing Department of this action.

Matter of purchasing the Sherman property was to be held for further discussion with the Mayor.

Mr. Cortell 's report on the 1963 Crystal Lake Reclamation Project was discussed. It was voted to accept this report as submitted and to reimburse Mr. Cortell in full as the conditions of the contract had been met.

The Commissioner submitted his report after one year of service as Recreation Commissioner. The Commission voted to hold this report for further study.

A report was given to the Commission members by Mr. Penney as to the progress of the Mayor's Swimming Pool Committee. Mr. Downe and Mr. Penney have been working together and will submit a report at the meeting on October 17th.

Mr. Penney reported that Halloween Program was progressing very well under the leadership of Mrs. Dorothy Garon.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held on November 19th, at which time the Preliminary Budget will be discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P. M.



MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD-TUESDAY EVENINGNOVEMBER 19, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
John B. Penney, Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of October meeting were approved as recorded.

The Commission discussed the matter of the Recreation Commission taking over the duties of the Park Commission. The Commissioner also recommended that certain parks, which according to the Charter are the responsibility of the Street Commissioner be put under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Commission. The Commission requested Mr. Penney to obtain the opinion and advise of the City Solicitor as to what legal action should be taken to make this possible.

The Commission voted to accept the "Report to the Recreation Commission by the Recreation Commissioner following One Year's Service" with commendation for a well written, comprehensive report. The Commission voted to respectfully submit this report to each member of the Board of Aldermen and Planning Board for their consideration in order to acquaint them with the aims and goals of the Recreation Commission.

Report from Mr. Cornish on Municipal Golf Course was discussed. Commission suggested that Mr. Penney show this report to Alderman Dietz. Mayor Gibbs does not want to push this matter at the present time.

Swimming Pool Report was discussed. All members of the Board of Aldermen and members of Swimming Pool Committee have received a copy of this report. In order to go along with the schedule we must start immediately with the planning of Crystal Lake Beach Improvement, South High School and Albemarle pool. The Commission voted to send a copy of this report to Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner because construction would be done through his department. A request should be made to the Mayor for the necessary funds for an architect for this proposed pool.

The Commissioner reported on a visit he and Gil Champagne made to the University of Massachusetts to discuss swimming pools with Mr. Joe Rogers, Swimming Coach and an expert on how a swimming pool should be constructed to best serve the people.

Letter was read from Mr. Jason Cortell, Biologist, which gave the results of the flow test he made at Crystal Lake. Mr. Cortell is going to submit his proposals for the completion of the Crystal Lake Reclamation project together with his suggestions for Bulloughs Pond.

The Commissioner outlined his recommendations for the Preliminary Budget. The Commission suggested that Mr. Penney incorporate his recommendations in the Preliminary Budget and recommendations for the final budget would be discussed at the next meeting of the Commission.

It was voted that the Commissioner send a letter to the Chairman of the Planning Board and the Mayor suggesting that the Recreation Commission be allowed to have first consideration of the City Infirmary land for playground purposes if they feel it would be of value.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

ORFHM

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENINGDECEMBER 17, 1963

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Alan Shaw  
Joseph Selden  
Mr. Whitmore  
John B. Penney, Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Minutes of the November Meeting approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Penney reported that he had talked to the Mayor and Mr. Pratt and has written a memo to City Solicitor, Matt Jones, regarding the responsibility for the care and control of certain parks being changed from the Street Commissioner to the Recreation Commission. As yet no answer has been received from Mr. Jones. Relating to this matter, Mr. Whitmore pointed out, was the transfer of the duties of Park Commissioners from the Planning Board to the Recreation Commission. He suggested that Mr. Penney discuss this with the Chairman of the Planning Board.

Mr. Penney reported he had sent copies of his report to the Commission after one years service to members of the Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Penney reported that an offer to buy a piece of city land on Beacon Street by the All Newton Music School had been delayed by him because the property was in the area of the proposed Cold Spring Golf Course. The Mayor has approved the expenditure of \$300 plus to have a preliminary plan made by Golf Course architect, Geoffrey Cornish, to see just what land we will need if the course were to be built and what land could be sold off. The land offer is delayed until this preliminary plan is conflicted by April. Relating to the golf course Mr. Penney reported that Alderman Dietz has been shown the cost estimate and area survey results by Mr. Cornish. He is very enthusiastic about this course, is investigating methods of financing construction costs; he reports favorable interest among the Board of Aldermen.

A letter from the Mayor acknowledging the Recreation Commission's request for consideration of the Infirmary land for playground purposes. He states that the land is being considered as a school site but that no firm determination has been made, and our request will be considered at the time of the formulating conclusions regarding the property. ✓

Mr. Penney reported that skating areas had been flooded and Crystal & Bullough's opened today. Wares' Cove has a thin layer of ice with snow which is being removed by hand. A new program will go into operation this coming school vacation period with four junior high schools open afternoons under leadership for informal basketball.

Mr. Penney reported he has initiated a request for architectural plans for the Albemarle Pool through Vincent Burns, Building Commissioner, and that Dr. Brown had been asked to initiate action on the South High School Pool.

Mr. Whitmore suggested that the Commissioner send a copy of the swimming pool report to each member of the School Committee together with a letter asking them to review it, and comment at our coming meeting; and express the hope that the School Committee will endorse the plan in so far as it effects school buildings.

A discussion followed concerning the joint meeting of the School Committee and the Recreation Commission. It was pointed out that we should pin down the fact that this pool at South High School is a joint project of the Recreation Commission as well as the School Committee. Mr. Whitmore pointed out that the request for funds to the Board of Aldermen for planning the Albemarle and South High School pools should carry the requirement that the Recreation Commissioner give his approval before the plans are approved.

A discussion of the 1964 budget request followed.

A special meeting on the budget will take place on January 7th. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be on January 21, 1964.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD THURSDAY EVENINGJANUARY 23, 1964

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 T. Frank Copp  
 Alan Shaw  
 Joseph Selden  
 Mr. Whitmore  
 John B. Penney, Commissioner  
 Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Mrs. Evans, League of Women Voters, also attended the meeting.

Minutes of the December meeting were approved.

1. It was the consensus of the Commission that they were grateful to Mr. Penney and Dr. Brown for making it possible for the Recreation Commission and the School Board to meet jointly on Monday evening, December 30, 1963 to discuss matters of mutual interest. Mr. Penney was commended by the Commission for his part in bringing about this meeting.

2. The Commissioner discussed the following:

Plans for improving dock at Crystal Lake.

Basketball: Gyms have been opened Saturday afternoons and during Christmas vacation.

Pee Wee Hockey is being held every Saturday morning at St. Sebastian's with an enrollment of 50 boys. Competitive games will be arranged with neighboring cities and towns.

Ice fishing at Crystal Lake has not developed this year probably due to the fish kill this spring.

3. Mr. Penney introduced Mr. Ray G. Huling, 5 Birch Hill Road, Newtonville, a resident of Newton who had approached him on a plan to raise money through public subscription to construct an ice skating arena in the Cold Spring Playground area.

Mr. Huling outlined his plan for financing such a project. He felt that a non-profit trust could be set up with a Board of Directors to raise the money through the purchase of bonds among the citizens. When bonds are paid off, the arena would be turned over to the city. The arena would be constructed on city-owned land and managed and maintained by Recreation Department personnel and city funds. Mr. Huling had already presented his plan to the Mayor, who was interested but not ready to commit himself at this time.

Mr. Whitmore and the other members of the Commission questioned the legality of mixing private and city funds. Mr. Whitmore was assigned to discuss this matter with the City Solicitor and report his findings

to the Commission at a later meeting. Mr. Huling has appointments to discuss financing with the First National Bank of Boston and others.

4. Mr. Selden moved that Mr. Penney send a letter to the Mayor recommending that the Commission wished to go on record to have a chance to acquire the City Infirmary land for playground purposes when the city was ready to dispose of it.

Mr. Penney had already sent a communication to the Mayor requesting this, and has received a reply that the Commission's request will be considered when the future use of this land is discussed.

5. The Commissioner read a letter dated Dec. 9, 1963 from Henry G. Barry, 65 Oxford Rd., Newton Centre concerning potential use of the Weeks Jr. High School grounds as a recreational area as follows:

1. An outdoor basketball court.
2. Flooding area for skating.
3. Supervised summer program for girls and boys.

The Commissioner reported that Mr. Doherty, District Supervisor had been questioned about supervising this area. He reported that some years ago this playground was supervised during the summer vacation, but attendance was so low that supervision was discontinued. Perhaps the neighborhood has changed and it might be well to try having two female play leaders on duty for the summer. Mr. Penney will evaluate this possibility for future consideration.

6. A communication from Director of Public Works re- Sale of land on Rustic Street adjoining Victory Playground was read. The Commission voted to advise Mr. Pratt that they were not in favor of selling this land at the present time.

7. A communication dated Jan. 10, 1964 was read from City Solicitor re-- certain parks which according to the Charter are the responsibility of the Street Department, being put under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Department. Also, the matter of the Recreation Commission taking over the title and responsibility of the Park Commission. Mr. Jones stated that the only way, in his opinion, of transferring jurisdiction over public parks to the Recreation Commission would be by State legislation.

Mr. Whitmore was requested to approach members of the Park Commission as to whether they would consider turning over their duties to the Recreation Commission. Mr. Jones outlined a few ways he thought the Recreation Commission might assume the duties of the Park Commission, but these again would require special State legislation unless the present Park Commission (Planning Board) would resign. Then the Recreation Commission terms and members would have to be changed to conform to State law on park commissions.

8. Commission discussed matter of taking over partial supervision of Pop Warner football program. The Commissioner was advised to keep a close watch on this program, but it was decided not to assume responsibility of this group at the present time.

9. Commission members were notified that the Budget meeting with the Finance Committee was scheduled for Saturday, February 29th, at 9:00 A.M.

10. The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Tuesday evening, February 18th, at 7:30 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Principal Clerk

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENINGFEBRUARY 18, 1964

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Alan T. Shaw  
John B. Penney, Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as recorded.

1. Mrs. West expressed her appreciation to the Commissioner on the issuance of the Monthly Reports which she felt were of great value.
2. Change of Park Commission membership was discussed. Mr. Whitmore suggested that this matter be postponed for a month or so and he will watch for further developments.
3. Infirmary land. Mr. Selden moved that the Commission go on record to the Mayor that the Recreation Commission be given first consideration on acquiring this land for playground purposes when the Infirmary was abandoned. The Commissioner reported that he had already sent a communication to the Mayor on Dec. 12, 1963, with copy to Mr. Loughman of the planning Board to this effect. Mayor had replied that no commitment would be made as to the disposition of this land until the Commission was consulted. Mr. Whitmore suggested that a copy of the letter to the Mayor and Planning Board be sent to Mr. Fahey, Mr. Pratt, and Supt. of schools Charles E. Brown.
4. Method of financing ice rink. - Mr. Whitmore reported that he had discussed Mr. Ray G. Huling's plan for financing with Matt B. Jones, City Solicitor. Mr. Jones felt that Mr. Huling's plan as presented was not legally possible, but he would like to study the matter further. Commission requested Mr. Penney to advise Mr. Huling that according to the City Solicitor we cannot work with him on the basis he proposed, but that the Commission is still interested in a workable plan.
5. The Commissioner's report on how Newton scored on the National Recreation Association "Schedule for the Appraisal of Community Recreation" was held for a later meeting.
6. Mr. Penney reported on the Mayor's Committee on Vandalism. This is a committee which was formed shortly after the first of the year. The Committee is made up of John Gilleland, School Department, Chairman; John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner; Paul Mullen, Building Department; Charles Feeley and Officer Thibault of the Police Department, and School Attendance Officer, Angino. This Committee is making a study of the extent of the problem and what can be done to alleviate it. Committee is now in the process of setting up a method of communication between the various departments involved. Mr. Selden suggested that Commissioner

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contact Joe Savignano, 22 Circuit Avenue, Newton Highlands, former police officer in Maine, now a student at Boston University. Mr. Selden felt he might be of some help to the Committee.

- 7. Commissioner reviewed the Budget reductions by the Mayor.
- 8. Secretary was instructed to find out details concerning the Twombly House Fund and the Ellison Playground Fund prior to the March meeting.
- 9. Commissioner reported that he had attended a Building Committee hearing at the request of Alderman Dangel. This committee was interested in what could and should be done to repair playground buildings. They felt neglect creates more vandalism.
- 10. Location of swimming pool to be put on Albemarle Playground was discussed. Commission agreed that the Commissioner would use his judgment as to a suitable location for a pool, but that it should be located in the general vicinity of the present field house so parking facilities would be available along Albemarle Rd., and Cheesecake brook.

The next regular meeting of the Commission will be held on Tuesday evening, March 17th, at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Principal Clerk and Secretary to  
the Recreation Commission

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENING

MARCH 17, 1964

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Alan T. Shaw  
John B. Penney, Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Minutes of the February meeting were approved as recorded.

February Monthly Report was distributed to all members of the Commission.

1. Twombly House Fund was discussed. This is a fund set up to be expended in such a way as in the judgment of the trustees will best promote sportsmanship --- and junior citizenship and scholarship among the boys and girls of the Newton Upper Falls District as now set out as Precinct 1 of Ward 5 of the City. The board consists of three(3) trustees, serving without compensation composed of the Chairman of the Playground Commission of the City of Newton, by virtue of his office, the Superintendent of Schools of the City of Newton by virtue of his office, and the member of the School Committee from Ward 5, by virtue of his office. The City Treasurer to act as Treasurer of the fund.

Last year some of the money was spent for prizes and awards for the Field Day at Newton Upper Falls.

The Chairman suggested that this year we have a revaluation of the fund before any money is spent, and that it be discussed further at the May meeting.

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2. Carol & elena Ellison Fund was discussed. This fund was set up by Ada P. Harding as a memorial to her grandchildren- Carol and Elena Ellison, to be expended by the Playground Commission of said city at its discretion for permanent improvements in any existing playground in that part of Newton called Nonantum or to be added to funds which may be or become available for the purchase or equipment of a new playground in said locality. The present balance in this fund is \$1,394.84. Mrs. West asked that she be allowed to do a little research and find out whether either of these heirs are still living and report at a later meeting.

3. Mr. Penney reported that at the Building Commissioner's request he had attended a meeting of the Building Committee and Finance Committee to discuss amount to be requested for the proposed pools at Newton South High School and Albemarle Playground. Building Commissioner's recommendations were higher than the original Mayor's Committee report but Commissioner and Mayor agreed to go along with this increased amount. Building Committee felt further study should be made and a joint meeting was to be held with members of Building Committee, Finance Committee and Mr. Gilleland and Mr. Simmons of the School Department.

4. Commissioner reported that he had written to Mr. Huling-re: financing skating arena and advised him that the City Solicitor had ruled that the suggested method of financing could not be utilized. Mr. Penney and Mr. Huling will meet with City Solicitor at a later date to discuss this matter further.

5. Mr. Whitmore suggested that the recommended change-over of the Park Commission be held until a later date.

6. M.R.A. Schedule Appraisal pamphlet was distributed to members of Commission for them to study before it is discussed at a Commission meeting.

7. Mr. James Cokely and Mr. Joseph Rondina of the Newton West Little League attended the meeting to request a Little League field since they had been advised that Gill Stadium would not be available for their use this season. The Commissioner suggested that Lyons Playground could be made available. He would consult the City Engineers to see if two diamonds could be constructed there in the future. Mr. Cokely and Mr. Rondina agreed they would be willing to use either Lyons Playground or Franklin School Playground. Commission directed Mr. Penney to settle this matter as he deem best with direction to provide a field to take the place of Gill Stadium.

8. Golf course plans were discussed. The Commissioner was requested to arrange a meeting with Mr. Cornish and Mr. Downe, City Planner and report on Commissions reactions and discuss adjustments. Mr. Shaw suggested we acquire more land for additional spread. One parcel of land which is being considered for a Music School is to be released by the Recreation Commission if Mr. Penney and Mr. Downe agreed that this land is of no value to the Recreation Department. The Commission were unanimous in that they were not satisfied with Mr. Cornish's report as presented and would not make any recommendations until further study was made. Mr. Penney was directed to show this plan to the Mayor and Alderman Dietz.

9. Request from Joseph Greene, President of the North Little League for permission to use the softball field at Albemarle for a benefit professional girls' softball game on some evening prior to June 1st was discussed.

The following policy for charging for the use of this facility was set up by the Recreation Commission:

1. There would be a charge of \$10.00 per hour with an additional charge to the nearest half-hour over each hour used.
2. Mr. Selden moved that he go on record that lights at Albemarle Softball Field would not be used for anything but Athletic events with the approval of the Recreation Department. Seconded by Mr. Copp.
3. It was voted that lights would not be used on Sundays.
4. The Commissioner reported that each team entering the Softball League will be assessed \$25.00 to cover cost of lights.

It was voted to notify Mr. Greene that we will allow the North Little League to use the field with the stipulations as set forth by the Commission, and at a time agreeable to the Recreation Department.

10. Commission was invited to attend special Annual Board Member's Dinner of the Massachusetts Recreation Society at Wayside Inn, Wayland, On April 14th.

The next regular meeting of the Commission was scheduled for Tuesday evening, April 21st at 7:30 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD TUESDAY EVENINGAPRIL 21, 1964

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 T. Frank Copp  
 Joseph Selden  
 Alan T. Shaw  
 John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
 Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

1. Minutes of the March meeting were approved as recorded:
2. March Monthly Report was distributed to all members of the Commission.
3. The Commissioner reported that Mr. Canavas had approved the use of the Gill Stadium by the Newton West Little League for the 1964 season.
4. Mrs. West reported that she was not ready to discuss the Ellison Fund at this meeting. X
5. Due to Mr. Whitmore's absence no report was made on the Park Commission.
6. The Commissioner reported that he and Mr. Huling had met with Mr. Jones, City Solicitor, refinancing skating arena. Mr. Penney hoped to have a written opinion from Mr. Jones to present to the Commission at this meeting. Mr. Jones gave the impression that it might take legislative action to take care of the legal difficulties he felt would arise.

The Commission was instructed to write Mr. Jones advising him that the Commission are waiting for his legal opinion.

7. Mr. Penney advised the Commission that he had a meeting today with Mr. Cornish and Mr. Downe regarding the proposed Golf Course.

Mr. Penney had written Mr. Cornish saying that he had presented his plan to the Mayor, the Recreation Commission and the Planning Director and they were all of the opinion that the plan as presented, seemed too crowded. Additional land would have to be acquired before the plan could be made public or presented to the Board, Mr. Cornish will continue with the plans until everything is agreeable to all concerned at no extra charge.

The Commission went on record to advise the Mayor that no land in this area was to be sold at this time.

8. The Commissioner reported that money had been appropriated to the Building Department for the services of an Architect. The Mayor has retained a Mr. George Sherwood as Architect for this project.

The next regular meeting of the Commission was scheduled for Tuesday evening, May 12th at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

MINUTES OF RECREATION MEETING HELD MONDAY EVENING MAY 18, 1964

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Alan T. Shaw  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the April meeting were approved as recorded.

1. The Commissioner reported that letters had been sent to the Chief of Police, each President of the Little Leagues and all Vendors on the Health Dept. list reviolation of city ordinances relating to the selling of food and other articles on and near playgrounds. So far this has proved effective to alleviate the violations and all individual offenders were being checked by the Police.
2. The Commission voted to continue their policy of denying any group to sell drinks, etc. on any playgrounds except for special occasions such as July 4th celebration and League opening ceremonies. The Commissioner had received a request from the President of the West Little League to sell soft drinks during their games at Lyons Playground.
3. A delegation from the Albemarle Playground area with Mr. Stanley A. Reynolds as spokesman attended the meeting to register their objections to the Swimming pool being constructed on the Albemarle Playground. A petition had already been circulated and signed by many residents of the area objecting to this location.

The other objectors attending the meeting were - Hart Fessenden, Headmaster - The Fessenden School; Walter Driscoll, 305 Albemarle Rd., and Andrew A. White, 347 Albemarle Rd.

The chief objection was that Albemarle is already over-crowded with activities and Edmands Park or some other area in Newton should be considered for the site of the proposed pool.

The Commission listened to all the arguments as presented by the Committee but explained that the Albemarle had been chosen after a great deal of study by the Mayor's Swim Pool Committee, formed a year ago.

4. A delegation of abutters of the Crystal Lake Swimming Area attended the meeting to voice their objections to the proposed plan for extending the beach area. The following abutters were present: Mr. & Mrs. Jamusz Sciegienny, 230 Lake Ave., N. Hlds., Mr. Frank A. Silver, attorney, 79 Mild St., Boston represented the Sciegiennys, and Mr. & Mrs. George Plamer, 109 Allerton Rd., N. Hlds. The chief objection to taking any of their property was that the parking facilities were very poor and already the area was very congested.

The Commissioner outlined the plans for the proposed extension of the beach area and advised the objectors that they would be notified of any further plans that might be considered.

SPECIAL MEETING - NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSIONTHURSDAY - AUGUST 20, 1964

Convened at 3:00 P.M. - Members present - Chairman Mrs. Worthing West, Mr. Frank Copp, Mr. Joseph Selden, Commissioner John Penney - Absent: Mr. Alan Shaw, Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.

A letter from the President of the Newton West Little League requesting a major league field to replace Gill Stadium next season was read and discussed. Mr. Penney reported that he had talked on the phone with a representative of Louis Perini, one of the partners who own the Norumbega land; and had been informed that they do not wish to extend the use of Gill Stadium after this season. Since Norumbega is closed, they do not wish to carry insurance any longer, and do not want to be tied down to its use. Mr. Penney reported this information to Mayor Gibbs, but he wishes to take it further himself to see if another year's commitment can be obtained. Members of the Commission expressed reluctance to pursue the matter any further at the Commission level, and to leave this to Mayor Gibbs. Mr. Penney reported that a special appropriation of \$7,000 would be required to renovate Lyons diamond to the quality of the new Albemarle Diamond. The Commission voted to authorize the Commissioner to repair this diamond using regular operating budget funds, personnel and equipment for fill loam, subsoil, seed, fertilizer only this fall. It was voted that part of the Pine Street dump area will have to be made into a playground for the new Burr School, and that this may prove the best site for the major league field.

The long-range capital budget was discussed at some length. Commissioner Penney must turn in a proposed 6 year program before September 10th. Some adjustments of the time schedule for the proposed improvements was made.

At 4:00 P.M. the members went to the office of the Planning Department, and met with Planning Director Miller to discuss the proposed Cold Spring Golf Course Plan. The following decisions concerning this project were voted unanimously:

1. To recommend that all the contiguous land under private ownership shown on the plans made by the Planning Department to be purchased. A letter from the Board of Assessors sets a reasonable figure for this land at \$55,330.00 (10¢/ sq. ft.)
2. To abandon the Cold Spring Playground, and incorporate all this land as part of the golf course.
3. To include a Skating Arena in the overall plan of the area.
4. To retain the frontage lots on Beacon Street, and not to sell them for private development.

A decision on whether to recommend the construction of an 18- hole "executive length" course or a regular-sized 9- hole course was postponed. Commissioner Penney was authorized to obtain all pertinent information concerning this decision and discuss it with the members of the Commission and others separately. As soon as this is resolved the Planning Director and Commissioner will work with the Golf Course Planner Geoffrey Cornish to bring in a revised plan.

Adjourned - 5:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING - TUESDAY

OCT. 20, 1964

Members Present:

- Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman
- T. Frank Copp
- Alan T. Shaw
- John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner
- Joseph Selden
- Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the Sept. 15, 1964 meeting were approved as recorded

1. Mrs. West reported that several groups have signified their interest in attending Recreation Commission meetings. Mrs. Deats, League of Women Voters requested she be sent a notice of each meeting. Mr. Penney is to check with Matt B. Jones, City Solicitor, about sending regular notice of the meetings to this group. It was discussed whether the meetings could be open to anyone wishing to attend, but only when the regular agenda was discussed. How the Commission could go into Executive session & outsiders asked to withdraw was uncertain, and Commissioner Penney is to ask the City Solicitor about this also.

2. Monthly reports for Sept. & October were distributed.

3. The Commissioner read a letter sent to him from a group commending the department on the excellent condition of the Newton Centre tennis courts.

4. Mr. Penney reported on his trip to Miami, Fla. to attend the National Recreation Conference.

5. A Group representing the Country Players of Newton, headed by David Yarosh, 10 State St., Boston attended the meeting. A background of the history of the Country Players was given. This group would like the City of Newton Recreation Dept. to sponsor them. It is not a money-making organization only charitable. They are now using schools to put on their performance. The group would like the Recreation Dept. to furnish them with a place to practice or put on their productions or have us cover the cost of school custodial fees. The group ultimately would like to work toward an Arts Center for Newton.

It was voted that, after the expense for Halloween custodial services had been ascertained, the Commission would consider whether the department could pay some of the group's custodial fees. No formal action was voted, but the sense of the discussion was that this could be done on an experimental basis for the remainder of the year. At the present time we have no building available for the group to use. The abandoned fire-station on Beacon Street was mentioned as a possibility. Mr. Penney is to check this possibility. The group invited the members of the Commission to attend one of their performances on Nov. 19 & 20.

6. Mr. Penney distributed a copy of a report from the City Solicitor and Dr. Richards to each member of the Commission on the drowning at Crystal Lake.

7. Mr. Copp reported that he had attended a meeting of the Mayor's Advisory Committee and the Aldermanic Committee on the proposed plans for the Albemarle pool. After revisions by the Architect, Alderman Dangel hopes that this project will be going out to bid- probably in December.

8. The Halloween Program was discussed. Mr. Penney reported that everything was progressing very well under Mrs. Garons direction. No dance is to be held for High School students this year. This decision was made after a meeting with faculty members and student council from both high schools. It was also noted that Claflin School had voted to discontinue their parties for this year.

Whether to include an item for police protection for Halloween in the 1965 budget was discussed. Mr. Penney reported that Captain Quinn had informed him that the police on Halloween duty are not paid for that time. No action was voted, but it will be considered in budget review.

9. Plans for the Golf Course at Cold Spring Playground were discussed. The Commissioner read a letter he had written to City Engineer and Planning Board advising them that the Recreation Commission was interested in the land which was to be sold for house lots and requested that any decision to release this land be delayed; City Engineer and City Solicitor advised that since this is private property this request would not be valid. The Commissioner recommended that the Commission ask the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen that a portion of City of Newton land on Beacon Street be exchanged for the back section of the land now owned by the J.C.J. Realty Trust. This area of city land to be given contains approximately 34,450 sq. ft., and the land to be gained by the city involves about 75,000 sq. ft. of land.

The Commission voted unanimously to recommend this exchange of land.

10. Mr. Selden brought up the question of the City Infirmary land. The Commission voted unanimously to have the Commissioner send a letter to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen recommending that the City Infirmary land be designated for playground use with the understanding that space will be made available for a school building should one have to be built in this area.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

Next meeting scheduled for November 17, 1964.

Respectfully submitted

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

TUESDAY  
NOVEMBER 23, 1964

Meeting convened 7:45 P.M.

Present:

Mrs. Worthing West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. Alan Shaw  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

Absent: Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.

Observers:

Mrs. Ralph Rosenbaum  
Mrs. Melvin Norris, League of Women Voters  
Mr. Mitchell Simon, PTA Council

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

Recreation Commissioner, John B. Penney, reported:

That a new youth co-ed badminton program is being conducted for a seven weeks period in cooperation with the school girls physical education department and the Mass. Badminton Assn. Instructors are provided by M.B.A. with payment going to it instead of individual instructors. Program is being held at Weeks Jr. High on Tuesdays and Warren Jr. High on Thursdays from 6 to 8 P.M. Attendance is about 40 at Warren and Weeks has two groups of 45 for an hour each.

That Mrs. Esther Toher had been approved for two years by Civil Service pending an exam to fill the vacancy for full-time permanent recreation leader (general).

That Mrs. Frank Shea had been approved for two years by Civil Service pending an examination to fill the vacancy for full-time permanent clerk typist.

That a meeting was to be held shortly at the office of Supt. of Schools, Dr. Charles Brown, to discuss the past Halloween particularly in relation to the cancellation this year of parties at the high school level and at one junior high and one elementary school.

Tickets for the Country Players production were checked. Mr. Penney, Mr. Copp and Mr. Shaw are planning to attend. Mr. Penney reported that he estimated that approximately \$400 would be available to pay for school custodial services for this group for the remainder of this year. A decision as to whether to do so or not was postponed. Mr. Penney reported that Building Commissioner Burns had informed him that the Fire Station at the corner of Washington and Beacon Street was to be used for the hospital fund drive headquarters for the next few months. He also said that the building is in good condition, and that no decision had been made for its permanent use.

Mr. Penney reported that the plans for the Albemarle Pool were nearly complete, but that a disagreement had arisen between the architect and the consultant (Coach Rogers) over filtration equipment. It was the sense of the meeting that Mr. Penney should advise the Building Department to follow the advice of the consultant if at all possible. NSHS pool preliminary plans have been adjusted to allow some recrea-

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tion grounds maintenance storage. Mr. Selden requested that Mr. Rogers be consulted about the type of overhead doors being planned for the pool.

Mr. Penney reported that the land exchange voted at the October meeting had been approved by the Board of Aldermen, and that the deal was going to go through.

A revised plan for the Cold Spring Golf Course was shown. It was voted unanimously that Commissioner Penney work out any corrections necessary with the City Planning Consultant, Charles Downe, and City Engineer, Schiavone, and send corrected revisions to Mr. Cornish without further consultation with the Commission.

A letter from Honorable Donald L. Gibbs, Mayor regarding the Commission recommendation concerning the Infirmary land was read.

A copy of a letter was read from Richard Mechem, Principal of NHS to Mayor Gibbs suggestion that a building be found to set up a youth center for a two year experimental period. It was the sense of the discussion that Commissioner Penney express the interest and desire of the Newton Recreation Department to be involved in any plans for a youth center, and that other community groups who had previously expressed an interest in this project be informed before any action is taken.

It was voted unanimously to give Commissioner Penney authority to work out with City Solicitor Jones and other city officials necessary procedures to provide supervision of the coasting hill on the Albemarle Golf Course on Fessenden School land.

The preliminary budget was discussed. A special budget meeting of the Commission was set for 4:00 P.M., Monday, November 30th. Next regular meeting of the Commission will be December 15th at 7:45 P.M.

Commissioner Penney reported the opinion of the City Solicitor Matt Jones as follows:

Commission meetings have to be open to the public. Observers from civic groups have a right to attend.

Commission may go into executive session for the following reasons.

1. matters dealing with financial interests of the city which might be adversely effected by public exposure. This includes preliminary budget sessions.
2. matters dealing with personalities (such as employees, appointments, discipline, etc,) who might be adversely effected by public exposure.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10.

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD MONDAY EVENINGDECEMBER 14, 1964

Present: Commission Members - Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 T. Frank Copp  
 Joseph Selden  
 Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
 Alan T. Shaw  
 John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
 Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Observers - Mr. Mitchell Simon, P.T.A. Council  
 Mrs. Ralph Rosenbaum, League of Women Voters  
 Mrs. Melvin Morris, League of Women Voters

1. Minutes of the November meeting were approved as recorded.
  2. Monthly report for October and November was distributed to all members of the Commission. Maintenance report was not written as Foreman Frank Shea has been in the hospital.
  3. Commissioner Penney reported that all the indoor programs have been started. No new programs have been added- Judo is underway at Newton Centre. Recreation Department sponsors this program by furnishing the building only. Badminton is going very well at Warren but Weeks needs to be reorganized. Handicapped swimming program at Sidney Hill has been started. Classes have been added on Mondays along with Tuesday and Thursdays. Transportation is furnished by Recreation Department on Tuesday and Thursday only. Mothers arrange own transportation on Mondays. Answering service has been started for skating and tobogganing information.
  4. Mr. Penney reported that he had attended a neighborhood meeting on problems and improvement of Boyd Park. Alderman Adelaide Ball was present. Meeting was held at home of William Mahoney, 63 Gardner St., Newton. Both the residents of the Boyd Park area and the Recreation Department agreed that every effort would be made to improve conditions and expand the recreational program.
  5. Country Players sponsorship was discussed. The Commissioner and Mr. Alan Shaw had attended a performance and both agreed it was a worthwhile group. The Recreation Commission voted to pay the custodial fees for this group and incorporate an item in the amount of \$500.00 for this expense in the 1965 budget.
  6. Plans were discussed for the proposed golf course for Newton. Commission had approved requesting \$75,000. in the Preliminary Budget for land acquisition and engineering studies. Actual construction was scheduled for 1966. The Commission discussed a formal request to be presented to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen for funds for this project rather than just an item in the 1965 budget.
- Mr. Whitmore suggested that a Recreation Authority could be created to own and run a golf course and skating rink and sell their own revenue bonds. This Recreation Authority would probably take a special act of the Legislature. The Recreation Commission members could be made members of the authority.

The Commission voted that Mr. Penney discuss this whole matter with the Mayor and report his findings to the Commission.

7. The Commissioner read a letter from the Newton Conservators to the Mayor requesting that City Infirmary land be retained by the city of Newton and placed under control of the Recreation Department. The Commission had requested the Mayor that this be done in October of 1964. The Mayor is not taking any action at the present time.

8. Mr. Penney reported that he had attended a Community Council meeting on Youth Centre proposals. A plan was presented to turn the ownership of the Newton Centre Women's Club over to the city of Newton Recreation Department and create a Youth Centre there. After much discussion it was not considered feasible to organize a Youth Centre in this location.

9. The Commissioner reported that he was meeting with City Solicitor, Matt Jones and a lawyer representing the Fessenden School, to work out a plan for the Recreation Department to patrol the coasting at Fessenden School on weekends.

10. A report was distributed to all members of the Commission from Mr. Jason Cortell, biologist on his study and treatment of Crystal Lake. Mr. Cortell had signified his wish to meet with the Commission in January if they were interested in seeing slides of his work at Crystal Lake.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY EVENING

JANUARY 19, 1965

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Worhing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. Alan Shaw  
Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

1. Meeting called to order at 8:00 P.M.
2. Minutes of the December meeting were approved as recorded.
3. Mr. Jason Cortell, Biologist, attended the meeting. Mr. Cortell reviewed the report he had submitted to Mr. Penney listing his work at Crystal Lake and Bulloughs Pond during 1964. This report was distributed to each member of the Commission at the December meeting. Mr. Cortell had recommended and supervised the installation of the aqualator at Crystal Lake in 1963 which has proved very satisfactory. In 1963 he initiated aquatic weed control, In addition, in 1963, he got the Division of Fisheries to run a fish survey of the lake. He received a report that the lake was excellent for stocking of trout. A study of the shore line at Crystal Lake revealed that the abutters were abusing their rights by disposing of debris, etc. into the lake. Mr. Cortell is not as yet sure of the reason for the turbidity in the lake during 1964. He believes it is a result of death of weeds which have not yet completely decomposed. He recommended we install aqualator earlier in season and possibly this might reduce turbidity in the lake. He recommended aquatic weed control as required to keep it from growing back to a major problem again. Algae control will be a continuous, yearly project.

*Bulloughs*

In 1964 he also included in his work a survey of Bulloughs Pond. Two major fish kills occurred during this year. After tests were made it was found the pond was super-saturated with oxygen so lack of oxygen was not the cause. Further tests indicsted the presence of insecticide. Mosquito control is suspect. Pollution is present in Hammond Pond Brook. Pond has no recreational value at present other than a skating area because of these factors. Dredging the pond was recommended because it is believed that insecticide is present in the muck. Ice conditions would be better if pond was deepened. Mr. Cortell's report recommends a meeting of all public agencies involved.

Potential at Crystal Lake is not being realized according to Mr. Cortell. It is a waste of an excellent resource not to use it as a trout pond.

Mrs. West questioned the possibility of cleaning up the Charles River and developing a swimming program in certain areas. Mr. Cortell felt that there is a potential if Havey Beach can be reopened. A sewer line is being completed from Jamaica Plain and elimination of the pollution problem in the river is dependent on the outcome of this project.

Mr. Penney felt we should retain Mr. Cortell for 1965 to continue his program at Crystal Lake. Funds in the amount of \$2,000. have been included in the budget to cover such an expense. It was voted not to ask for funds to stock Crystal Lake.

4. Mr. Penney reported that he had addressed a group at the Central Congregational Church in Newtonville. Discussion was on a proposed Youth Centre for Newton which Junior Class Committee from Newton High School is publicizing. Mr. Penney read a letter from Fran Deats, Junior Class Chairman addressed to Dr. R. Emerson Sylvester regarding the ideas of the Junior class on establishing a Youth Centre for Newton. The Commissioner was instructed to inform Miss Deats of the Commission's interest in such a proposal and let her know that both he and Mrs. West will be available for any future discussion.

5. Mr. Penney reported that the Board of Aldermen had approved the appropriation for the Albemarle Swimming Pool and bids would be sent out for construction as soon as possible.

6. Capital Improvement projects were discussed and Commission voted to leave budget requests as originally submitted in Preliminary Budget.

7. Mr. Penney reported on a meeting of the Mayor, Superintendent Brown and Haskell Freedman where the School Department proposed the taking of ten (10) acres of land at Edmands Park for the erection of a high-rise high school with parking facilities. The Commissioner had already gone on record with the Mayor in opposing such a plan. The Commission approved Commissioner Penney's stand. Mayor is opposed to such a plan at this time and the Newton Conservators have been informed. Mr. Penney reported that the City Solicitor was agreeable to meet with a joint meeting of the Recreation and Park Commission to discuss functions and the legal problems involved in any rearrangement. It was voted to set up a meeting between the Recreation Commission and Park Commission.

8. Commission directed the Commissioner to request the Mayor to set up a Committee (similar to Swimming Pool Committee) to study financial and legal problems involved in constructing a Golf Course and Skating Rink in Newton.

9. Mrs. West read a notice from the Newton Conservators on a meeting to be held Jan. 27, 1965 at 8:00 P.M. at the Newton Highlands Workshop to which members of the Commission were invited.

10. Next regular meeting of the Recreation Commission will be held Tuesday evening, February 16th at 7:45 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY EVENINGFEBRUARY 16, 1965

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. Alan Shaw  
Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Observers: Mr. Mitchell Simon, P.T.A. Council  
Mrs. Henry Gorman, League of Women Voters.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as recorded.

1. January monthly report was distributed to all members of the Commission. The Commissioner reported that all programs are operating well. Mrs. Toher and a group of Senior Citizens from Jackson Garden and Parker Street have been recruited to go to Medfield State Hospital to start a program for senior adult patients.
2. Mr. Penney reported he had attended a P.T.A. Council meeting on Feb. 1st to discuss Halloween programs. Mr. Penney was concerned that interest was waning but found that this was not completely true. The consensus of the meeting was that youngsters at the Junior and Senior high level should be more involved in planning parties and this should stimulate interest. Question of when to hold 1965 party as Halloween will fall on Sunday was raised. It will likely be held on Monday as it had been in the past when under the direction of Mrs. Hovgaard. A subcommittee of the P.T.A. Council has been appointed to work further with Mr. Penney.
3. Mr. Penney reported that he had been made Chairman of a Youth Centre subcommittee of the Community Council. A group from the Junior Class of Newton High School has met once with Mr. Penney and expressed their desire for a Youth Centre. They have been raising funds and soliciting help from many people and organizations. Mr. Penney told them the Commission was interested in a Youth Centre but had no building available at the present time. It was suggested by Mr. Penney that such a group should rent a building and prove that a Youth Centre was needed. The plans of this Junior Class Committee is being considered by the Community Council.
4. Mrs. West advised the Commission that she has been in contact with Mr. Loughman of the Park Commission to arrange a meeting between the Park Commission and Recreation Commission.
5. Mr. Penney reported that he had talked to the Mayor about forming a special committee to investigate the financial aspects of a golf course and skating arena so we can make a recommendation to the Board of Alderman. The Commission was requested to consult with the Mayor, and to ask him to set up such a special committee on a golf course and skating arena. The membership of the committee is to be composed of the members of the Recreation Commission supplemented by knowledgeable people whom the Mayor and Mr. Penney would recommend.

6. Mr. Penney told the Commission that he had sent a letter to Alderman Nixon objecting to the sale of aqueduct land in Newton Centre. Commission requested Mr. Penney to talk to Al Schiavone, City Engineer about this to get complete information.
7. Mr. Penney reported on Federal Government "Anti-Poverty" legislation. He had talked with Wallace Fletcher, School Department expert on Vocational education. There is a possibility that federal funds would be made available to train students in various phases of recreation and recreation maintenance programs. Mr. Penney will continue to investigate this proposed program.
8. A letter was read from Country Players expressing their appreciation of the Recreation Commission's interest in their program. Complimentary passes were sent to the Commission for their next musical production.
9. The Commission was reminded of their meeting on Saturday, February 27th at 9:00 A.M. with the Finance Committee to discuss the 1965 Budget. Commissioner will notify Mr. Whitmore of this meeting.
10. Mr. Penney invited the members of the Commission to the Mass. Recreation Society Annual Dinner to be held at Monticello Restaurant on April 26, 1965.
11. Copy of 1965 Annual Budget was distributed to all members of the Commission. The Commissioner briefly reviewed the Mayor's Reductions. A copy of the 1965-1970 Capital Improvement Plan of the City of Newton was also distributed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

MARCH 16, 1965

Members Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. Alan Shaw  
Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Observer: Mrs. Melvin Norris, League of Women Voters.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.
2. Minutes of the February meeting were approved as recorded.
3. Commissioner's monthly report for the month of February was distributed to all members of the Commission.
4. Mr. Penney reported that wheelchair basketball game was scheduled for Saturday evening, March 20, 1965 at the Meadowbrook Jr. High School. Two games were scheduled - feature game- New England Clippers vs. Brooklyn Whirlaways and Pony League Allstar Game.
5. P.T.A. Council Halloween Study Committee have had one meeting. A meeting is scheduled for April 7, 1965 in Recreation office, City Hall, where Principals of both high schools and students will attend.
6. Mr. Penney has been appointed Chairman of a Youth Centre Committee of the Community Council. A group from Junior class at Newton High School is interested in raising money to rent a building for a Youth Centre. School Committee and Recreation Commission will arrange a meeting at a later date to discuss ways of helping this group should they request help from the city.
7. No action to be taken at this time on joint meeting of Park and Recreation Commission.
8. No action at present time on financing of golf course and skating arena.  
Suggestion from Mr. Copp that a name be given to Albemarle swimming pool be held to next meeting when he is present.
9. Recreation Commissioner has gone on record opposing sale of aqueduct land. The Commission concurs in his stand.
10. Commissioner Penney extended an invitation to the members of the Commission to attend Annual Dinner and meeting of the M.R.S. at Monticello's on Monday evening, April 26th. Commission accepted invitation.

ORFHM

11. Fees were discussed for tennis permits and Crystal Lake swimming permits.

Mr. Penney reported he has been looking into installing meters at the lighted tennis courts but no decision has been made. The Commission voted to leave the charge for tennis permits the same as in previous years.

It was voted to raise the charge for Crystal Lake swimming permits for the 1965 season to - Adults \$2.00 - Students \$1.00. The 50¢ charge for non-residents will remain the same, as this charge is incorporated in the 1925 Rules and Regulations for the Government and Use of Crystal Lake.

12. Federal Government "Anti-Poverty" legislation was discussed. The fund raising committee, the Newton Committee for the National Recreation Association, has scheduled a tour of the playground areas for the morning of April 24th. Miss Shine of N.R.A. and Mr. Howard Rich are arranging this meeting.

The next regular meeting of the Recreation Commission was tentatively scheduled for April 13th because of a conflict on April 20th with a Chamber of Commerce dinner.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

MAY 12, 1965

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Alan T. Shaw  
Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

1. Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.
2. Minutes of the March meeting were approved as recorded.
3. Commissioner's monthly report for the month of March was distributed to all members of the Commission.
4. The Commissioner reported that there will be a meeting of the P.T.A. Council on Thursday evening, May 13, 1965, at which time a report will be presented by a sub-committee which has made a study of reactions to the Halloween Program. Mr. Penney had asked the help of the P.T.A. Council in planning for the future because of the drop off in the number of parties held last year. In addition, a meeting was held with representatives of both high schools about the Halloween Dance. This group assured Mr. Penney they wanted a dance, and were to investigate several possible sites. The high school students selected Moseley's-On-The-Charles in Dedham. The Commission went on record that they were not in favor of sponsoring a dance at this location. Commissioner was requested to get further details involved in using this place and report back to the Commission at the next meeting.
5. Mr. Penney reported on a meeting held March 3rd with a Youth Centre Committee. Representatives of the Junior Class Committee of the Newton High School were present. This group is interested in raising funds to buy or rent a place to have a Youth Centre. This plan is being studied by a group from the Community Council. Mr. Penney has been appointed Chairman of the Community Council group. Sue Gradone, Chairman of the Junior Class Committee met with the Commissioner on May 11th, but reported they are no further along in the program. Commission expressed their interest, but will not impose their views. Commission members expressed themselves as not being in favor of the Fund Raising Drive planned by the Junior Class Committee. The Commissioner will report on this matter further at the next meeting of the Commission.
6. Mrs. West reported that she has had no word from Mr. Whitmore on the matter of combining the Park and Recreation Commission.
7. Mr. Paterson of Beacon St., Newton Centre, attended the meeting and requested the Commission to sell him a piece of city-owned land abutting his property. He would like to improve his property and have enough room to erect a 2-car garage. The Commission expressed their sympathy for Mr. Paterson's problem but unanimously agreed to defer action on Mr. Paterson's request. Mr. Penney was requested to request the Mayor to recommend to the Board of Aldermen that the necessary private land be acquired by eminent domain for Recreation purposes to provide us with space for the proposed golf course in the Cold Spring area according to the final preliminary plan by Geoffrey Cornish dated Dec. 10, 1964.

ORFHM

8. Mr. Penney reported that the construction of the Albemarle Pool is tied up in the courts. Sub-contractors have asked that they be relieved of their bid as the time has gone beyond the original date. It will probably be necessary to put this job out for bid again.

9. Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner sent a communication to the Commission requesting that 18,932 sq. ft. of the Boyd Playground be turned over to the Lincoln-Eliot School for a parking space for school personnel. The Commission members questioned the necessity of this action and Mrs. West expressed her concern of the "various bites" being taken from Recreation land. The Commissioner was instructed to inform Mr. Burns that further details including an explanation and justification by the School Department for the use of this childrens' play space for the parking of teachers' cars would be necessary before the Commission would take any action on his request.

10. Mr. Penney reported that Crystal Lake dock has gone out for bid but that we may not be able to have it installed before the beginning of the season, old dock probably will have to be used for the first part of this year.

11. The Commissioner reported that a plan is being drawn up for a small childrens' play area on the Bowen Street end of the Newton Centre Playground. When plan has been completed it will be submitted to the Commission. Mrs. West reported on the vandalism that has been going on at the Newton Centre Playground. Commissioner was asked to request the special attention of the Police Department to patrol the playground and help to curb this nuisance.

12. Mr. Penney reported that he is in the process of completing the list of summer workers for 1965.

13. Mr. Loreta Bianchi, 88 Hawthorn Street, Newton, requested the use of the Hawthorn Playground for a three-day carnival sponsored by the St. Maria Italian Society in July. The chairman reported that this practice was abolished by the Commission in 1948. The Commission has not approved any request to use playgrounds for money raising affairs of any kind by any group for many years. The Commission voted to continue this practice. The Commissioner is to notify Mr. Bianchi that his request has been denied.

14. Request from P.T.A. President at Cabot School for use of Cabot Playground for pony rides for their P.T.A. Fair was denied.

15. Mr. Copp brought in a book of clippings from the Newton Villager for the year 1951. He was interested in showing the Commission articles relating to the late Harry Gath and his part in sponsoring the construction of a swimming pool at the Albemarle Playground as far back as 1948. A petition has been presented to the Board of Aldermen by Alderman Magni that the Albemarle pool be named the "Harry Gath Memorial Pool". Mr. Copp personally advocated that it be named the Harry Gath Memorial Pool and that the Commission go on record to that effect. It was decided to delay formal action on this until the June meeting when it is hoped that all members of the Commission will be present and will be polled on this matter.

16. Recreation Commissioner Penney was instructed by the Commission to write to Commission member Howard Whitmore requesting him to be present at the June meeting and to present a report and his recommendations on the matter of the merger of the Recreation Commission and the Park Commission which has been pending for many months.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY EVENINGJUNE 15, 1965

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Alan T. Shaw  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Observer: Mr. Mitchell Simon, P.T.A.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

1. Minutes of the May meeting were approved as recorded.

2. Commissioner's monthly report for the month of April and May was distributed to all members of the Commission. Mr. Penney noted particularly the Maintenance report for the month of April, a copy of which he had mailed to the Mayor, members of the Board of Aldermen, Managers of various ball clubs, and school athletic directors.

Mrs. Toher is conducting senior citizens program. Group from Jackson Gardens are going to Nantasket on June 23rd. Department is supplying bus. Parker House is planning a cook-out. They are presently engaged in a sewing project for the Newton-Wellesley Hospital. The Newtonville Women's Club had donated new curtains for the Jackson Homestead Recreation room.

3. The Commissioner reported that the construction of Albemarle pool is moving very slowly, apparently because the contractor is hoping that the pending law suits will be disposed of before he commits too much money in the job.

4. Mr. Copp reported on complaints he had received on lights being on after 10:30 at Albemarle. The Commissioner read the 1965 Softball rules compiled by Mr. Barry. According to rules, lights are to be out by 10:25 P.M. sharp. Mr. Copp complained about lack of uniforms by players, beer drinking, etc. It was the consensus of the Commission that Mr. Penney call a meeting of the managers, sponsors, and coaches of ball teams and discuss this. Mrs. West felt we should make every effort to straighten out the problem of beer drinking on playgrounds and enforce the law relating to ice cream vendors in areas adjacent to playgrounds.

5. Matter of police action at Newton Centre playground to curb vandalism was discussed. The Commissioner reported he had sent a letter to Chief Purcell expressing the Commission's concern on this matter. Lieutenant Drew has been conducting an investigation and several arrests have been made and some juveniles have been called into court. Mrs. West suggested that the Commission might meet with members of the Police Department (possibly at the July meeting) and discuss this problem of vandalism on all playgrounds and the Crystal Lake area.

6. The Chairman read a copy of a letter from the Mayor regarding land taking at Cold Spring Playground and recommending formation of a study committee similar to Swim Pool Committee for the proposed golf course at Cold Spring. The Mayor should take the initiative in this whole plan and Mr. Penney will discuss it further on Mayor's return to Newton.

7. Memo from John Gilleland outlining school departments requirements for off-street parking space for 30 cars at Lincoln-Eliot (Boyd Playground) land was discussed. The Commission agreed that they should visit this area before a formal vote be taken. Mr. Penney was asked to check with the City Solicitor and ascertain under the terms of the deed whether or not we fall under any restrictions as to the disposal of this playground land.

8. Mr. Penney presented the Commission with a Policy Statement he had prepared for Halloween as a result of a P.T.A. Council Study Report. A meeting had been held at Mrs. West's home with Mr. Penney, Dr. Sylvester and Mrs. Garon in attendance.

The Policy Statement was reviewed, amended and adopted by the Commission.

9. The high school Halloween dance location (Moseley's-on-the-Charles in Dedham) was discussed. The Commission voted not to sponsor a dance outside the City of Newton.

10. The Commission requested Mr. Penney to continue to meet with the Newton High School Junior Class Committee and listen to their plans for the establishment of a Youth Centre.

11. Mr. Mitchel Simon, 47 Chatham Rd., Newton Highlands, representative of the P.T.A. Council read his report as submitted to the Council. This report was based on his findings as an observer at the Recreation Commission meetings. Mr. Simon expressed his respect for the Commission but felt that he was not welcome at the meetings. He feels that the P.T.A. Council representative should work with the Commission, attend the meetings and offer suggestions.

Mrs. West explained that Commission meetings were open to public, but that the public or observers from interested groups cannot be allowed to enter into the official business of the Commission. As representative of the P.T.A. Council he is an observer, not a member of the Commission. The Commission acts as an advisory body to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Penney expressed his feeling that the Commission have more reports of its meetings in the paper to keep the public informed as to what the Commission is doing.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 P.M.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held Tuesday evening, July 13, 1965 at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY EVENINGJULY 13, 1965

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 Mr. T. Frank Copp  
 Mr. Joseph Selden  
 Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
 D. G. Smith, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

1. Minutes of the June meeting were approved as recorded. (Correction made - "Jackson Gardens.")

2. Mr. Penney reported on conditions at Crystal Lake: Health Dept. report on bacteria count of water was very high. Mr. Murphy ordered "Acqualator" be on all day, instead of only at break period. Next report, one week later, from Health Dept. was very good.

Playgrounds throughout city have been very well attended.

Capital Outlay funds have not been spent. Many projects are awaiting contracts.

3. Capt. Wm. Quinn of the Police Dept. attended the meeting.

The Commission have been greatly concerned with the amount of vandalism going on at various playgrounds. Capt. Quinn is aware of the chronic problems at Newton Centre, Wellington, Cabot, Stearns, and Albemarle. The following suggestions were made by Capt. Quinn.

1. The police should be paid by the Recreation Dept. to patrol these troubled spots on foot. It is almost impossible to catch the vandals by the time the cruiser arrives.
2. Stronger authority should be given Supervisors on playgrounds. Offenders should be brought into court. If necessary ordinance should be written to give Leaders this authority.
3. Signs should be posted on playgrounds. "No Trespassing After Dark - Police Take Notice". If these signs were posted on playgrounds police could prosecute offenders.
4. The ordinance (Sec. 14-3) prohibiting the committing of a nuisance on parks and public grounds should be used as a means of prosecution.
5. Suggested that if there is a problem on a playground or the leader expects trouble, he should be authorized to stay after dark.
6. If a playground is restricted to children of elementary age signs should be posted "No baseball playing above elementary school age".

Capt. Quinn strongly recommended the need for police patrolling the playgrounds on foot and suggested that an item be incorporated in the Recreation Dept. budget for 1966 for this purpose. Police budget does not have sufficient funds for this purpose.

He suggested that the Commissioner confer with the City Solicitor as to what ordinances could be written to give the Recreation Dept. leaders more authority on a playground.

Capt. Quinn distributed a list of vandalism at the various play areas for the past six months as compiled by the Police Department.

Vandalism at Crystal Lake was discussed and the following recommendations were made by Capt. Quinn:

1. Signs should be posted - "No Trespassing After Dark - Police Take Notice".
2. A floodlight should be put in bathing area.
3. A night-watchman and a police officer should be on duty all the time if (1) and (2) do not stop the trouble.

Capt. Quinn also suggested that the location of the light at South High be changed.

4. Mr. Penney reported on the progress the Newton High Jr. Class are having on acquiring a Youth Centre. They raised \$5,000. - on their recent drive. The Mayor will be requested to recommend that an appropriation be made to purchase a place for a Youth Centre. If city money is used for this purpose the Recreation Commissioner feels it should be under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Department.

5. The North High School Jr. Class group held a meeting & decided that the Halloween dance would be held on Saturday evening, October 30th at the West Newton Armory.

6. The name for the Albemarle Pool was discussed.

Mrs. West read the petition submitted by Ald. Magni, on file in the City Clerk's office and signed by about 300 people, recommending that the new swimming pool at Albemarle be named "The Harry Gath" Swimming pool.

The chairman raised the question that if a pool is fostered and built through the efforts of the Recreation Commission does the Commission have the sole right to name the pool or does the Board of Aldermen have the right to name a recreation facility and a school building. Mrs. West feels it is the sole right of the Commission. The chairman read a letter from Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr. stating that he was in favor of calling the pool "The Albemarle Pool".

T. Frank Copp went on record in favor of calling the pool "The Harry Gath Memorial Pool". Mr. Copp was the first person to bring the matter before the Commission and strongly favored naming the pool the "Harry Gath Memorial Pool".

The Commissioner was requested to contact Mr. Alan Shaw and to have him give Mr. Copp his vote as to what the pool constructed at Albemarle should be named.

Mr. Penney was requested to ask Mr. Jones whose province it is to name the pool.

7. The Chairman reported that Mr. Whitmore has nothing to report on the merging of the Park and Recreation Commission.

8. A memo dated July 12, 1965 from John Gilleland giving further justification for the school department's request for an off street parking space for 30 cars at Lincoln-Eliot School (Boyd Park land) was discussed.

Commissioner Penney had been requested by the Commission at the June meeting to check with the City Solicitor, and ascertain under the terms of the deed whether or not there would be restrictions as to the disposal of this playground land. Mr. Jones has not replied in writing to Mr. Penney's request for an opinion; but in discussing it verbally, the City Solicitor said that, as far as he had been able to ascertain, the land was not restricted according to the deed. Although the area is called Boyd Park, it apparently has always been a playground under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Department.

Chairman, Mrs. West, asked the members present to give their opinions; and discussion followed. It was generally agreed that the loss of this amount of land would not seriously hamper the use of Boyd Park as a playground as long as the large section of the playground located in the Town of Watertown remained available for playground use.

The Commission agreed on the following action:

The Commission approves this change of land as requested by Building Commissioner Burns and the School Department, subject to the approval of the City Solicitor. The amount of land involved in this change will be the 18,932 square feet as outlined by Building Commissioner Burns in his memos of May 4th and May 11th and showing on drawing Q-43. This approval is dependent upon certain conditions as follows:

That Commissioner Penney be given authority to approve or disapprove the plans for the parking lot before construction. This approval by Commissioner Penney being for the purpose of seeing that proper provisions are made to give safe access of the children to the playground from the School and surrounding streets without being endangered by auto traffic in the parking area; and to see that provisions are made to save all worthwhile existing trees.

The Recreation Commission requests that if there are any surplus funds available from the School Building Bond Issue when the building and parking lot are completed, these funds be used for improving the playground. (It is understood by the Commission that it would be necessary to ascertain whether school bond issue surplus funds could legally be used for this purpose.) If a special appropriation is to be made other than the bond issue to construct this parking lot, the Recreation Commission requests that an additional appropriation of \$5,000 be made to improve the playground at the same time.

The Recreation Commission grants the use of this portion of Boyd Park for a school parking lot, and transfers this land to the School Department on a temporary basis until such time as it may be needed in the future for playground purposes.

9. The next regular meeting of the Recreation Commission was scheduled for Monday evening, September 20th.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

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24-285

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING - TUESDAY, SEPT. 15, 1964

## MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
 T. Frank Copp  
 Alan T. Shaw  
 John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
 Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of the May 18, 1964 meeting were approved with the following corrections.

1. In Item #4 the name of Mr. and Mrs. David Freedman, 20 Rogers St., Newton Highlands, should be inserted. Page 2, Paragraph 3 - insert Mr. John B. Penney and Mr. Howard Whitmore, Jr., were unanimously approved by the Commission as delegates to the Community Council for 1964 - 1965. Minutes of the June 16, 1964 meeting were approved as recorded. Minutes of the August 20, 1964 meeting were approved as recorded.
2. The monthly reports for July and August together with the Annual Report for 1963 were distributed to all members of the Commission.
3. Commission were reminded of their invitation to attend Twilight League Banquet at Valle's Steak house on Wednesday evening, Sept. 23rd.
4. Mr. Penney distributed a copy of the report from the Crystal Lake personnel on the drowning at Crystal Lake on Sunday August 30, 1964 - victim - Ulick Kelley, 16 Whittemore Rd., Newton. The Commissioner was instructed to request an opinion from the City Solicitor as to our position in this matter and obtain a copy of the medical Report from the Police Department.  
 Mr. Murphy, Sr. Supervisor had sent a letter, in the Commissioner's absence, commending the Crystal Lake personnel for their efficiency in handling this accident.
5. Capital Improvement Program for 1965-1970 as submitted to Mr. Downe, City Planner was discussed. Summary sheet as submitted was to be distributed to all members of the Commission.
6. Mr. Penney discussed a request from Mr. Mezoff to put a boat on Crystal Lake. Mr. Morang, Asst. City Solicitor, had talked to Mr. Mezoff and his mother. He rendered an opinion to the Commissioner that he felt the Commission were acting within their rights in restricting the use of boats on Crystal Lake to abutters.
7. The Commissioner reported that he, Mr. Selden and Mr. Cronin of the State Fish and Game Department had gone to Haverhill to discuss stocking of Crystal Lake for fishing since they felt they had a situation comparable to that at the lake. After investigation they found conditions in Haverhill were not similar to those at Crystal Lake.
8. The Commission requested Mr. Penney to invite Mr. David Yarish, representative of the Country Players to attend the Commission meeting on Oct. 20th. The group had been invited to the Sept. meeting but could not attend due to the Holidays. They are interested in having the Recreation Dept. sponsor their group in Newton by paying custodial fees and granting use of schools.
9. Request dated Sept. 11, 1964 from Phyllis Rubin, Asst. Director of Bipai Birth Youth Organization for space for a meeting place on Sunday mornings between 10:00 A.M. and noon was discussed. It was voted that the group be advised by the Commissioner that the Recreation Department did not have suitable space to meet their needs.

Mr. Penney suggested they contact the School Department.

10. The matter of the "Sunday Laws", changed in 1962 was discussed. If fee is charged spectators or a collection is taken at an athletic event on Sunday a license must be obtained from the Mayor; and the event cannot start until 1:30 P.M. If only participants are charged, or at free events, no license is required; and time limit does not apply.

11. Mr. Penney read a letter from Mr. Eckhoff re - 18 hole par 60 golf course. If Mr. Whitmore and Mr. Selden are in agreement with the other members of the Commission Mr. Cornish will be requested to revise his preliminary plan in accordance with the August 20th meeting decisions.

12. Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner had forwarded a copy of a letter from Mr. Goldberg re - standardized playground buildings. When plans are received by Mr. Burns, Mr. Penney will discuss them with Mr. Burns and the architect.

13. The Commissioner reported that as soon as architect presents completed plans for the Albemarle swimming pool to the Building Dept. they will be sent to the Mayor's Advisory Committee and then to the Building Committee of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Dangel will then invite the Recreation Commission to sit in at the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGHELD ON MONDAY EVENINGSEPTEMBER 20, 1965

## Members Present:

Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Mr. Joseph Selden  
Mr. Alan Shaw  
Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner  
D. G. Smith, Secretary

Meeting calls to order at 7:45 P.M.

1. Minutes of the July meeting were approved as recorded.
2. Monthly reports for May, June, July, and August were distributed to all members of the Commission. Mr. Selden questioned the attendance figures, especially Crystal Lake. Mr. Penney explained the difficulty of getting a reliable count because of different individuals taking attendance from season to season. He indicated a closer check would be made by the supervisors next season.

Mr. Selden questioned the fact that no provision was made for playground supervision during May and June in the South side of Newton. He felt that a Leader should be at Memorial School during the Spring as well as through the summer. Attendance he felt would be very good. The Commissioner will consider the feasibility of having more supervision on the South side of the city. He noted that he had wanted to have leadership at Memorial School last spring, but was unable to locate a leader at that time.

3. The Commissioner read a letter dated 5/3/65 from the Community Council requesting that two delegates to the Council be appointed for 1965-1966. Action to be taken at next meeting.
4. The Commissioner reported that a request for a full liquor License and for a restaurant on California St., Newton, opposite Victory Playground was rejected by the Licensing Board. The Commissioner went on record as opposing any license being granted in the future, in this area, or in a similar situation near any playground.
5. Memo from School Superintendent, Charles Brown, Re: Newton High School rehabilitation was held for a later meeting.
6. Request for the erection of a higher fence abutting the property of Mrs. George London, 135 Dedham St., Newton Highlands, was read. This request for a fence at Countryside School will be considered in the 1966 Budget.
7. Letter from Dr. Buxbaum was read by Mr. Penney. This was a letter of complaint about Conditions at Edmands Park and suggestions that we make improvements in order to safeguard this open space. Dr. Buxbaum stated in his letter things which the Commission has been concerned with for some time. The Commission plans in the Capital Outlay Program for improving Edmands Park, but any monies for this program were eliminated from the 1965 Budget. Dr. Buxbaum also suggested the possibility of forming Neighborhood Councils whose primary interest is parks and playgrounds within

their own neighborhood. This method has been used in many cities as a good public relations system for parks & recreation. The Commissioner was asked to acknowledge Dr. Buxbaums letter.

8. The Commissioner stated that in the near future we will be discussing the Anti-Poverty Program and funds for Recreation work. This matter will be held for a future meeting.

9. A telephone call received from Mrs. Honer, 40 Chester St., Newton Highlands, was discussed. Mrs. Honer requested that leadership be provided at the Cold Spring Playground, which the Commission is planning to convert to a golf course. The Commissioner suggested to Mrs. Honer that she start a petition for a leader or correspond with the Commission. Nothing has been received to date by the Commission.

10. A letter objecting to increase in cost of swimming permits at Crystal Lake from Mrs. Lawrence Saxon, 1112 Centre St., Newton Centre, was read. Mr. Penney was asked to acknowledge this letter and cite number of days lake was open and cost of new piers. Mr. Copp felt if increased fees create a hardship some exceptions should be made. Mr. Selden felt that an adjustment might have to be made at Crystal Lake depending on amount charged when swimming pool is opened.

11. The Commissioner read a letter received from Mr. Hart Fessenden of Fessenden School regarding Supervision of coasting on Fessenden Hill by the Recreation Department. The Commission agreed that the same leadership as provided last winter should be continued this season. Mr. Copp felt it was a very good program and good protection for the children. Also, made for good public relations.

12. Due to a misunderstanding the P.T.A. at the Bowen School charged for rides, etc. at their fair held this summer. This is contrary to ruling of Recreation Commission. Mr. Penney was requested to send a letter to P.T.A. Council President and P.T.A. Presidents and Mayor Gibbs advising them that in planning for carnivals or fairs no concession for which a charge is made is to be installed on any playground under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Commission.

13. A letter from Dr. Charles Brown, Supt. of Schools, acknowledging our "Policy Statement for Halloween Parties" was read.

14. The Indoor Tennis Program at South High School was discussed. Mr. Selden expressed his opinion that in a field of recreation which concerns the Recreation Department, any project using any public building, particularly schools, for a program for adults should come under the Recreation Department. Many people think we are running the tennis program at the South High School. We should consider taking over this program for the winter months. We are actually only supplying the nets; we are not paying the custodial fees. It has been alleged to Mr. Selden that many residents of Newton are barred from this program and that outsiders are accepted as members. Permits are presently issued by the School Department. Mr. Selden suggested that any interest in adult recreation should be turned over to the Recreation Department whether it is in a school building or on a playground. Mr. Penney was asked for a revaluation of the permits system with Mr. Russell of the School Department. It was noted that Mr. Penney write the School Dept. and request them to ask this particular group to come under the sponsorship of the Recreation Department, since we have been criticized because it has been alleged that this group has been charging fees and allowing outsiders to use public school facilities and excluding Newton residents.

15. Mr. Penney reported that he has been attending meetings under the direction of Judge Yesley on establishment of a Youth Centre. The Commissioner will keep the Commission informed of the progress of this committee.

16. The Commissioner reported that an Aldermanic Committee has been formed to select a name for the Albemarle swimming pool. The City Solicitor has ruled that the naming of the pool is the prerogative of the Board of Aldermen.
17. Mr. Penney reported that the Armory would not be available for a High School Halloween Dance. The Halloween Committee are trying to find a suitable place.
18. Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner, had notified Mr. Penney that the Commission's vote as submitted to him regarding the use of Lincoln Eliot land was not definite enough to obtain state school building assistance aid. It is under consideration by the City Solicitor and will be discussed further by the Commission after further correspondence from Mr. Burns.
19. Mr. Penney reported on the change of location of Upper Falls shelter due to objection by abutters to the playground of the original location selected. The Commissioner raised the question as to whether or not it would be necessary to get approval from abutters to all playground land in the future before erecting any proposed buildings, lights, apparatus, etc. He noted that local papers have been carrying articles submitted by the Commissioner as to the Capital Projects planned for playgrounds. The Commission felt this publicity was sufficient notice to abutters. Therefore, Commissioner Penney noted that:
- a. Play apparatus will be installed at Bowen St. end of Newton Centre Playground as planned.
  - b. Night lights for Basketball courts at Cabot Playground is to go out on bid shortly.
20. Installation of system lockers, etc., for Albemarle pool was discussed. The Commission decided that a season permit should be issued to Newton residents. The Commissioner is to notify the Building Commissioner that a turnstyle should be installed with an electric attachment that would register the number of bathers entering and leaving the bathhouse. Also, that the coin lockers should be operated by dimes.
21. Mr. Penney reported that he had received permission from the Mayor to form a Citizens Golf Course Committee similar to the Swimming Pool Committee. It was noted that persons appointed to this committee be:

Familiar with Golf  
Familiar with Financing  
Some members of the Board of Aldermen  
Some Department Heads

The Commission suggested that the following people should be considered for membership with the Mayor's approval.

Ald. Dietz, Ald. Nixon, Archie Whitman, Treasurer, Bow Crowley, Pro at Pine Brook, Joe DeGeorge, Mr. & Mrs. Howard Rich, Mrs. John H. Underhill, Mrs. Marshall Leydon, Barbara Welch, all members of Recreation Commission, Charles Downe, Jeffrey Cornish some person who is an abbuttor to the Cold Spring property who is in favor of the golf course project.

22. The Commissioner reported that he had received a copy of Mr. Simon's report to the P.T.A. Council on his attendance at the Recreation Commission meetings: Mrs. West made the following comments based on her discussion of the matter with the City Clerk: The Commission meetings are open to the public. It is not our province to orient visitors and the delegates should be made aware of this. The Recreation Commission meetings should be conducted in the same manner as the Board of Aldermen meetings. Any delegate attending the meeting may not speak unless he has previously called the Commissioner, or Chairman, and had an item put on the Agenda. Mrs. West asked the Commission's permission to draft a letter with Mr. Penney to be sent to the P.T.A. Council Chairmen, the League of Women Voters and any other group who might wish to come before the Commission setting forth the responsibilities of the Commission to the public and the conduct expected of delegates. The Commission granted her this permission.

23. The Commission reviewed the membership list and financial report submitted by Sol Sidman of the Newton Judo Club. The Commissioner feels that this is a good program and should be continued at Newton Centre under department sponsorship. The Commissioner was requested to notify the group that:

- a. Parking should be restricted to playground side of street only.
- b. Meetings should be over by 10:30 P.M.
- c. The Commissioner will request a more complete financial statement from Mr. Sidman.

24. Mr. Penney informed the Commission that we will not have the \$500.00 for custodial fees for the Country Players this year due to increased custodial costs.

25. It was voted to request the Building Commissioner to have a study made of the renovation or replacement of the bathhouse at Crystal Lake.

26. Mr. Penney discussed the possibility of providing a sail boat instruction program at Crystal Lake. Mr. Gilbert Champagne was considering presenting a proposition to the Red Cross to provide an instructor to conduct this program at no expense to the city. The Recreation Dept. would provide three or four boats at approximately \$500.00 each. Mrs. West suggested that the Commissioner confer with Mr. Fred A. Hovey, Jr., 1435 Centre Street, Newton Highlands. Mr. Hovey has conducted a similar program in Chatham, Mass. for many years and could advise on the wind currents at Crystal Lake, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 P.M.

The next regular meeting of the Commission was scheduled for Monday evening, Oct. 18th at 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

MINUTES OF NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSIONHELD ON MONDAY EVENINGOCTOBER 18, 1965

## Members Present:

Mrs. West, Mr. Copp, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Penney

## Observer Present:

Mrs. Hesenfus of the League of Women voters, replacing Mrs. Paul Deats of Berkley St., West Newton who will be the regular League of Women Voters observer.

Meeting called to order at 7:55 P.M.

## Minutes:

Minutes of previous meeting were distributed.

Minutes of previous meeting were approved subject to any changes members note after further study at home.

## Communications:

Letter from Newton Community Council regarding delegates.

Mr. Joseph Selden and Mr. John Penney were elected the Recreation Commission delegates for the 1965-66 year.

Letter from Mayor Gibbs refusing request for funds to make plans for Crystal Lake bathhouse renovation at this time and suggesting that we ask for such funds for Public Buildings budget for 1966.

Letter from PTA council announcing that Mr. Robert Dwyer of 4 Ionia Street, Auburndale, is their representation to the Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Report:

September monthly activities and maintenance report distributed.

Mrs. West requested that Commissioner Penney make a tour of Newton Centre Playground with her regarding repair and relocation of benches.

The latest developments of the Youth Center committee was outlined by Commissioner Penney. A trial program is scheduled to be inaugurated in November on Friday evenings and Saturdays at Warren Jr. High and another program on Saturdays at Meadowbrook. The Recreation Department is committed to furnish games equipment and custodial services in this joint community effort. The Commission voted to support the Recreation Commissioner's request of the Mayor and Finance Committee for additional funds to cover the custodial costs on these new programs.

Mr. Penney reported that he is in communication with Mr. Stanley Russell, Asst. Supt. of Schools about the Newton Indoor Tennis program and is awaiting further information.

Mr. Penney reported that he and Gilbert Champagne of the Newton Red Cross, had visited Mr. "FRitz" Hovey, about a sailing program at Crystal Lake. Mr. Hovey is in favor of such a project and made several concrete suggestions. He seems willing to act in an advisory capacity. Mr. Shaw recommended that the Commissioner check with the Boston Sailing Club for further information before establishing his budget request for sailboats.

Lincoln-Eliot school parking lot question was raised again. The Commission decided to leave their previous statement stand without modification. Commissioner Penney delegated to confer with school, building, and legal authorities to work out details. It was suggested that Mr. Penney check whether or not such an area would have to be blocked off once a year in order for the Recreation Commission to retain

title rather than the School Department.

Mrs. West brought to the Commission's attention that Newton residents were complaining about non-residents obtaining season permits for Crystal Lake and Using the Newton Centre Tennis Courts. Having the public obtain all permits at the department office in City Hall, where resident list could be check, was offered as one solution. Having supervisors spot check for proper permits at tennis courts when regular attendant not on duty, was another.

Mr. Copp noted recent action by Board of Aldermen regarding parking on Albemarle Road. Mr. Penney will check on this.

Mr. Copp requested information on vandalism of softball lights. Mr. Penney noted that some juveniles had been taken to court about it, but had not heard the results.

Meeting adjourned 10:30 P.M.

MEETING OF THE RECREATION COMMISSION HELDMONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 15, 1965

Present: Mrs. West, T. Frank Copp, Joseph Selden  
Alan Shaw, John B. Penney, Commissioner  
and D. G. Smith, Secretary.

## Observer

Present: Mrs. Hesenfus of the League of Women Voters

1. Minutes of the October meeting were approved as recorded. Maintenance Report for month of October was distributed to all members.
2. The Commissioner reported that the Halloween parties and High School dance had been very successful. A complete report will be submitted when financial statement is completed by Mr. Murphy. In the near future a meeting will be called with Dr. Sylvester, Mrs. Garon, and other supervisors at which time the reports from the party chairmen will be reviewed.
3. Mr. Harold Collins, 108 Bedford St. Waltham, Mass. attended the meeting. Mr. Collins is President of the Northeastern Skating Association and requested the Commission for permission to hold the Eastern Seaboard Outdoor Speed Skating Championship at Crystal Lake on Saturday and Sunday, January 29 and 30, 1966. The meet would be held on Saturday from 2:00 to 4:15 P.M.; and on Sunday from 1:00 P.M. until dark. The Commission agreed that this would be a very good program for the Recreation Department to be affiliated with. Mr. Penney, after consultation with Mr. Shea, Recreation Foreman and the Recreation Supervisors felt the department could handle this meet. Hockey would be eliminated for these two afternoons but regular skating would be allowed on a specific area. Parking for participants and officials would be provided next to the skate-house. We have no facilities for refreshments, but it was noted that an arrangement could be made to have a Boy Scout troop provide for refreshments. Mr. Collins was asked if the sponsor which he is seeking to provide the trophies could also take care of part of police cost. Mr. Collins will report on this later. There is no charge for outdoor meets.  
The Recreation Department would provide the following:
  1. Skating area
  2. Skatehouse (toilet facilities, etc.)
  3. Sound Equipment
  4. First Aid
  5. 5 Policemen @ \$12.00 each
  6. Recreation Leaders for supervision.

Mrs. West informed Mr. Collins that the Commission would discuss this whole program Pro and con and advise him of the Commission's decision on Tuesday, November 16th. After further discussion at the Executive session the Commission unanimously voted to notify Mr. Collins that we would allow this meet under our auspices according to our recommendations. The Chairman requested that any news releases be cleared through her or the Commissioner.

4. Mr. Penney reported on the Youth Centre at Warren Jr. High School under the sponsorship of Judge Yesley's Committee. The Recreation Department is providing equipment, (ping pong, playing cards, chess sets, etc.) and paying custodial fees. The first meeting proved very successful with an attendance of approximately 800 youngsters. At this first meeting a band played for dancing. Upstairs, they have a coin-operated juke box; pingpong tables, coin-operated pool table. Television, table games and soft drinks were available in the cafeteria. There were no particular discipline problems. Youngsters could come and go as they wished and there were no restrictions on dress. No smoking on second floor. Saturday night program was held from 4:00 P.M. to 11:30 P.M. with about 400 youngsters in attendance. Chaperons were from the Presbyterian Church. Program at Meadowbrook Jr. High School will be started in a couple of weeks. An additional amount will have to be requested in the 1966 Budget to cover custodial fees for these Youth Centre Programs.
5. Commissioner reported that maintenance and improvement projects were progressing. Contract has been signed for night-lighted basketball courts at Cabot Playground. Play area at Newton Centre is delayed and may have to be completed next spring. Albemarle Pool and Upper Falls shelter are under construction.
6. Mr. Penney read a memorandum from Planning Director, James Miller re:- land at Christina and Goddard Streets. Mr. Miller recommended that we release lots 32 and 33 and retain lot 35 pending disposal of city infirmary land. The Commission considered whether to stand with their action of Nov. of 1963 and say we have no interest in this land; or to take the advice of the City Planner and request that lot 35 be retained pending disposition of city infirmary land. It was voted: to follow the recommendation of the City Planning and request the Finance Committee to retain lots 35 only - pending disposition of City Infirmary land. In favor were Mr. Selden, Mr. Penney and Mr. Shaw. Mrs. West and Mr. Copp were recorded as opposed to this vote and advised that lots 32,33, and 35 all be retained, pending disposition of city infirmary land. The Commissioner was requested to transmit the Commission's vote to the proper authorities.
7. The Commissioner read a communication from Mr. Gilleland, Director of Business Services, Newton Public Schools on Lincoln-Eliot School parking lot - Boyd Playground. Mr. Gilleland and Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner have given up idea of building the parking area with School Building funds, because of the vote of the Recreation Commission to transfer playground land to the School Department only temporarily. Mr. Jones, City Solicitor, advised Commissioner to stay with Commission's original vote rather than to just allow the school department to construct the parking lot with other funds on playground land. The Commissioner voted that their original vote to temporarily transfer the land if requested for this purpose with the restrictions stood.
8. Indoor Tennis Program at South High School was discussed. Mr. Selden suggested that the Recreation Department take over this program and investigate the possibilities of increasing this program in other schools. The Commissioner was requested to study plans from Building Department and see what gyms would be suitable. Mr. Carey will be consulted and the Commissioner will investigate the involvements and submit a report to the Commission at a later meeting. Funds to pay the custodians are taken out of the amount paid for membership at the present time. Mr. Selden requested the Commissioner to obtain a membership list.

The Commission voted, after much discussion not to carry through the plan to extend the beach area at the present time; and to see what effect the new pools would have on the attendance at Crystal Lake.

Mrs. West reported that she and Mr. Penney have been discussing ways of improving Crystal Lake such as limiting attendance, operating it as a swimming pool, allowing only those taking lessons and mothers in the morning, etc. It was voted that the fees be the same as last year.

Mrs. West announced that it was time to appoint two delegates to the Community Council for 1964 - 1965.

Mr. Whitmore moved that this Commission continue its study of the problem of improving bathing at Crystal Lake and more specifically to request the Commission to look into the possibility for further development of piers as a possible substitute for land taking and land easment. Mr. Copp seconded the motion.

The Commission voted that no action was necessary for swimming pool at Albemarle in as much as the project was progressing under the Swimming Committres recommendations.

Mr. Penney asked for the support of the Commission in limiting the attendance at the Crystal Lake bathing beach, Mr. Whitmore moved that we empower the Commissioner to limit the number of persons using the facilities at Crystal Lake in order to provide greater safety, more enjoyable participation and that the Commission approve and support the Commissioners judgment in this matter.

The Commissioner reported that the City Planner, Charles Downe is having his assistant draw up more plans for the proposed golf course.

Mr. Jones, City Solicitor, has been requested to draw up a contract with Jason Cortell, Biologist to continue his work at Crystal Lake, He will supervise the water testing in conjunction with the Health Dept. and will make a study of the algae at Bulloughs Pond and make recommendations as to fish stocking.

Next regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday evening, June 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith

Secretary to the Commission

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
Tuesday, June 16, 1964  
Commission Office, 7:45 P.M.

Present: Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.  
Joseph Selden  
Alan T. Shaw  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

Absent: Mrs. Worthing L. West  
T. Frank Copp

Minutes of previous meeting omitted.

Meeting was devoted to study of preliminary plans for various new facilities.

South High School Pool preliminary plans as drawn by the architect, George Sherwood, were shown. Mr. Selden reported on his trip to Hamden with the architect and Alderman Dangel. Mr. Dangel was very impressed with the pool, and particularly the overhead doors feature which opens the pool to outdoors. Mr. Selden pointed out that our design should take advantage of the nice surroundings and have a good patio area.

Albemarle Pool preliminary bathhouse plans were shown. Commissioner Penney was given authority to approve these plans as they progress. Commission as a whole should approve the plans for both pools together with the Building Committee before they are put out to bid.

A plan for a standard playground building was shown. Building Commissioner Burns desires to erect one of these structures as soon as possible if Commission approves. The design was worked out by Commissioner Penney with architect Carney Goldberg to make a useful and vandal resistant all-purpose playground shelter. It was voted to ask Mr. Burns to proceed and to obtain an appropriation.

A discussion of the proposed golf course plans was held. It was decided to have Planning Consultant Charles Downe meet with the Commission at a special meeting to discuss alterations.

Plans for additional docks for Crystal Lake were shown. Commissioner Penney was authorized to request an appropriation for two 60' "greenheart" floats as the first step.

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

9. Parking at Albemarle Road was discussed. An ordinance says that there is to be no parking after 8:00 P.M. Previously the Commission recommended to Mr. Pratt that this matter be brought before the Traffic Commission and the parking hour changed to 10:30 P.M. After months of consideration by the traffic commission and the traffic committee of the Board of Aldermen - no action was taken. Alderman Ham recommended that this matter be brought before the new Board of Aldermen after January 1, 1966.
10. A special meeting will be held on Monday evening, November 29th to discuss the Preliminary Budget.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

SPECIAL MEETING  
NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION  
NOVEMBER 29, 1965

Present: Mrs. West, Mr. Copp, Mr. Selden, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Penney

Meeting Convened: 7:50 P.M.

Chairman Mrs. West read a letter to be sent to the P.T.A. Council and League of Women Voters concerning the responsibilities of delegates at Commission meetings in the light of the General Laws dealing with the conduct of meetings of boards and commissions. The letter was approved. (copy attached).

A date for the regular December Recreation Commission meeting was set for December 13th, since the regular date (Dec. 20th) is too close to Christmas.

Mr. Selden suggested that the Commissioner consider a new system of permit fees and identification in the light of increasing revenue producing facilities .

The 1966 Preliminary Budget was considered. Among the items which came under special discussion were the following:

An item \$800 to hire busses to transport playground youngsters to replace private cars was approved.

An item requesting \$2,000 for special police was approved. It was questioned whether this should be in the Recreation Budget or Police Budget.

An item of \$2500 for sailboats was approved pending further investigation of boats and prices.

The item for school custodian fees was raised to \$15,000 to cover increased pay rates plus increased youth center programs. Whether to include in the Recreation Department budget a "wash item" to cover programs such as indoor tennis when a fee can be charged the using group or leave it in the school dept. budget was left for further study.

All capital improvement items listed by the Commissioner were approved for inclusion. All are items either included in previous budget requests or direct requests from individuals or groups. A priority list will be determined by the Commission at a later meeting.

Meeting adjourned: 10:15 P.M.

(Letter referred to in  
Special Meeting)

December 7, 1965

Mrs. Thomas Burnap, President  
Newton P.T.A. Council  
10 Prospect Terrace  
Newtonville 60, Mass.

Dear Mrs. Burnap:

In order to maintain good public relations and to promote understanding of the functions and responsibilities of delegates from civic organizations or the public in general, the Recreation Commission calls to your attention the rules contained in Chapter 39, Sections 23-A, 23-B and 23-C, of the General Laws.

The Recreation Commission was dismayed at portions of the report of the delegate from the PTA Council (1964-65) in which he criticized the Commission for not soliciting his opinions or advice during the course of Commission meetings. Section 23-B of Chapter 39 referred to above, states: "Public meeting of town board, commission or school committee; right to address (Last am 1960, 437, Sec.4) No person shall address a public meeting of a board without leave of the presiding officer at such a meeting, and all persons shall at the request of such presiding officer, be silent. If, after warning from the presiding officer, a person persists in disorderly behavior, said officer may order him to withdraw from the meeting, and, if he does not withdraw, may order a constable or any other person to remove him and confine him to some convenient place until the meeting is adjourned." The Recreation Commission welcomes constructive criticism, advice and assistance from the citizens of Newton. Due notice of a desire to speak at a regular meeting of the Commission should be given to the Chairman or to the Commissioner at City Hall.

While we are legally required only to notify the City Clerk of each Commission Meeting, we will from now on, send notices of regular Commission meetings and minutes therefrom, to known delegates.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Chairman  
Newton Recreation Commission

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CHAPTER 39

SECTION 23A. Meetings; open; notice of, etc. (Last am. 1960, 437, Sec. 3). As used in this section and in section twenty-three B, the word "board" shall include every board, commission, committee and subcommittee, however elected, appointed or otherwise constituted, of any district, city or town. It shall also include the governing board of every local housing, redevelopment or similar authority. All board meetings shall be open to the public and to the press unless the board shall vote to go into executive session. Such executive session may be held only for the purpose of discussing, deliberating or voting on those matters which by general or special statute, or federal grant-in-aid requirements cannot be made public, and those matters which if made public might adversely affect the public security, the financial interest of the district, city, town or local housing authority, or the reputation of any person; provided, however, that the meetings of any such board which shall be investigating any board or agency of a municipal government, or any legislation which could ultimately change or alter the existing governmental structure of a city or town, shall, at all times, be open to the public and to the press, notwithstanding a vote of such board to go into executive session.

Except in an emergency, a notice of each board meeting shall be filed with the clerk of the municipality in which the board acts, and the notice or a copy thereof shall, at least twenty-four hours, including Saturdays but not Sundays and legal holidays, prior to such meeting, be publicly posted in the office of such clerk or on the principal official bulletin board of such municipality. The secretary of a regional school district committee shall be considered to be its clerk, and notices of its meetings shall be filed with its secretary and posted in his office or on the principal official bulletin board of the district. If the meeting shall be of a board of a newly organized municipality having neither clerk nor official bulletin board, the officer calling the meeting shall file the notice thereof with the clerk of each city and town within such municipality, and each such clerk shall post the notice in his office or on the principal official bulletin board of his city or town. For the purposes of this section, "emergency" shall mean a situation where immediate, undelayed action is deemed by the board to be imperative.

Every board shall maintain accurate records setting forth the action taken at each meeting. A summary of all matters voted shall be made available with reasonable promptness after each meeting; provided, however, that votes taken in executive session may remain secret so long as their publication would defeat the lawful purposes of the executive session, but no longer. The records of each meeting shall become public record and be available to the public upon being approved; provided, however, that the records of any executive session may remain secret so long as their publication would defeat the lawful purposes of the executive session, but no longer.

SECTION 23B. Public meeting of town board, commission or school committee; right to address (Last am. 1960, 437, Sec.4). No person shall address a public meeting of a board without leave of the presiding officer at such meeting, and all persons shall, at the request of such presiding officer, be silent. If, after warning from the presiding officer, a person persists in disorderly behavior, said officer may order him to withdraw from the meeting, and, if he does not withdraw, may order a constable or any other person to remove him and confine him to some convenient place until the meeting is adjourned.

SECTION 23C. Open meetings, remedy for noncompliance with law (Enacted 1960, 437, Sec. 5). Upon proof of failure by an officer to carry out any of his responsibilities for public notice of meetings, for holding them open to the public, or for maintaining public records thereof, as such responsibilities are prescribed by this chapter and by chapters A, thirty-four, and sixty-six, any justice of the supreme judicial or the superior court, sitting within and for the county in which such officer acts or, in the case of an officer of the commonwealth, sitting within and for any county, shall issue an appropriate order requiring such officer to carry out as to meetings thereafter held all such responsibilities proved not to have been carried out as to any meeting or meetings theretofore held; but action otherwise duly taken at any meeting shall not be invalidated by the failure of any officer to carry out the said responsibilities for public notice of meetings. Such order may be sought in any case by petition of ten registered voters of the commonwealth or, in the case of a county or municipal officer, by ten registered voters of the county or municipality for which the officer acts, by petition of the attorney general, or by petition of the district attorney of the district in which lies the municipality for which the officer acts. The order of notice on the petition shall be returnable not later than ten days after the filing thereof. The petition shall be heard and determined on the return day or on such day thereafter as the court shall fix, having regard to the speediest possible determination of the cause consistent with the rights of the parties. All processes may be issued from the clerk's office in the county in which the action is brought and, except as aforesaid, shall be returnable as the court orders. The remedy created hereby is not exclusive, but shall be in addition to every other available remedy.

CHAPTER 43

SECTION 35. Meetings to be public; yeas and nays vote (Last am. 1958, 626. Sec. 6). All meetings of the school committee shall be open to the press and to the public, except as otherwise authorized by section twenty-three A of chapter thirty-nine. The vote on any particular measure shall be by yeas and nays, when requested by two members.

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MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELDMONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 13, 1965

Present: Mrs. West, Mr. Copp, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Selden, John B. Penney-Commissioner and D. G. Smith, Secretary

Minutes of regular meeting, November 15, 1965 and special meeting, December 13, were approved as recorded. Correction made on spelling of Mrs. Hasenful - Observer - League of Women Voters.

1. Commissioner's report of Program & Maintenance was distributed for months of October and November.
2. Report of Jason M. Cortell, consultant biologist of 1965 work contract at Crystal Lake and Bullough's Pond was distributed to all members of the Commission. The Commission agreed to study this report and discuss it as the January meeting.
3. Copy of letter from Mr. Asaff dated December 3, 1965 was distributed to all members of the Commission.  
Mr. Asaff as President of the Newton Baseball Twilight League has requested that a lighted Sports Field be located at the Newton Highlands Playground. The Commission agreed to study this request and discuss it further at the January meeting. Mr. Penney agreed to do some research on this project and investigate cost of installation - and Edison Co. cost. The Commission also would like a report from the Commissioner as to what other uses could be made besides night baseball if these lights were installed in this area.
4. The Commissioner reminded Mrs. West, Chairman, that she should have her portrait done at Bachrach's early in 1966.
5. Dr. Allison Thompson, representing the Newton Indoor Tennis Club addressed the Commission. Dr. Thompson attended the meeting because of the concern by members of the Commission that this club was allowing non-residents for membership and excluding Newton residents. Dr. Thompson presented a membership list totalling about 175 members. Twenty-three of these members are non-residents. This program at the Newton South High School has been in operation for about five years running five nights a week from 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. and Saturday afternoons from 12:30 P.m. to 5:00 P.M. The Commission feels this is a well run program and if taken over by the Recreation Department the only advantage would be if the program could be expanded to accommodate greater participation by Newton residents. The membership dues take care of custodial fees, care of courts and equipment at present. The Commissioner feels that at this time of the year it would be difficult to organize and obtain more gym space. The program will be continued into the Spring and Dr. Thompson will do everything possible to eliminate non-residents. No new members will be accepted if they are not residents of Newton. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Copp felt if non-resident problem can be solved, program should be continued under sponsorship of Newton Indoor Tennis Club. The possibility of bringing registration for the program to the Recreation Department office might be considered at a later date. An arrangement with the School Department to process the gym permit by sponsorship of the Recreation Department while still having the participants pay the custodial bill is a possible method of giving the Recreation Department a check on the out-of-town membership.

6. 1966 Budget request - New and major building renovation requests of Building Commissioner.

The Commission voted to request the Building Commissioner to incorporate the following items in his 1966 budget:

1. Renovation or construction of Crystal Lake bathhouse.
2. Plans for construction of field house at Auburndale.
3. Addition to Hawthorn building.

Amounts to be requested for these projects to be determined by the Building Commissioner.

7. Financial statement for Halloween Program as compiled by Mr. Murphy was reviewed. The Commission agreed that Recreation Department budget should continue to carry an item for Halloween Program.
8. The Commissioner was instructed to study Capital Outlay items for 1966 Budget and submit a priority list at the January meeting.

Next regular meeting of the Commission will be held Monday evening, January 17th.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

HELD MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 17, 1966

Present: Mrs. West, Mr. Copp, Mr. Selden, John B. Penney, Commissioner  
and Dorothy G. Smith, Secretary

Observer: Mrs. Paul Deats, 106 Berkley St., West Newton 02165

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of meeting held Dec. 13, 1965 were approved as recorded.

1. Newton Indoor Tennis Club program was discussed. It was voted to leave this program alone for this season, but that in the spring consideration will be given to have it under the Sponsorship of the Newton Recreation Department before the opening of the fall program. Dr. Thompson has assured the Commission that no non-residents will be accepted after the close of this season's program and the club would be willing to have the sponsorship of the Recreation Department.
2. Letter dated Dec. 23, 1965 addressed to Joseph Selden from Dr. Melvin I. Cohen, 24 Lantern Lane, Newton Centre was reviewed. Dr. Cohen has requested that his group meet with the Commission to discuss the plans and the need for a greater indoor tennis program in Newton. The Commissioner was requested to write Dr. Cohen and ask that no more than three members of his group attend the February meeting of the Commission and discuss this program further.
3. Monthly program and Maintenance report for December was distributed to all members of the Commission.
4. Letter dated Jan. 11, 1966 from Mrs. Elaine Eisenberg, 9 Ware Rd., Auburndale was reviewed. Mrs. Eisenberg is Co-chairman of the Creative Arts Committee of the Burr-Murray Road Schools P.T.A. The Creative Arts Committee requested the use of Lyons Playground in Auburndale (the wooded area on the left side of Commonwealth Ave., entrance) for an Art Pageant on June 3, 4, and 5th. In case of inclement weather this pageant would be scheduled for June 10, 11, and 12th.

The pageant would include an Art Exhibit showing the works of local professionals, amateurs, and children. This is a cultural function. If paintings were contracted for from the artists, the P.T.A. would realize a percentage from the sale. There would be no admission charge and the Pageant would be open to the public. The Committee also requested, if possible, spot and flood lights, generator, speaker system and amplifiers, sand and gravel and portable shrubs. The Commission agreed that they would be in favor of having this pageant on the Auburndale playground but could not be held responsible for night lighting security from vandalism, particularly overnight. Mr. Penney will talk with Mrs. Eisenberg and let her know about the Commission's concern about leaving the exhibits up and having people in the playground overnight. Matter will be discussed at next meeting of the Commission.

5. Report from Jason M. Cortell, Consultant Biologist was reviewed. It was the consensus of the Commission that Mr. Cortell's program at Crystal Lake has proven very beneficial and since the aqualator was installed, swimming has taken place every day with no closing of the lake due to pollution. The Commission agreed to continue the program with the following recommendations from Mr. Cortell:
- (1) In order to prevent vandalism of the equipment the operating position of the Flow Developer be moved to a point 20 to 25 feet off the shoreline.
  - (2) Continue algae control work at both Crystal Lake and Bulloughs Pond.
  - (3) Install Flow Developer at least one month prior to opening of bathing facilities to reduce the possibility of turbidity.
  - (4) Prevent disposal of Leaves, grass clippings and other refuse into the Lake.
6. Mr. Penney reported on progress of Youth Centers. Mrs. Houghton, League of Women Voters and her committee are going to make a study of Youth Centers in surrounding cities and towns and present their findings to the Community Relations Commission to be appointed by Mayor Basbas. Mrs. West expressed her gratitude to Mr. Penney for serving on this committee.
7. Mr. Penney reported he had received a telephone call from Mr. Waldo Hainsworth, District Representative. They are on the verge of getting a grant from the Life Time Sports Foundation to create interest in badminton, tennis, golf and bowling. They are looking for several cities and towns all over the country to establish a special program and Waldo Hainsworth will present Newton for consideration as the city in the New England area. The Commission will discuss this at a later date when we receive more information on this proposed program.
8. The Commission were asked at Mayor Basbas' request to submit a letter to him recommending the following action.
- Voted: that the Commission send a letter to the Mayor recommending that the City Infirmary land be designated for public recreation use with the understanding that space will be made available for school purposes should the need for such arise.
9. The Chairman suggested that the Commission invite Mayor Basbas to a meeting of the Commission in February or that she and the Commissioner call on the Mayor and bring him up to date on the problems of the Recreation Department.

The next meeting of the Recreation Commission will be held Tuesday evening, February 15th.

The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

HELD TUESDAY EVENING, FEB. 15, 1966

Present: Mrs. West, Mr. Copp, Mr. Selden, Mr. Shaw, John B. Penney, Commissioner

Absent: Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of meeting held Jan. 17, 1966 were approved as recorded.

- 1. Monthly Program and Maintenance report for January was distributed to all members of the Commission.

Mr. Penney reported that the skating season was very poor due to the snow storms. Fourteen inches of snow in January from one storm with six inches of ice made it impossible to remove the hard snow. There was skating again at Bulloughs Pond this past week before the rains came. the maintenance force had to use the planes on the small playground areas in order to clear the hard frozen snow off.

Mr. Copp brought up the fact that very little money was spent on this program this year. Mr. Penney explained to the Commission that the department was reimbursed by the Street Department for all time put in by our men for the Street Department snow removal overtime as well as straight time. It is charged against Snow Removal and does not come out of our Budget. Whereas the equipment costs (trucks, etc.) is just a bookkeeping charge that doesn't add any money to our operating Budget.

- 2. Hon. Howard Whitmore's letter of resignation was read by the Chairman. It was suggested that Mr. Penney write a letter of regret at his resignation to Mr. Whitmore.

Mrs. West pointed out that it is the Mayor's prerogative to fill Mr. Whitmore's vacancy.

- 3. Burr, Murray Road P.T.A. - Mrs. Eisenberg's letter requesting use of Lyons Playground for an outdoor art show taken up again. Mrs. West and Mr. Penney had met with a delegation and had agreed as follows: The Recreation Department could not be held responsible for the safety of the art work at Lyons Playground. The department would possibly furnish maintenance help with exhibit, taking down, etc.

The Commission voted permission be granted to the Burr-Murray Rd. P.T.A. for their Outdoor Art Exhibit at Lyons Playground to be held on June 3,4, and 5th (2 nights and 3 days). The Commission agreed that it was a very good idea, although it is to be clearly understood (and will be put in writing) that responsibility for the protection of the exhibit is not the Recreation Departments.

- 4. Boston University - Victor Stout -

Mr. Penney read Mr. Stout's letter to the Commission requesting the use of Auburn-dale Playground (diamond) for practice and games of Boston University.

Mr. Penney had discussed the matter with William Barry, Supervisor, and Warren Husten, School Department, and all agreed there would be no conflict. It was estimated the cost for each game would be about \$25.00 (\$250.00/season).

Permission was granted.

5. Lighted Baseball diamonds:

Letter from Mr. Asaff, Newton Twilight League President requesting lighted baseball field at Newton Highlands Playground was taken up again. Mr. Penney read letter from Goodhall Shapiro Associates to Commission with an estimate of \$55,000. for the job. Mrs. West feels that this is a problem that must be eventually faced.

Mr. Selden agreed, but believes there are more important matters that need immediate attention and that this problem will be faced in the future. Mr. Penney's letter of answer to Mr. Asaff was read. The letter suggested that the current baseball program get underway this summer and then make arrangements for Mr. Asaff to appear before the Commission with his recommendations.

6. Dr. Melvin I Cohen - concerning tennis:

Dr. Cohen and Mr. Daum appeared before the Commission and expressed the desire of their group for a municipal tennis club program at the Newton Centre Playground with professional leadership and membership fees, similar to a privately operated club. They made specific suggestions that double the number of courts be provided, that they be lighted, that the present courts be lengthened and the drainage improved. that better spectator seating be installed and that a telephone reservation system be started.

The Commission asked Mr. Penney to evaluate their financial request and thanked Dr. Cohen and Mr. Daum for their interest. Dr. Cohen suggested that possibly a citizen's committee could be formed to draw up firm cost estimates and income possibilities for such a municipal tennis club operation.

7. Consideration for fees at Albemarle Pool was decided to be held over to the next regular meeting.

8. Commission reviewed Mayor's reductions in the 1966 Budget.

The next regular meeting of the Recreation Commission will be held on Monday evening March 14.

March 2, 1966

Hon. Howard Whitmore, Jr., Commissioner  
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Metropolitan District Commission  
20 Somerset Street  
Boston, Mass.

Dear Commissioner Whitmore:

At the February 15, 1966 meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission your letter to Mayor Basbas regretfully requesting that you not be considered for reappointment to the Newton Recreation Commission and your letter to me were read. The Newton Recreation Commission went on record as accepting the fact of your leaving the Commission with great regret. Your service on the Commission, your interest in the work of the Commission during your terms as Mayor, and your advice and council have been of great value to the work of the Newton Recreation Commission over these many years.

All of us on the Commission will miss working with you as a colleague in the government of the City of Newton. We appreciate your offer to be of assistance if you can to the Commission in the future. We wish you continuing success in your work with the M.D.C.

Sincerely,

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John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

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cc: Mrs. Worthing L. West

MINUTES OF NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

HELD MONDAY EVENING MARCH 14, 1966

Present: Mrs. West, Mr. Copp, Selden, Shaw, Penney

Minutes of the February 15, 1966 meeting were read and approved.

Commissioner reviewed the February monthly program and maintenance report.

Mr. Copp agreed to represent the Commission should it be necessary on Wednesday, March 16th in absence of Commissioner Penney.

Communication from the Massachusetts Recreation Society concerning the Annual Board Members dinner in April was discussed. It was voted to attend this function in lieu of the April Commission Meeting.

It was voted after discussion to charge the following fees for swimming at Crystal Lake and the new pool at Albemarle:

\$1.00 for students

\$3.00 for adults (up from \$2.00 in 1965)

These season passes to be valid at both facilities. It was recommended that a system be devised to sell these permits only at City Hall - not at the facilities themselves to provide a better check on Newton residency. All persons not having the season permit to be charged 50¢ each time they enter the facility.

Tennis season passes were set at the same rates: \$1.00 and \$3.00 to be charged at Newton Centre, Burr and Newton High School clay courts when an attendant is on duty.

Proposed letters from the Newton Indoor tennis Club secretary to their membership informing them that nonresidents would no longer be allowed to play at Newton Gym facilities was read and approved. The Commission recommended that the Commissioner obtain a list of the N.I.T.C. membership and their time assignments for the coming season from the secretary.

## MINUTES OF NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING HELD MONDAY EVENING, MAY 9, 1966

Present: Mrs. West, Mr. Copp, Mr. Selden, Howard Whitmore III,  
Commissioner Penney, Mrs. Smith, Secretary.

Observer: Mrs. Paul Deats

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

1. Minutes of the March 14, 1966 meeting were approved with the following correction: It was voted at the March meeting to set the fee for Tennis Permits for 1966 season at \$1.00 for students and \$3.00 for adults. Since this policy was not put into effect at the start of the 1966 season it was agreed to leave the fee at \$1.00 for students and \$2.00 for adults for 1966.

2. Method of handling the issuance of permits for Swimming at the Albemarle Pool and Crystal Lake Bathhouse was discussed. It was decided to sell permits at City Hall on a Saturday morning and no permits will be sold on the premises at either swimming area. Permits after this time will only be sold in the Recreation Department office. A duplicate voting list will be used to check for Newton Residents. Each permit number issued will be recorded against the residents name in the poll book. Any person wishing to swim at either area who had not obtained a permit will have to pay 50¢ for each swim. A news release will be sent to the newspapers alerting the public to the time and the manner in which permits will be sold. Skating and tennis permits will continue to be sold at the various playgrounds and skating areas.

Mr. Copp brought up the question of hardship cases for families on Welfare who might be unable to pay the fee for swimming. Mr. Penney was requested to work with the Director of Public Welfare and find simplest way to handle this problem.

3. Mr. Copp brought up the fact that a suitable plaque should be placed in the building of the Harry Gath Memorial Pool. He felt the Commission could be criticized if an appropriate plaque was not at the pool on the day of Dedication. The Commissioner on Mr. Copp's request, had approached the Building Commissioner on this and Mr. Burns asked that the Recreation Commissioner request in writing the wording and permission to expend the cost of said plaque from the contingency fund. The Commission with the exception of Mr. Copp felt that the inscription on the plaque should originate in the Board of Aldermen since it was that body who were responsible for the naming of the pool. It was Voted that Mr. Penney write a formal request to Mr. Vincent Burns, Building Commissioner, that a plaque be provided and the Board of Aldermen be contacted for the proper wording.

4. Letter from Alderman Hopkins to Mr. Penney with a copy to Mayor Basbas and Mrs. West was discussed. Alderman Hopkins proposed that many changes be made at the Burr Playground. He also had sent a formal petition to the Board of Aldermen before writing to Mr. Penney. Mrs. West suggested that Mr. Penney arrange a meeting with Alderman Hopkins at which she and Mr. Penney could discuss these changes and report back to the Commission at a later meeting. In the meantime Commission members would contact Mr. Penney if they had any concrete suggestions.

5. The Commissioner reported that he had taken pictures of Mr. Johnson, Whitmore and Stout to have the date they left the Commission engraved on the plaque. Photograph of Mr. Shaw will be made and date for photographing Mrs. West will be set.

6. The Commissioner reported that the parking lot is being constructed at the Lincoln Eliot School. The Commissioner granted permission for this construction according to a previous vote of the Recreation Commission provided that shade trees and shrubbery be put in at certain points. It was necessary to remove only shade tree.

7. Letters have been mailed to playground personnel and new applicants have been picked from applications submitted.

On the suggestion of Miss Swartz, Recreation Supervisor, leadership will be discontinued at Stearns playground since this school building has been taken over as an Administration building for the School Department. The program at Victory Field will be intensified to take care of the children from the Stearns School District. A pedestrian light is going to be installed across California Street to assure safe access for the children to Victory playground. Some play apparatus will be moved to Victory field. The Commission were in full accord with this program.

8. A summer school remedial reading program under Title I Federal Funds will be conducted by the School Department at the Lincoln-Eliot school and children from the Stearns School district will take part in this program. A similar program will be conducted at Emerson School. In both cases the Recreation Department has entered into direct cooperation with the School Department in providing leadership for the outdoor playground program for the youngsters enrolled in this special program as well as regular playground children.

9. Report was made on new playground at Nonantum Place, Newton Corner. Land has not yet been taken as question has arisen whether to take land by eminent domain or lease it. The Commissioner sent Mayor Basbas a memo asking if we should plan leadership at this area for the summer and he advised us to do so. The Commission had voted this land taking until an Urban Renewal plan was approved. Recommendation will have to be made to provide fencing for protection of property and children.

10. College and High School Work Study personnel funded by Federal Government for programs with Recreation Department was discussed. This program is being coordinated by Mr. Thomas Hargadon, Ass't. to the Mayor, Capt. Walker, formerly with the Police Department and Mr. Fletcher of the School Department. Some youngsters will be used in the Planning Department to do survey work: one in the Purchasing Department. Those to be used in the Recreation Department will conduct programs for preschool youngsters at Memorial and Davis School and special story telling and dramatic programs. Regular playground personnel would not be involved in any of these programs.

11. Youth Center summer schedule was discussed. Mr. Penney has met with members of the Youth Center committee who would like a Youth Center continued for the summer. A tentative decision was made by this group that the program be continued Tuesday and Thursday evenings during July and August at the summer Warren Jr. High. We only pay Custodial fees, but if program is extended the Recreation Department would have to request additional money for these services. Mayor is in agreement with this. This group is still trying to get their own building for a Youth Center and Mayor is turning the matter over to Community Relations Committee. Mr. Penney is on the Advisory Board Community Relations Commission.

12. All sports leagues, softball, baseball and basketball are being scheduled.

13. The Commissioner reported on the progress of the Sailing Program at Crystal Lake. Suggested that it originate as an instructional program by the Red Cross similar to the instructional program in swimming. This program should develop so people can take their boats out after they have passed instruction by the Red Cross. Four (4) Boats have been ordered by the Recreation Department for this program and will be stored under the Crystal Lake bathhouse. Mr. Champagne is sending an instructor to

Red Cross Small Crafts School to train for this program. Lights are being installed on a time clock so area will be lighted year round. This proved very successful last year in curtailing vandalism.

14. Mr. Selden asked if Commissioner had heard anything about City Infirmary land since the School Department have rescinded their request. Our original request to the Mayor was that this land be turned over to the Recreation Department but to date nothing has been heard. Mr. Selden was designated to contact the Mayor about the City Infirmary land.

15. Mrs. West requested the Commissioner to ask the Mayor what has been done on Park Commission personnel proposed change.

16. Mr. Penney asked the Commission if they have ever been approached to have Model Airplane flying on playgrounds. He was informed that they had, but had voted it a nuisance and a hazard. Major objection was noise. New engines have now been developed which are much quieter it has been reported to Commissioner Penney. The Commission agreed that the original vote will stand and Model Airplane flying will not be allowed on any playground.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD MONDAY EVENING, JUNE 20, 1966

Present: Messrs. Copp, Selden, Shaw, Penney and Mrs. Smith

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

1. Mr. Penney reported that Building Commissioner Burns is planning a dedication ceremony of the Harry Gath Memorial Pool on Friday, June 24, 1966 at 11:30 A.M. All members of the Commission are invited to attend. Mr. Copp suggested that Mayor Gibbs, members of the Gath family and members of the Mayor's Advisory Committee be invited to this dedication. Mr. Selden suggested that some landscaping be done around the pool. The Commissioner agreed that evergreens could be planted in certain areas. Mr. Copp felt after dedication pool should be open to the public free of charge immediately after ceremony. Permits will be sold at City Hall, Crystal Lake and Gath Pool. Sale will not be limited to City Hall.
2. Commissioner's report for the month of May was distributed to members present and reviewed. Baseball, Softball and Basketball Programs are going very well. Night lighted basketball courts at Cabot opened on Tuesday evening with a group of ten teams participating. Games will be scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Mr. Olin, Director of Athletics, Brandeis, has been hired to take care of this program. Mr. Copp asked that Mr. Barry be requested to determine when lights at Albemarle Softball field should be turned on for games. Lights are being turned on when it is still daylight. Attendance figure at Cabot as shown on monthly report (10,000) seemed very high. Commissioner was asked to check this figure.
3. Mr. Penney reported he had a meeting with Mr. Wattendorf, Director of Public Welfare, re-- issuing swimming permits for hardship cases in Newton. It was decided that Mr. Penney would issue a certain number of adult and student tickets to Welfare Department and no record of names or addresses would be kept in Recreation Department. Director of Public Welfare would be only one to know persons receiving free permits.
4. The Commissioner informed the Commission that a suitable plaque has been placed at the pool which reads: Harry M. Gath Memorial Pool - June 1966.
5. Mr. Penney reported that he and Mrs. West had met with Ald. Hopkins to discuss his plans for improving Burr Playground and making it more adaptable for Bigelow Jr. High School needs. The Commission felt that Burr Playground could not be improved because of lack of space and that playground was adequate for Recreation needs. Mr. Selden moved and Commission voted to notify Ald. Hopkins that this problem be taken to the School Department, since what we have there meets with our requirements for Recreation. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. All present in favor.
6. Progress on new playground at Nonantum Place. The Mayor requested the Board of Aldermen to approve money for leasing land at Nonantum Place. If money goes through leasing arrangement will be up to Legal Department. Rent would be whatever taxes would be and lease would run for 3 years. Improvements will have to be made by Recreation Department - largest item would be erection of chain link fence at cost of approximately \$2,500.00. Playground would be cleaned up, raked and holes filled in. Forestry Dept. may help in this work. Some equipment would be installed.

Re Victory  
Field

- 7. Progress on Fed. Gov't financed Work Study program. We are starting experimental Nursery School programs, using college and high school help at Memorial and Davis Schools. Program has been lined up by Mr. Ford of the Work Study Program.
- 8. Youth Centre plans: Youngsters decided they did not want any program for the summer. Program will be resumed in the fall. Mr. Selden expressed his feeling that these programs should be held in the schools.
- 9. Mr. Selden was designated to arrange with the Mayor to view the lower end of the City Infirmery land and discuss plans for developing a playground there.
- 10. Mayor has reappointed members to the Park Commission for five years which has eliminated any plans for merging Recreation and Park Commission for the present.
- 11. Golf Course land acquisition program. This matter came up since last Recreation Commission meeting and the Board of Aldermen passed a resolution to acquire the property through the Federal Government of land acquisition whereby they pay 50% of the cost. Approximately \$151,000.00 - about \$30.00 a square foot. Coletti Realty wanted to build apartments on this land, but this was turned down on June 6th by Board of Aldermen. The Board haven't committed themselves to building a golf course, just acquiring the land.
- 12. Mr. Penney reported, he has had several requests for use of lighted softball field at Albemarle for benefit games. Commission agreed to stay with their original vote that any teams using lights must pay \$10.00 per hour.

Executive Session:

1. Consideration of future use of Victory and Stearns Playground. At the May meeting the Commission agreed to go along with Miss Swartz' suggestion that leadership would be discontinued at Stearns playground and intensify the program at Victory Playground. Mayor spoke to Commissioner Penney about possibility of us declaring Victory Field as surplus in order to raise money to take care of Cold Spring or make a deal with Coletti. Mr. Selden had suggested that Victory Field could be sold some time ago. He felt we should declare it surplus now. He also suggested we make a survey of what we have in this area and what the need is. Sometimes a field could become obsolescent. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Copp suggested to go along with the decision made at the May 9th meeting (item 7) that program at Victory field be intensified this summer and Stearns be discontinued -- subject to review of this matter in the fall. Mrs. West had expressed her feelings on this matter to Commissioner Penney and is in accord with Mr. Copp and Mr. Shaw at this time. Mr. Shaw moved and it was voted to defer action until Commission is in full attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

## RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD

MONDAY EVENING, SEPT. 19, 1966

Present: Messrs. Copp, Selden, Shaw, Whitmore, Commissioner Penney and Mrs. Smith.

Observer Present: Mrs. Saul Shapiro, 60 Cedar Street, Newton Centre. - League of Women Voters.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.
2. Minutes of the June 20, 1966 meeting were approved as recorded. Monthly reports for June, July and August were distributed to all members present.
3. The Commissioner reviewed the summer activities. The Gath Pool was opened and attendance was very high. It was necessary to have two sessions in the afternoon to take care of the large number of bathers. Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings were restricted to adults, which was very much appreciated. Mr. Penney was greatly pleased with the Staff and the facilities as a whole. Some changes will have to be made before the start of another season - such as a change in the type of swimming permits, turnstyles etc. There was very little vandalism in the building. Mr. Murphy, Senior Recreation Supervisor compiled a report which was reviewed by the Commissioner. There were 6,917 student permits sold at \$1.00 - each and 2,330 adult permits at \$3.00 each, 730 guests @ \$.50, 14,640 locker rentals @ 10¢ total received \$15,736.00 between both facilities. This compared to a total sale in 1965 of \$6,000. Revenue more than doubled in 1966.
4. Mr. Penney reported on the new Nursery School Program at Davis and Memorial Schools under the supervision of Mr. Anthony Ford and financed by Federal Funds. This was an eight week program for pre-school children four and five years old. Some three year olds were sent to this school and another year registration will have to be handled in such a way as to prevent parents enrolling children who are under age. Two college students were hired to conduct this program at each school and six to eight high school students assisted. There were about 35 to 40 children attending classes in the morning and about 15 in the afternoon. This was a good program and many letters have been received from parents.  
  
Mr. Arthur Sherwood had charge of another group of youngsters, financed with Federal Funds, who worked on landscaping programs and playgrounds and school grounds. Projects completed were - painting Cabot Playground fence; trimming hedges at Burr Playground. Mr. Sherwood is a Landscape Gardener, graduate teaching in the Newton Schools. We also conducted our playground programs on Lincoln-Eliot and Emerson School playgrounds this summer in cooperation with the School Dept. This was another Federally financed program to help youngsters who needed to improve their reading skills. The outdoor activities were coordinated with School and recreation personnel. The Program at Emerson was excellent but there were problems at Boyd Playground - due to trouble with older boys.
5. Regular playground program was similar to last year. We will have to review the attendance figures and decide if we should discontinue supervision on some playgrounds another year. Mr. Shaw questioned attendance at Farlow Park. It looks as if the decrease in attendance at Farlow was due to opening of new Charlesbank Playground at Nonantum Place. The Commissioner was very pleased with the program and attendance at Charlesbank Playground. Boyd Playground

showed great improvement due to cooperation of the department and the residents of this area.

6. Retarded children's program at Peabody School was very successful again this year. Mr. McCann was no longer in charge of this program, but it was very well conducted under the leadership of two college graduates trained in handling mentally retarded, plus volunteers.
7. The summer basketball program under lights at Cabot Park was very successful this year. Mr. Whitmore would like to see lighted basketball courts in south side of city, perhaps Newton Highlands and Auburndale section of the city. This project is included in Capital Improvement Program. Lights are only turned on when a supervisor is present. Could be converted to a time switch to go on and off automatically.
8. Sailing program at Crystal Lake worked out well. This program will have to be changed somewhat if extended another year. This was handled through the Red Cross the same as the swimming program at Crystal Lake. The program was limited due to the hours worked by the Red Cross Instructor. Another year it might be well for the Recreation Department to hire a sailing instructor. We have four boats at present time and Commissioner does not recommend buying any more until storage space is increased.
9. Commissioner Penney reported on the following construction projects.
  1. Ball diamonds at Meadowbrook and Oak Hill have been started
  2. Contract has been signed for night lights at Newton South High School. No progress has been made because contractor is waiting for Edison Co.
  3. Construction of ball diamond at Weeks Jr. High is progressing very well. Work is being done by our Maintenance men.
  4. Approval has been received from Mayor Basbas to purchase playground apparatus of a sculpture type from Mr. John Hill to be erected on the Hawthorn Playground. This will be going to purchasing department for processing soon.
  5. Water line has been put in at Richardson Playground and fence work is done. Water line at Auburndale will be put in at Auburndale as soon as Water Department can do the work.
10. Mr. Penney and Mr. Shaw were appointed delegates to the Community Council to serve for one year. The first meeting of the fall season will be held on Oct. 20, 1966 at the Second Church.
11. The Commissioner read a communication from Mayor Basbas and a letter to the Mayor from Palmer Payne of T.V. and a resident of Albemarle Rd., re - allowing Model Airplane flying on a part of Albemarle Playground. The Commission had discussed allowing model airplane flying on playgrounds at a previous meeting and had decided to continue the policy of prohibiting airplane flying on any playground. It was voted that if this program could be supervised by an adult on Saturday morning from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon on a part of Cold Spring Playground the Commission would be willing to try out such a program.

12. Report on Judo and Indoor Tennis: The Commissioner reported that he and Mrs. West met with representatives of the Judo Club. Mrs. West was concerned as to how this club operates. The meeting was very beneficial and both the Chairman and Commissioner were satisfied with the way this program is being handled. The representatives were told that organizations should give preference to Newton residents and if it became necessary to restrict memberships, non-residents would have to be dropped from any such programs. The Newton Centre Playground building is used for Judo and a reasonable fee is charged. Instructors are non-paid. The parking problem on Tyler Terrace has been taken care of as far as the Judo participants are concerned. The Commissioner has been given a financial report of expenditures and income and a list of members, which proved very satisfactory.
13. Indoor Tennis Program will start at South High School first week in October and Mrs. Thompson has assured the Commissioner that only Newton residents will be included as members. At present there are a few hours playing time open - (6:00 P.M.) Mr. Penney will check with custodian to see if any time is available Sunday afternoons. The School Committee have issued a permit for Sunday morning to another tennis club. Mr. Penney will find out more about this group. Mr. Selden felt we should be kept informed as to type of waiting list, etc.
14. Mr. Penney received a call from National Research Corp. re - employees non-residents using our tennis courts. There would be a possibility of some courts which are not overly taxed being used at certain hours, but it was felt not to sell them permits to use the Newton Centre, Burr or Newton High School Courts at peak hours.
15. Mr. Whitmore asked Mr. Selden if he has seen Mayor on City Infirmary land, Mayor had assured the Recreation Commission that they would be considered for part of this land for playground purposes when it was disposed of. Mr. Selden will talk to the Mayor again about this. The Mayor has indicated he does not want to make a decision at this time. ✓

#### Executive Session:

Mr. Penney distributed a copy of Capital Outlay Projects to each member of the Commission and asked they review them and discuss them further at a later meeting.

A letter was read from Sidney Cohen to Mrs. West re- Building of eight tennis courts at Meadowbrook Jr. High. This item was not included in Capital Outlay Program. Letter was also read from Mr. Gilleland to Mr. Pratt containing this same request from the School Department for public works construction programs on school grounds to be included in Recreation Department budget. The Commissioner reported that Warren Jr. High has eight courts; Bigelow Jr. High use four courts at Burr; Day Jr. High - no courts; South High School has twelve courts; Newton High School - 9 courts. Eight courts at Meadowbrook is not justified, according to Mr. Penney. He feels courts are needed in other areas more than at Meadowbrook. South High could give up some courts to Meadowbrook for practice. Meadowbrook is using Newton Highlands and Upper Falls courts during school session. School Department indicates this installation should be incorporated in Recreation Department budget. Mr. Selden

felt this should be School Department responsibility when planning construction of a school. Commission voted to delay action on this until a later date.

Mr. Whitmore expressed his opinion that spotlight will be focused on Recreation Department and Recreation will be a part of year-round school program, from 9 to 5. He suggested that a brochure should be printed which would acquaint the public with various programs and facilities of the Recreation Department.

Victory Field: At the June Commission meeting it was voted to delay action on this matter until the full commission was in attendance. Mayor Basbas was interested in acquiring Victory Field at that time to pave the way towards an exchange of some land in Cold Spring. Victory Field has only an eight week program in the summer. The Commission voted to delay any action on this matter until the full Commission was in attendance. However, the discussion seemed to indicate that the Commission is moving towards a position of declaring Victory Field surplus for recreational use. Commissioner Penney asked the members to be ready to act and to offer recommendations on this matter at the October meeting.

Next regular meeting will be held on Monday evening, October 17, 1966.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

## RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD

MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 17, 1966

Present: Mrs. West, Selden, Mr. Copp, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Whitmore & Mrs. Smith.

Observers Present: Mr. Henry Myerson, 26 Rice Street, N. Centre - P.T.A. Council  
Mrs. John A. Hasenfus, 15 Ardmore Road, W. Newton-League of Women Voters.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.
2. Minutes of the September 19th meeting were approved as recorded.
3. Monthly report for September was distributed and reviewed. Mr. Whitmore reported that tennis tapes should be replaced at Newton Centre, Cabot & High School. The Commissioner would like to assign leadership at Meadowbrook & Ward School but we are having difficulty finding available leaders to supervise these programs.
4. Mr. Penney reported that we are in the process of winterizing the Gath Pool with the assistance of the Building Department under the direction of Mr. Pesek, Consulting Engineer to the Building Commissioner. Mr. Pesek is presently getting an estimate from the Paddock Pool Co. to install auxiliary heating in the basement to protect equipment which is there. Contractor has work still to be completed.
5. Warranty under Paragraph VI of Contract C-2824 with Goodhue Enterprises has been extended to January 1, 1967 in order to have the boards on the Crystal Lake docks repaired. Contractor has agreed to put new bottom in docks & matter is in hands of Legal Dept. Docks, without bottoms are being stored. The Sail boats are in storage at Horace Mann School.
6. New Ball diamonds have been completed at Meadowbrook & Oak Hill Schools. Water lines have been put in. Request will be made in 1967 budget for backstops since insufficient funds available to buy them in this year's appropriation.
7. Tennis Court lights are being installed at South High School under supervision of Goodall Shapiro Associates. Major part of work has been completed.

Communications:

A. Letter from Alderman William P. Matthews, Alderman-Ward 4 dated Oct. 15, 1966 was read. Alderman Matthews expressed his wish to see Neighborhood Swimming Pools take priority in the area of Municipal Capital Improvements over Construction of a golf course. Mr. Matthews requested a meeting with Mr. Penney to discuss increasing the fees charged for admission at Gath Pool. The Commissioner will schedule a meeting with Alderman Matthews & report to Commission at a later date. It was noted by members of the Commission that a golf course is likely to be self-supporting and probably even profit making while swimming pools are not.

B. The Commissioner reminded Mr. Shaw, delegates to the Newton Community Council, that the fall meeting would be held on Thursday October 20, at 8:P.M. at the Second Church in Newton, Topic - "Newtons' Youth - Its Problems, Prospects & Prespectives. Moderator: Dr. Charles E. Brown.

C. Letter From Bob Mooney, 100 Gardner Street, Newton dated October 4, 1966 was read. Mr. Mooney expressed his appreciation to the Recreation Dept. for the excellent facilities provided for the children & adults at Boyd Playground. Mr. Mooney had called a meeting at his home last year which was attended by neighbors of Boyd Park, Mr. Penney & Ald. Ball. The neighbors pledged their support to have children & adults take better care of facilities installed on playground. Cooperation was very good & playground has improved 100% due to efforts of Mr. Mooney & neighbors in cooperation with the Recreation Department. The Commissioner will request again for Forestry Dept. to plant three new shade trees, which was in our original request for improvements in connection with the new parking area. Mr. Penney hopes to inaugurate this method of neighborhood cooperation in other areas - namely Hawthorn Playground.

D. Mr. Penney has accepted an invitation to speak at an open meeting of Women Voters of Sudbury on Wednesday evening, October 26, Subject: "Sudbury's Recreation Needs - Where Do We Go From Here?" Speakers will also participate in the program from smaller surrounding communities.

E. The Commissioner received a telephone call from the University of Mass. re. - Sandra L. Papeika - a student majoring in Recreation. Miss. Papeika is coming to the Recreation Dept. from Nov. 14 to Jan. 20th. There will be no charge to the department & she will commute daily from Marblehead. She will have program responsibilities & work with the Supervisors. The Commission would like Miss. Papeika to attend their November meeting & upon the completion of her study program here to give us her evaluation of the department activities.

F. Letter from Dr. Edward Landry, Chairman Community Relations Commission was read. Dr. Landry would like cooperation of Recreation Commission in purposes & work of the Commission. Mr. Penney is a member of the Advisory Board. The Commission agreed to cooperate but felt we had excellent human relations on our playgrounds. Mr. Whitmore felt our ball teams do a great deal to promote human relations. Mrs. West felt we should withhold any action on this until they are more sure of what they represent.

#### Old Business:

A. Indoor Tennis Membership: Mr. Penney has received a list of members from Mrs. Thompson, Sec. All members are now residents of Newton & all playing time has been allotted, Program is very well run. The only responsibility of the Recreation Dept. is furnishing nets to this group.

Another tennis group uses these courts Sunday mornings & we are waiting for a membership list.

B. Youth Centre Program: - The Commissioner reported program has started at Warren Junior High School with a new group of youngsters in charge-taking over from last year's session. Attendance was very good the first night 600-700. Recreation Dept. pays custodial fees, furnish ping pong, cards, etc. Program at Meadowbrook has not been started.

C. Edmands Park: We have received many complaints about Edmands Park. We do not have the funds to do what we want in this area. There has been some question as to jurisdiction - whether Forestry or Recreation Dept. responsibility. According to the deed the bulk of land was given for park and playground purposes. This gives us the right to have control over most of area. We clean periodically. Cabot School youngsters have done some clean-up work there. Signs have been posted - "No trespassing after dark - Police take notice". Police are powerless to apprehend anyone in park if these signs are not posted. At the present time Mr. Pratt, Director of Public Works is having Mr. Schiavone, a lawyer investigate the deed. We want to know if Colby Rd. could be closed to traffic - what rights Newton College of Sacred Heart to right-of-way-Colby Rd. Do general public have right to travel over Colby Rd? Fire Dept., and perhaps Police, would be in agreement to closing this road.

Mr. Selden suggested we initiate program there - skiing primarily. Programs should reduce abuse of area.

Mr. Shaw felt we should close Colby Road and let people protest if they object.

D. The Commissioner has entered into an agreement with Mr. Dunn of the Boston Globe promotion department who wanted a sponsor for use of gym in Newton on November 3rd for pre-season instructional skiing clinic. South High School has been reserved as seating capacity is 650. This program is being publicized by Boston Globe.

E. Hawthorn Playground play area development is being postponed for present. We are having difficulty in obtaining a supplier for type of equipment needed. Commissioner may try to have appropriation carried over to 1967.

#### Executive Session:

A discussion was held on turning Victory field over to the Mayor & Recreation Dept. forfeiting area as a playground.

Mr. Selden felt this playground was not essential because of the close proximity of Allison, Boyd & Stearns and perhaps a more fruitful area could be exchanged where the Recreation Dept. would benefit. Mr. Shaw & Mr. Copp were of the opinion that we should have a formal request from the Mayor for this land and not just turn it over to the city.

Mr. Whitmore made the motion that we request a meeting with the Mayor at which members of the Recreation Commission would express the desire to cooperate and their willingness to make Victory field available for other civic use. However we wish to outline to the Mayor factors and problems which we feel have a bearing on the recreational programs in that area:

1. We must have cooperation with the Boy's Club in the use of the Allison Playground.
2. We must have cooperation in securing good facilities for the use of the Stearns School as an alternative for the use of Victory field.
3. We are very concerned about the possibility of future land taking in connection with Urban Renewal programs.

4. We are very concerned about the possibility of the construction of a new Boys Club and facilities funded by the Federal government. Commissioner Penney moved that he, Mr. Whitmore and Mrs. West, if she wished, discuss this matter with the Mayor.

Mrs. West: the motion has been made by the Commissioner that he and Mr. Whitmore await upon the Mayor to discuss the problems of Victory field. All in favor. Motion is carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD

MONDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 21, 1966

Present: Mrs. West, Messrs. Copp, Selden, Shaw, Whitmore, Commissioner Penney and Mrs. Smith

Observers: Sandra Papeika, Student at University of Mass.; Mrs. John A. Hasenfus, League of Women Voters.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:45 P. M.
2. Minutes of the October 17, 1966 were approved as recorded .
3. Monthly report for month of October was distributed to all members present.
4. Alderman Matthews had sent a letter to Mr. Penney concerning fees charged at the Gath pool. Mr. Matthews appeared informally at the Recreation Commission Meeting to ask that the Commission consider charging a modest fee another season for children and adults which would be standard for all. (25¢ was mentioned). Some degree of responsibility could be put on children seven years and over who could perform some service for family and neighbor to earn money. Mr. Matthews made the point that we must have more Revenue if we are going to have more pools. The Chairman felt we should consider Mr. Matthews suggestions at a later date. Mr. Penney reported that the pool had been winterized and Mr. Pesek had submitted a plan to Mr. Burns to install a heating system in the basement.
5. The Commissioner reported that attendance on drop-in nights (No Dance Band) at the Youth Senter at Warren Jr. High was very low but had increased during the past month.
6. Pop Warner football team have been using Albermarle Playground for night football practice two nights a week. They have been charged \$10.00/ an hour for two hours an evening for the use of the softball lights, payable in advance. Mr. O'Brien, Maintenance man, has been working on these evenings.
7. The leaf picking machine, purchased this year, has been very successful. It has cut down on the burning of leaves, which has become a health menace.
8. The Commissioner reported he has been unable to negotiate for equipment for a play area at Hawthorn playground. He will have a plan drawn up for design of area by Shurtleff & Merrill, Architects who have done work for Building & School Depts. Mayor Basbas has agreed to include the cost for this installation in next year's budget since it is too late to encumber in 1966.
9. Tennis Court night lighting at Newton South High School is progressing very well under contract with Mr. Shapiro. Commissioner will get together with Mr. Shapiro and Boston Edison Co. to complete this work. Mr. Shapiro is working directly with Boston Edison.
10. Indoor Tennis Club: Mr. Penney has received a membership list from a group, independent of the Newton Indoor Tennis Club, who are using N. South High Courts on Sunday mornings from 9 - 12 noon. Mr. Barry, Recreation Supervisor checked membership list and found them to be Newton residents. This group obtained a permit from the School Department and did not go through the Recreation Department. They pay their own cutodial fees. Mr. Penney will try to have them work through the Recrea-

toin Department and obtain their permit for another year the same as the Newton Tennis Club and see if this group should be incorporated with the Newton Tennis Club.

11. The Commissioner read a letter from the Sudbury Recreation Commission and League of Women Voters requesting information about our Gath Swimming pool. Mr. Penney had addressed this group a short time ago. They are interested in constructing an outdoor pool. Mr. Copp felt we should familiarize them with the problems we met with such as heating, winterizing etc. so they would not make the same mistakes. Mr. Selden suggested we recommend they request Joe Rogers advice on construction, etc.

12. Letter from Paul Walsh, 11 years of age - Hamilton School, Grove St. N. Lower Falls was read. Paul and several youngsters requested that provisions be made by the Recreation Department for a track for Go-Karts. Mr. Penney was advised by the Commission to reply to this letter as follows: We have no plans to build such a course. We do not have any funds in the Budget which will permit us to construct such a track. Advise them to get in touch with a Super-Market to use black-top area on Sundays when market is closed. This is the practice in other places.

13. Request from Public Building Commissioner Burns for use of an area of Burr Playground for storage of material during period of construction of Bigelow Jr. High. Mr. Penney talked with Mayor Basbas and Mr. Burns. Contractor is in desperate need to store equipment during construction of new Bigelow Jr. High to be started in the spring. Also talked to Mr. Gilleland, School Department. Mr. Gilleland assured the Commissioner that this is necessary and school realizes it will be in a difficult position. Area to be used will be 50 ft. wide parallel to tennis courts, inside playground. Mr. Whitmore felt - 1. These types of projects last longer.

2. Contractor is usually slow and tend to expand area.

Mrs. West: We should have man there so they would not take a larger area. We would want it in writing to restore area to better condition than they found it. Mr. Penney told Mayor and Mr. Burns, playground is inadequate, but people would put up with any inconvenience in order to get this school. He recommended that the Commission grant the use of an area not to exceed 15,000 sq. ft. of land for the purpose of storage of materials during the period of construction of the Bigelow Jr. High School and that the area be properly fenced to protect material and provide a safe access to the area so that the construction, etc. will not interfere with rest of playground. Repair any damage to or disturbance to fence and put back into like new condition including the complete reurfing of one-half of the playground. Voted - all in favor.

14. Commission had voted to allow Palmer Payne and his group to use Cold Spring playground on Saturday morning from 10:00 A. M. to 12:00 Noon to try out model airplane flying. The Commissioner had not heard from Mr. Payne after notifying him to that effect. Mr. Penney contacted Mr. Payne and found he has been too busy to start program. He is still interested in conducting this program at Albermarle- but was informed it would have to go before the Commission before request could be granted. Held for later date.

15. Mr. Penney has had further communications re- conditions at Edmonds Park from the Social Concerns Committee of the Cabot School P. T. A. The Recreation Department has put up signs restricting the road through the playground. Curbstones have been installed to try to prevent dumping. Police are giving surveillance. Captain Quinn suggested we do not block off the road as this would prevent police from patrolling the area. Signs will restrict people from using this road. Copy of letter from Cabot P.T.A. was also sent to Mayor. Mr. Selden spoke to Mayor Basbas

about activating playground with a snowmaking machine and a ski slope. He was advised that nothing could be done until high school site had been settled. (Which by now has been done without use of Edmands). Suggested projects should be set up in 1967 budget.

16. Halloween parties were reviewed. Parties were successful up to High School level. There was an increase in attendance in Elementary and Jr. High parties over 1965. We had an increase in receipts from Chamber of Commerce members contributing money. Another year we will have to have a different approach for the High School party. WE felt it was being handled by High School as in previous years, but it didn't appeal this year. A program will have to be worked out with the youngsters, not the faculty, so that we are more sure that we will have a higher attendance.

17. The motion was made by Mrs. West that the Commission should write a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Toher for her exceptional job in handling the Halloween program. Motion carried.

18. Miss Sandra Papeika, student from University of Mass. majoring in Recreation addressed the members of the Commission. Miss Papeika selected Newton to do her field work because of its good Recreation Dept. She will be with the Recreation Dept. for eight weeks & is being used in leadership at the Sidney Hill, swimming program, Jr. High School girls program at Emerson & Memorial School. Mrs. West welcomed Miss Papeika for the Commission & invited her to come back to a Commission meeting at the Recreation Department programs.

19. A new program - "Tone-astics", under the leadership of Mrs. Estelle Williams has started on Tuesday mornings at the Newton Center Playground building. Mrs. Williams is Director of Swimming Program at the Boston Y. M. C. A. Program is very successful and women find program terrific. Mrs. Williams hoped to have an evening class also but response was very poor.

20. Auburndale Playground Building: The Commissioner reported that he, Mayor Basbas and Mr. Burns had gone to Auburndale Playground to view the building recently destroyed by fire. Mr. Penney & Mr. Burns recommended we build a new building & not try to rebuild what we have. Mayor feels he could put \$25,000 - 30,000 - with whatever is recovered in insurance and get this building started at the earliest possible time. Mr. Penney have Mr. Burns specifications which had been drawn up in 1964 but would be basically the same. Mr. Burns is involved in getting some plans and is also making good progress with the Insurance Co. to get a substantial recovery. New building would be a permanent indoor type with toilet facilities & heating facilities for indoor use with an area which could be used as a craft room, game room & storage area for maintenance. The Commissioner will look into a portable type building which could be used this winter since new structure could not be started until after first of year. Mrs. West questioned if new structure would be at same location & Commissioner assured her this is best spot. Neighborhood swimming pool has been talked about for this location & building could be used for both swimming & skating. Mrs. West raised the question - could we have boating & canoeing at this area? Mr. Penney felt we would have to have storage space for such a program & Provisions would not be made for the present structure but could be added later.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

1. The Commission were invited to attend the departments' annual Christmas party on Wed. Evening, Dec. 21st at 5:30 P. M. At Dedham Motel, Needham.

2. Letter was written to Mayor requesting a meeting with Mrs. West, Mr. Whitmore & Mr. Penney to discuss Victory field. Mayor asked that matter be dropped.

3. Day Jr. High site was discussed. Mr. Selden, a member of the site committee reported that Avery Estate would probably be best spot. Legal Dept. gave a verbal opinion to the Commissioner that Avery land was to be used for general recreation purposes & if to be used for other than Recreation it could involve either of the following:

1. A release from the heirs
2. Action by the legislature

4. Mr. Copp reported that Mr. A. G. Asaff had expressed his wish to attend a Recreation Commission meeting & present his plan for a lighted athletic facility at the Newton Highlands playground which would include a football & baseball field. Mr. Asaff has received the "go ahead" from the Mayor to compile this report. May consider including it in the 1967 Budget request.

Next regular meeting of the Commission will be held Monday evening. Dec. 19th at 7:45 P. M.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD

MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 16, 1967

305

Present: Mrs. West, Messrs. Copp, Selden, Shaw, Commissioner Penney & Mrs. Smith

Observers: Mrs. John A. Hasenfus, League of Women Voters; Sandra Papeika, Student at University of Mass.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.
2. Minutes of the November 21st meeting were accepted as recorded with the following correction under item 10: "this group should operate on the same basis as the Newton Tennis Club."
3. Monthly reports for November & December were distributed to all members presented.
4. Mrs. West reported that the signs on Tyler Terrace read "Road Closed." Should read "One Way." We had Street Department make signs & requested permission from Police Dept. to put them out on Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays. Signs are also put out at Bulloughs Pond during skating season. Police Dept. have approved signs at this area also. Our men will plow area in front of Newton Centre building when there is tobogganing.

Tonastics class at Newton Centre Playground Building has started again on Tues. mornings with an enrollment of eighteen people.

Due to the fact that we cannot get leaders to supervise coasting at Fessenden School we have discontinued our supervision of this hill for this winter.

5. Mr. Shaw reported a bad spot of erosion at the Pierce School playground between the school and the bubbler facing Temple Street. Mr. Penney will have his men take care of this.
6. Mrs. West read a letter from Mr. Burns, re-using part of Burr Playground for storage of materials by the contractor constructing the new Bigelow Jr. High. Mr. Penney reported the contractor & architect have decided that they will not use the Burr Playground.
7. The Commissioner reported that nothing more has been done towards the construction of a new building at Auburndale Playground. The Building Commissioner now feels only \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 will be recovered from the Insurance Co. The Mayor has assured Mr. Penney that he will have an amount in this year's budget for the construction of a new building. Originally the Recreation Commission had incorporated the construction of a new building in the Capital Outlay Program. The Commission decided to put this request in the 1967 Budget.

The

The Recreation Maintenance men have repaired one-half of the building partially destroyed by fire for use during skating. Phone has been installed, stove for heating is in use and place for checking skates has been provided.

8. Letter to the Mayor from Alderman Matthews was read concerning the Auburndale building. Mr. Matthews requested that the Commission consider a new building for Auburndale and black topping the parking space.

Mr. Penney acknowledged his letter & advised him that the Commission had in-

cluded the construction of a new building in their Capital Improvement program with top priority. The parking lot was included in the 1966 Budget Request & would be again included in the 1967 request. Ald. Sutherland had requested this work be done two years ago.

- 9. Commissioner reported that no action was taken by the Board of Aldermen on Alderman Hopkins request for improvements at Burr Playground.
- 10. Letter from Mrs. Richard H. Lent, 167 Warren Street, Newton Centre was read. Mrs. Lent requested that Commission consider the construction of safe bicycling paths. The Commissioner has been very interested in such a program but Newton has no suitable areas to plan such a project. Mrs. Lent was advised that the M.D.C. could be considering such a path in the future along the Charles River - near Quinobequin Road.
- 11. Letter from George Wattendorf, Director of Public Welfare, was read. Mr. Wattendorf extended his appreciation to the Commission for the swimming permits for the Gath Pool - given to him for distribution to some Welfare recipients and requested that the same procedure be continued in 1967.
- 12. Mr. Penney read a letter from Mr. Robert Kelley, Baseball Coach at Bryant & Stratton School for use of a baseball field in Newton for 1967 baseball season. The Commission approved that such a permit be issued if a field was available & charge the school \$25.00 a game plus any overtime for maintenance if involved.
- 13. Letter from Mr. William Ripley praising the Maintenance Crew for their work in preparing the toboggan slide at Newton Centre on Christmas Day was read to the Commission.
- 14. Letter from Alderman Sacks requesting that tennis courts be constructed at Ward School was discussed. Mr. Sacks had a request from the President of the Ward School P.T.A. The Commissioner advised Mr. Sacks that we have had this request in our Capital Improvement Program and will include it in our 1967 Budget Request. Commission agreed to discuss this matter further at budget time.
- 15. Letter dated Dec. 3, 1965 to Mayor from Mr. A.G. Asaff, President of the Newton Baseball Twilight League was read. Mr. Asaff petitioned the Recreation Commission for a Sports Field, preferably at the Newton Highlands Playground, adequately equipped with lights for the use of Newton citizens of all ages. The Commission noted not to include this item in the 1966 Budget Request. Could go in the Capital Improvement program for 1971.
- 16. The Commissioner read a report from Jason Cortell, Biologist, retained to control algae growth at Crystal Lake & Bulloughs Pond. The Commission expressed their satisfaction of the work - done by Mr. Cortell & the excellent results since the installation of the aqualator. Mrs. West questioned why the aqualator could not be moved nearer to the M.B.T.A. tracks to give more beach space. (Mr. Selden suggested we take the temperature of the water during the swimming season.) Mr. Penney said this was decided against because of drop off in that area.
- 17. Letter to the Commissioner from Ald. Shea was read. Mr. Penney replied to this letter & agreed to talk with Mr. Miller, Planning Board, re: land in Newton Corner owned by the Mass. Turnpike Authority. Mr. Shea suggested that this land be acquired by the Recreation Department for a children's play area.

Ward  
School

*Duplicate*

cluded the construction of a new building in their Capital Improvement program with top priority. The parking lot was included in the 1966 Budget Request & would be again included in the 1967 request. Ald. Sutherland had requested this work be done two years ago.

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17. Letter to the Commissioner from Ald. Shea was read. Mr. Penney replied to this letter & agreed to talk with Mr. Miller, Planning Board, re: land in Newton Corner owned by the Mass. Turnpike Authority. Mr. Shea suggested that this land be acquired by the Recreation Department for a children's play area.

- 18. Mr. Penny reported that Mrs. West had contacted his about Newton Recreation Dept. displaying an exhibit at "Winterfest" to be held at the Ware Memorial - Prudential Center, Boston from Feb. 29. Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Shattuck are Chairman of this program. Mr. & Mrs. Toher & Mr. Ralph Hamilton are assisting the Commissioner in developing the exhibit.
- 19. Miss Sandra Papeika, Student At University of Massachusetts, majoring in Recreation, addressed the Commission. Miss Papeika reported on her findings while doing intern work in Newton for seven weeks. Miss Papeika was high in her praise of the programs conducted by the Recreation Dept., and was especially impressed with the cooperation between the School & Recreation Departments which avoids duplication of programs. Excellent program at Sidney Hill for Retarded Children & Senior Citizens program was handled very well. Miss Papeika suggested that more programs for young couples was needed.

Executive Session:

The Commissioner presented the findings of the Frank A. Day site Committee. The Committee considered five locations of the new school site with the following locations as the most probable:

- 1. Avery Land (most likely)
- 2. Fessenden land

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Dorothy G. Smith  
 Secretary

Victory Field  
Surplus Land

TO: Members of the Newton Recreation Commission

FROM: John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

DATE: February 1, 1967

1. Because of a conflict with the time available to set up the "Winterfest" exhibit at Was Memorial Auditorium in Boston, the regular meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission cannot be held on the evening of Monday, February 20th. I am proposing now that we meet on the same date but at 8:30 A. M. sharp for a morning meeting. If this works out well, I would recommend that we seriously consider meeting regularly in the morning as does the Redevelopment Authority, special study committees, etc. If you cannot meet at the above date and time please contact me as soon as possible, and other arrangements will be made if necessary.

2. At the next meeting of the Commission I will recommend and move the following proposals concerning land use:

- a. That the Recreation Commission accept the recommendations of the Day Jr. High School Site Committee, and release three acres of the "Avery" land for the construction of the new school; and notify the Mayor and Board of Alderman that we are in agreement with all the Site Committee's recommendations.
- b. That the Recreation Commission declare Victory Field surplus for recreation purposes and recommend to the Mayor and Board of Alderman that its status be changed to general municipal and that the playground at the old Stearns School be re-activated this summer as a playground for children under twelve. That teenage girls be allowed to use Stearns playground if they are baby-sitting or helpful to the leaders. That the permission for the Boys Club to use Allston Field be conditioned that they accept any boys from the Stearns area from 12 to 15 years of age in their program (subject to reasonable disciplinary procedures.) That the Stearns Playground be developed for the use of younger children with the idea that a portion of this area will be retained for this purpose even if the School Department should abandon its use of the area in the future.
- c. That the Recreation Commission declare the River Street Playground surplus for Recreation purposes as soon as the new Burr School Playground is available for use, and recommend to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that its status be changed to general municipal purposes.
- d. That the playground program at Murray Road School and River Street Playgrounds be abandoned and transferred to the new Burr School Playground as soon as it is available for use.

- e. That the use of West Newton Common be studied in relation to the affect of the new Burr School Playground with an eye to the possible changing of its use, development, or status.
  - f. That the Recreation Commission recommend to the Mayor and Board of Alderman that the vacant land in the Cold Springs playground area needed for the construction of the proposed golf course be purchased by the city even if federal funds for this purpose are not available.
  - g. That the Recreation Commission recommend to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that federal funds be sought for the acquisition of the so-called "Ginsburg" land between Auburndale Playground and flowed meadow.
3. At the next meeting of the Commission I will recommend that consideration be given to the following changes regarding swimming fees:
- a. That the season permit fee for Newton residents be raised from \$1 to \$5 for students and from \$3 to \$10 for adults. That the 50¢ individual swim fee be retained for both students & adults.
  - b. That morning sessions Monday through Saturday at both Crystal Lake and Gath Pool be free to all comers, but that those taking swim lessons be given priority over general swimmers during these free periods.
  - c. That season permits again be distributed free of charge through the Welfare Dept.

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD MONDAY MORNING  
FEBRUARY 20, 1967

Present: Mrs. West, Messrs. Copp, Selden, Shaw, Whitmore, Commissioner Penney, and Mrs. Smith, Secretary

Observers: Mrs. John A. Hasenfus, League of Women Voters

- 1. Minutes of the January 16, 1967 meeting were accepted as recorded.
- 2. Monthly report for the month of January was distributed to all members of the Commission. Mr. Penney will check attendance figures at Youth Center which were omitted from January report. Attendance figures for coasting at Newton Centre playground would be checked as figure submitted seemed very low. Competitive games are played with surrounding cities and towns. Commissioner reported that Pee Wee hockey has been progressing very well.

Mrs. West visited the "Tone-astic" class at Newton Centre Playground. She reported Mrs. Williams is doing an excellent job with this program.

- 3. Auburndale Playground Building: The Commissioner reported that Mayor has approved \$30,000 in the Building Department budget for a new building at Auburndale Playground. Mr. Penney has had some correspondence with Mr. Burns, Building Commissioner as to type of building to be constructed but we are limited because of amount approved. Building will be similar to one which has been there but will be made of cement blocks with permanent heating and toilet facilities. Approximately same location. Installing water line will create a problem as present line runs along ground which is all right for summer but not deep enough to avoid frost in the winter.
- 4. Mr. Penney reported that the Recreation Department exhibit for "Winterfest" will be set up on Tuesday, February 21st. The program will open on Wednesday, February 22nd at the War Memorial, Prudential Center, Boston and run through February 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 P. M. Mrs West urged the Commission members to attend the exhibit.
- 5. New Business:
  - a. Mr. Penney read a request from Northeastern University for the use of four or five tennis courts in Newton mornings-Monday through Friday from 9 - 1 P. M. during the month of May. Tennis courts at Northeastern are being resurfaced. The Commissioner felt that two courts at Hawthorn and two courts at Cabot could be offered for their use. Also Newton Upper Falls and Newton Highlands could be made available. Because of use by workers during lunch hour, the time available to N. U. Falls should stop at 12:00 noon. Practically all other courts are used by schools during this time. The Commission instructed Mr. Penney to inform Professor Walker to this effect.
  - b. A report of Operational Costs at Gath Pool and Crystal Lake together

with a summary of Receipts and Expenditures for Summer Season 1966 were distributed to the Commission. A discussion followed on the fee to be charged at these areas for the coming season and the type of permits to be used. Mr. Selden suggested that a wrist band type of permit be used, with different colors of male and female and varying colors denoting various ages of children. Mr. Copp feels coin operated machines would have its advantages. Mr. Whitmore recommended a more modest increase than the one suggested by the Commissioner's report.

Mr. Penney has requested an opinion from Mr. Jones, City Solicitor as to how an increase in fees could effect the cities liability in case of accidents. Mr. Jones has not yet ruled on this report. The Commission voted to discuss this matter of fees, etc. at the regular March meeting.

c. A request from the School Department (Mr. Gilleland) for parking of twenty-five cars on the Burr Playground by teachers of the school during the construction of the new Bigelow Jr. High School was read. The area requested in back of the Playground building, an unpaved area adjacent to playground equipment. These swings, etc. are used by young children of pre-school age brought to the playground by their mothers at all hours of the day. The playground leaders are not allowed to park in this area because of the danger to youngsters passing through, plus the small parking space available. It was noted that Mr. Penney write a letter to Mr. Gilleland refusing this request.

6. Mr. Penney requested the members of the Commission to contact him before Saturday, February 25th if they had any comments on the Annual Budget request. The Commission were asked to be present at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday to go before the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen.

A special executive session meeting of the Committee will be held on Thursday evening, March 2nd at 7:30 P. M. on the Recreation Department office, City Hall, to consider the Day Jr. High site committee recommendations, and other matters affecting recreation lands.

The regular monthly meeting will be held on Thursday morning, March 20th at 8:00 A.M. The Commission agreed they would try holding regular meetings in the morning and see how it would work out.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy G. Smith  
Secretary

MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION - MARCH 2, 1967

Present: Mrs. Worthing West, Chairman  
Mr. T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
Alan Shaw  
Howard Whitmore, III  
John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

Convened - 7:40 P. M.

1. Consideration of the F. A. Day Site Committee report. During this discussion Mr. Copp expressed dissatisfaction with that part of the report dealing with the acquisition of private property. Mr. Selden moved and Mr. Penney seconded that the report of the site committee be accepted. Voted to accept the report carried 6 - 0 in favor. Mr. Whitmore wanted to be officially recorded as expressing his deep concern about the taking of homes and recommends to the Mayor that the taking of lots 24, 25, 26, mentioned in the report, should await such time as the present owners voluntarily express a desire to relinquish their property. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Copp expressed themselves in agreement with Mr. Whitmore in this opinion.

Mr. Copp moved and Mr. Selden seconded that the Recreation Commissioner inform the Mayor of the vote of the Commission regarding the F. A. Day Site Committee Report together with the concern expressed by the three members regarding land takings. Voted 6 - 0 in favor. It was agreed that the actual transfer of property to the School Department of the approximately three acres needed for the school site would have to await the preparation of an official site plan delimiting the boundary lines involved.

2. Consideration of the recommendation of the Recreation Commissioner as follows:

(That the Recreation Commission declare Victory Field surplus for recreation purposes and recommend to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that its status be changed to general municipal purposes. That the playground at the old Stearns School be reactivated this summer as a playground for children under twelve. That teenage girls be allowed to use Stearns playground if they are babysitting or helpful to the leaders. That the permission for the Boys Club to use Allison Field be conditioned that they accept any boys from the Stearns area from 12 to 15 years of age in their program (subject to reasonable disciplinary procedures.) That the Stearns Playground be developed for the use of younger children with the idea that a portion of this area will be retained for this purpose even if the School Department should abandon its use of the area in the future.)

Mr. Whitmore moved and Mr. Selden seconded that this recommendation of the Recreation Commissioner be accepted. Vote 4-2 in favor. Voting affirmative: Mrs. West, Mr. Penney, Mr. Selden, Mr. Whitmore. Voting

opposed: Mr. Copp and Mr. Shaw. Mr. Shaw expressed the opinion that the release of this land should await a specific request for its use for some other civic function rather than releasing it now prior to any planned use.

3. Consideration of two recommendations of the Recreation Commissioner as follows:

"That the Recreation Commission declare the River Street Playground surplus for Recreation purposes as soon as the new Burr School Playground is available for use, and recommend to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that its status be changes to general municipal purposes."

That the playground program at Murray Road School and River Street Playgrounds be abandoned and transferred to the new Burr School Playground as soon as it is available for use.

Mr. Copp moved and Mr. Selden seconded that these two recommendations of the Recreation Commissioner be accepted. Motion carried 6 to 0 in favor.

4. Consideration of the recommendation of the Recreation Commissioner as follows: "That the use of West Newton Common be studied in relation to the affect of the new Buur School Playground with an eye to the possible changing of its use, development, or status."

Moved by Mr. Selden and seconded by Mr. Shaw that this recommendation of the Recreation Commissioner be accepted. It was noted that this recommendation does not commit the Commission to any action, but merely alerts our attention to this area. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

5. Consideration of the recommendation of the Recreation Commissioner as follows: "That the Recreation Commission recommend to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that the vacant land in the Cold Springs playground area needed for the construction of the proposed golf course be purchased by the city even if federal funds for this purpose are not available."

Moved by Mr. Selden and seconded by Mr. Shaw that this recommendation of the Recreation Commission be accepted. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

6. Consideration of the recommendation of the Recreation Commissioner as follows: "That the Recreation Commission recommend to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen that federal funds be sought for the acquisition of the so-called Ginsburg land between Auburndale Playground and flowed meadow."

Moved by Mr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Whitmore that this recommendation of the Recreation Commission be accepted. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

7. Mr. Whitmore moved that the Commission reaffirm to the Mayor their very strong interest in the designation of the former City Infirmary land for Recreation Purposes. Mr. Selden seconded this motion. Motion carried 6-0 in favor.

It was agreed by the Commission that the above recommendations for land use be sent to the Mayor under a covering letter indicating how the Commission had reviewed many of the Recreation Department's needs and regarding land use patterns in terms of changing needs, population

changes, changing recreational interests, etc.

8. Consideration of revising the fee schedule for swimming at Crystal Lake and Gath Pool for 1967 season. The Recreation Commissioner's original suggestion that season permit fees be raised to \$5.00 for students and \$10.00 for adults was seen as too drastic an increase during the discussion. After a discussion of various alternatives including the use of coin turnstiles it was finally moved by Mr. Selden and seconded by Mr. Penney that the 1967 season swim permit be raised from \$1.00 to \$3.00 for students through high school and the adult permit be raised from \$3.00 to \$5.00 Motion carried 4 to 2 in favor. Mr. Copp and Mr. Shaw voted in opposition. Mrs. West suggested that the practice followed in 1966 of distributing free season permits to needy Newton families through the Public Welfare Department be continued this year; and that all Newton residents 65 years and older be given season permits free of charge upon request. These suggestions were adopted as Commission policy by acclamation.

Mr. Selden suggested that the Recreation Department issue wrist tags this season instead of cards for season permits, and that designation in four different colors for control purposes be used if this was found practical. This suggestion was adopted as Commission policy.

9. The Commission voted to set a 1967 season permit fee of \$1.00 for students and \$3.00 for adults for tennis permits for the use of the clay courts where an attendant is on duty to make reservations and control use.

Meeting adjourned 10:20 P. M.

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING MARCH 20, 1967

Convene: 8:00 A.M.

Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman, Alan Shaw, Joseph Selden, Howard Whitmore III, John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner

Absent: T. Frank Copp

1. Minutes of the February 20th regular meeting and the March 2nd special meeting approved.

2. Commissioner Penney reported that the Mayor had received our letter of March 14th outlining the recommendations concerning land use made at the March 2nd Commission meeting. His first reaction was to send each of these recommendations along to the Board of Aldermen as separate items on the docket. However, he has since informed Commissioner Penney that he is holding the letter, and will only take action of the F.A. Day site matter at present. Mr. Selden was delegated to talk further with the Mayor as to his reaction to our letter of recommendations. Commissioner Penney will check with the City Solicitor to see what further action is necessary concerning the Commission's recommendations about Victory Field and River Street Playground.

3. The revised January and February monthly report of activities and maintenance were presented.

4. The budget cuts made by the Finance Committee were reported by the Commissioner as follows:

BUDGET CUTS BY FINANCE COMMITTEE

60-0 Recreation Program-

	<u>Allowed by Mayor</u>	<u>Allowed by Finance Committee</u>	<u>Cut</u>
Supervisory Staff (crafts, tennis, night tennis, baseball)	\$ 4,460.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 960.00
Swim Staff	37,390.00	35,000.00	2,390.00
Skating Staff	7,050.00	6,500.00	550.00
Basketball Staff	6,144.00	5,500.00	644.00
Neighborhood Staff	4,776.00	4,000.00	776.00
Summer Playground	44,000.00	41,000.00	3,000.00
Total...	<u>125,820.00</u>	<u>117,500.00</u>	<u>8,320.00</u>
Contractual	13,805.00		
(Police - 1,300.00)		12,000.00	1,805.00
Supplies	10,500.00	9,500.00	1,000.00
Other (dues & trophies)	700.00	500.00	200.00

60-1 Maintenance Recreation Areas-Exclusive of Schools-

<u>Personnel-</u>	<u>Allowed by Mayor</u>	<u>Allowed by Finance Committee</u>	<u>Cut</u>
Time and Construction Clerk- out Slight reduction for snow removal			
Contractual	\$ 18, 900.00	\$ 17,900.00	\$ 1,000.00
	(\$500.- power	\$ 500.- repairs)	
Supplies	19,300.00	18,000.00	1,300.00

60-2 Care & Alterations of School Playgrounds & Athletic Fields-

Contractual	8,900.00	8,000.00	900.00
Supplies	(\$800.- repairs	100.00 rental equip.) 4,500.00	4,000.00 500.00

60-3 Extended Use of Schools- 17,000.00 10,500.00  
(will mean request additional)

5. The Commissioner read a memo from Mr. Greenblatt of the City Solicitor's office regarding the effect of charging fees for swimming on the governmental immunity as follows:

Matt B. Jones has asked me to write you concerning your memorandum of February 15, 1967 relative to the proposed fee schedule for Newton's municipal swimming areas, specifically with regard to the effect of a raise in fees on Newton's governmental immunity. In perhaps the leading case on the subject which incidentally involved fees at a municipa; public bath house, the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts stated that "the comparatively insignificant element of income received did not affect the dominating public character of the enterprise, and did not render the city liable for the torts of public officers and servants in performing such public duty."

In accordance with the decision in that case and numerous other cases, I would be of the opinion that the proposed raise in fees would not affect our governmental immunity as long as the cost of operation remains higher than the income received from fees.

6. Commissioner Penney reported that city-wide elections were held to elect representatives to a Youth Council. This new group is just getting underway and will still be working with Judge Yesley's committee. The Warren Youth Center has been temporary closed down until the new group gets it reorganized.

7. Commissioner Penney presented a request from the Community Relations Commission to send delegates to the seminars on April 3, 4, 5th. Mrs. West will be a delegate on April 3rd and Mr. Whitmore and Mr. Selden will attend on April 5th and perhaps April 4th. Mr. Penney will attend as a resource person on April 3rd.

8. A letter to the Mayor from a Model Airplane Club seeking to use Allison Field (which he had sent to the Commissioner for comment) was discussed. The Commission commented that the group was located in Brighton and why didn't they use the M.D.C. reservation along Nonantum Road.

9. Mr. Penney reported that the Massachusetts Recreation Society Annual Board Members Dinner was scheduled for the Ramada restaurant on Soldiers Field Road with Lt. Gov. Sargent as speaker. The Commission members agreed that the Commissioner send a suggestion to the committee recommending that people from different cities and towns be seated together.

10. Mr. Penney reported that he and the Recreation Supervisors were working with Mr. Huston and Miss Breivogel, School Physical Education Supervisors, to set up a plan for full use of school buildings in cooperation with P.T.A.'s and students from Northeastern-Bouve and Boston University-Sargent schools of Physical Education and Recreation.

11. Mr. Penney reported that he and the Supervisors would be attending a conference in Andover on "Youth in the Suburbs" on March 28th.

12. Discussion of fees for use of lighted tennis courts. Mr. Penney reported Wellesley's fees schedule. Voted: to set a fee of \$10.00 for season pass and \$1.00 per hour for use of lighted courts at Newton South High School. An attendant will have to be hired to handle reservations of the courts on similar fashion to clay courts at Newton Centre.

13. Next meeting of Commission set for 8:00 A.M. April 17th. Mr. Penney will send reminders of this meeting and the April 21st dinner.

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING MAY 15, 1967

Convene: 8:00 A.M.

Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Mr. Alan Shaw, Mr. Frank Copp, Mr. Howard Whitmore, Mr. Joseph Selden, Mr. John B. Penney, Recreation Commissioner.

Minutes of the March 20th meeting were read and discussed.

Mr. Selden reported that the Mayor had told him verbally the following: That the Infirmary land would not be used for anything other than recreation while he was Mayor, and he intended to turn it over for Recreation use before his term of office ended. The Mayor is not going to recommend anything but the minimum of land taking to build the new Day Jr. High School. The Mayor intends to take no action on Victory Field because of the conditions relating to use of Stearns and Allison which were included in our recommendation concerning Victory.

It was agreed by the Commission to go ahead with plans to use Stearns this summer instead of Victory (even though the District Supervisor Miss Swartz believes that Vistory makes a better playground)....

Mr. Penney reported that the School Department had turned over to the Recreation office the request for both the Newton Indoor Tennis Club and the Newton Tennis Associates to use Newton South High School gyms for indoor tennis. Since N.I.T.C. does not wish to play on Sundays, and the N.T.A. meets Sunday mornings they do not conflict; and since the N.T.A. contributes to the expenses incurred by N.I.T.C. in marking the gyn floor periodically they see no need to incorporate the two groups together. It was agreed to issue the permits again with the proviso that they pay their own custodian costs and restrict membership to Newton residents as in the past. Mr. Selden said he would like to know if there is still a waiting list.

Mr. Penney reported that he had been informed by the School Department that time and  $\frac{1}{2}$  pay will have to be paid for school custodians retroactive to February 1st. Mr. Penney was authorized to petition the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for additional funds to cover this cost.

Mr. Penney read a memo from Mr. Burns, Public Building Commissioner stating that the sewer and water connections for the proposed new building at Auburndale would cost an additional \$15,000 above the \$30,000 approved for construction and requesting that I petition for additional funds. The Commission authorized Mr. Penney to petition the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for these additional funds. It was pointed out that our original capital budget request for \$50,000 go into account to cover this possible cost.

Mr. Penney reported that another proposal had been made to make a portion of the Burr Playground into a parking lot during construction of the Bigelow Jr. High School. At a meeting of the traffic Commission, Mr. Penney opposed this unless there was determined to be a public safety problem or a burdensome policy problem involved. Mere convenience of the teachers and construction workers or to avoid parking on neighboring streets was not sufficient reason to deny children the play space. The Traffic Commission has adopted another plan which does not call for use of Burr Playground for off-street parking.

Mr. Penney reported that unusual pressure from the neighborhood on the Mayor's office had forced him to cancel permit of Bryant & Stratton team use of Lincoln Playground. This may force a reexamination of the Commission policy of allowing B. U. to use Auburndale diamond although no complaints have been had from there. Mr. Shaw pointed out that the original granting of the use to B. U. was to be of a temporary nature until their new diamond was constructed.

Mr. Penney read a letter concerning the High School dance for Halloween, which is included below:

- TO: Paul Goldman, President P.T.A., N.H.S.
- William Herwitz, President P.T.A., N.S.H.S.
- David Hirsberg, President N.H.S., Student Council
- Stephen Lampert, President N. S.H.S., Student Council
- Richard W. Mechem, Principal, N. H.S.
- William D. Geer, Principal, N.S.H.S.

Gentlemen:

Since the closing of the Totem Pole Hall at Norumbega Park in 1963, the Newton Halloween Committee has had great difficulty in planning and conducting a successful Halloween dance for high school students.

In the spring of 1964 a committee of students and faculty from both high schools met with us, and it was decided not to hold any dance in 1964. This was done, but the lack of a dance was decried by students and PTA representatives and the public that fall. In 1965 a dance was planned with student representatives from both schools and held at the Sidney Hill Country Club, with an attendance of 746. This same format in 1966 attracted only 331 students. Discussions with students and faculty at both high schools this spring has shown continuing lack of interest on the part of both students and faculty representatives.

Therefore, at a recent evaluation meeting of the Halloween Committee, it was decided that due to the apparent lack of interest by students, lack of enthusiasm about the need for a Halloween dance by faculty, and financial losses suffered by the Newton Recreation Department and Halloween Committee Fund no further plans will be made to conduct a Halloween Dance for high school students by the Halloween Committee. However, the Hallowed Committee stands ready to assist and cooperate with plans for such a party provided that there is a genuine interest shown by the students and that the PTA initiates and assumes responsibility for the success of the party, as is the case with all other parties at the elementary and junior high levels.

This letter is being sent to student government, faculty, and PTA representatives this spring so that action can be started now if it is determined to have any kind of party next fall.

Sincerely yours,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

The Commission accepted the reasons for the letter and expressed interest in hearing of any reaction. Mr. Penney reported that none had been received to date.

Mr. Penney reported that the N.S. H.S. tennis night light contract was still incomplete.

A petition by the Society of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel of which Mr. Nunzio F. Leone is chairman for the use of Hawthorne Field on the weekend of July 15-16 for a small carnival and band concert. The unique traditional aspect of the Annual Religious Procession which features this festival was pointed out in a petition from thirteen other neighborhood Nonantum organizations which waived their rights to petition for a similar carnival. The Commission agreed to allow this use of the playground which is a departure from the usual policy of prohibiting the use of mechanical carnival rides on the playground. This permission is only for this year subject to review. Mrs. West went on record as minority of one against this permission because of the trouble we have had with other organizations over this same type of use. The Commission charged Mr. Penney to caution the group about not allowing any gambling or alcoholic beverages and that they are responsible for police protection.

Mr. Penney brought up the telephone complaint of a Mrs. Klein next to the Richardson Playground of balls coming over the fence and breaking windows of her car. She requested a sign prohibiting ball playing in the corner of the playground next to her house. Mr. Penney noted that an addition to the fence was made last year after previous complaints from her. Mr. Jones has informed Mr. Penney that the City refuses to accept liability for such incidents, but in his opinion the City is obligated to provide as much protection as possible to playground abutters. Mr. Selden noted that he knew the former owners of this house and that they had never complained. Mrs. Klein bought the property about three years ago and children have been playing ball there for years. It was agreed that Mr. Penney would not post any signs restricting play, but that he would investigate the need for additional protection fencing.

Mr. Penney noted that he had allowed the use of N.H.S. courts for the N.E. Open Tennis Championships in conjunction with the Newton Squads & Tennis Club in June, Commission agreed that this was good use of Newton's Recreation facilities.

Mr. Penney brought up the request of the National Research Corp. (located on Charlemont St. and Needham St.) for the use of four tennis courts on a Saturday for employees tournament. Commission approved use of any hardsurface courts for this.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
JUNE 19, 1967

Convened: 8:00 A.M.

Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Mr. Alan Shaw, Mr. Frank Copp, Mr. Howard Whitmore, Mr. Joseph Selden, Mr. John Penney, Recreation Commissioner.

The matter of the extension of the permit of the Society of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel to use the Hawthorne Playground on Thursday and Friday, July 13 and 14, in addition to use on Saturday & Sunday, July 15 & 16, approved at the last meeting was discussed. Mr. Penney noted that this would mean setting up on Wednesday and interference with the playground program for three days out of a week instead of only one on Friday.

Mr. Copp moved, seconded by Mr. Shaw, that the permit be extended to include Thurs. & Friday with the proviso that they not be allowed on the playground to start any set up until the end of the playground day on Wednesday, July 14th. Motion passed 4 to 2. In favor: Mr. Copp, Mr. Selden, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Whitmore. Opposed: Mrs. West, and Mr. Penney. Mrs. West again wished to be recorded in opposition to the mechanical rides being allowed.

A representation of citizens attending the meeting: Mrs. Nancy Donahue, Mrs. Ethel Mitchell, Mrs. Patricia Lane. They represented a petition signed by many citizens stating: "We the undersigned taxpayers of Newton protest and question the large increase in the cost of the swimming permits and the method of payment for these permits, because we feel they create inequities and hardships in our City. We request the subject to be opened for further discussion."

The also presented a statement as follows: "The opening of the Gath Memorial Pool last summer was a great morale booster for the residents of Newton. It is a facility that should have been provided many years ago, but now that we have it the recent rise in rates presents a financial burden on families with several children.

Mr. Penney has stated that the costs of maintaining our swimming facilities should not be shared by all the residents of Newton. We feel that this is not fair. All the residents of Newton share in the cost of all city services. The recreation department should not be any different.

Not all residents of the city use every service that is available. Many parents pay school taxes every year, but their children do not attend Newton schools, the same applies to our police and fire departments, they are very necessary, but what percentage of our citizens use them?

We feel that the Recreation Department is very necessary for our children. They need something other than schooling and home. Maybe our village squares and street corners are adequate for some, but are we going to encourage this type of recreation. Would we rather pay the rising costs of vandalism, or give our youth worthwhile and wholesome recreational facilities. Vandalism costs are shared by all, whether they are involved or not.

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We feel we would rather pay for added recreational facilities, and present ones, through our municipal budget, as we do for other services provided by the city."

A discussion followed in which several matters were brought up. Mrs. Donahue expressed an opinion that permits for all recreational activities be issued automatically to all residents without charge. Mr. Selden pointed out that the cost of operation of recreation and the department budget is going up. It will be much harder for the Recreation Department to receive adequate appropriation from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen unless we can show some receipts to offset costs. Mrs. West pointed out that the provision of recreation is not mandatory by statute as is the case with schools, police, etc. Mrs. Donahue suggested a \$10 family plan. Mr. Penney spoke in opposition to a family plan because this would mean issuance of adult permits automatically whether they are desired, or not and the verification of the number of persons in each family. Mr. Penney pointed out that the most complaints referred to the hardship of large families. Mrs. West asked the ladies if they would be in favor of coin operated tyrnstyles, all were opposed to this.

The ladies also presented complaints about the leadership on Franklin Platground. Mr. Penney said he would present their complaints to the district supervisor for action and see that the donditions improved.

Mr. Whitmore questioned about the ages of the youngsters bringing up the point that most youngsters over 12 yrs. have some means of earning enough money to buy a permit. One of the ladies suggested sewn on patches on bathing suits in place of tags.

A Mrs. Scopato came into the Meeting and was recognized. She protested the costof replacing permits at the original price. She feels that the replacement cost should be reduced for lost permits and a spot check of permits introduced to prevent use of lost permits by other people.

Mr. Shaw moved that lost permits be replaced at one half original cost upon proper application by an adult. Passed 6 to 0.

Mr. Penney recommended that in order to reduce the hardship on large families all student permits over and above four in one family be issued free of charge upon application together with reasonable proff, such as birth certificate. Mr. Shaw seconded. Mr. Whitmore questioned whether it should be over three per family. Mr. Selden expressed his opinion that no change in rates should be made at all. Mrs. West felt that a reduction such as Mr. Penney proposed for large families would be good public relations. Mr. Copp stated that coin operation would eliminate a lot of problems of validation. Voted on Mr. Penney's motion, 5 in favor, 1 opposed. (Selden)

It was noted by Mr. Copp that the whole question of permits should be reviewed at the end of the season.

Minutes of the May 15th meeting approved.

= Voted that Mr. Whitmore replace Mr. Shaw as delegate to Community Council along with Mr. Penney.

Mr. Penney reported that the Board of Aldermen had approved our additional \$15,000 for the new Auburndale Field House to cover cost of water and sewer connections through ledge conditions. Mr. Copp questioned whether the building was to be moved. Mr. Penney noted that it would have to be moved some 200-400 feet to make swwer connections, but that this has approval of supervisor

William Barry, and leader Chub Ryan, who knows the area best.

The Board of Aldermen also approved \$5,000 additional for use of schools to cover cost of time and one half pay just established.

Mr. Penney noted that the hard situation existing in the office with Mrs. Quinn gone and no replacement yet recruited, Mrs. Shea out indefinitely with family problems and Mrs. Smith scheduled to go into the hospital for tests.

The matter of the joint school-recreational use of schools plan was discussed. The Commission went on record approving the use of Northeastern Co-op students if approval can be obtained from the Mayor. The Commission is concerned about the differential in pay proposal in the plan vis a vis present department schedule of pay for leaders. They had no solution but noted that it would make morale problems.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 A.M.  
Next regular meeting is September 18th.

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MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION- JUNE 28, 1967

Time: 8:00 A.M.  
Place: Home of Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West  
Present: Mrs. West, Mr. Shaw,  
Mr. Copp, Mr. Penney  
Absent: Mr. Selden, Mr. Whitmore

Mr. Penney brought to the attention of all the fact that the Board of Aldermen on the evening of June 19th had passed a resolution as follows:

Resolved:

That the Board of Aldermen be recorded against the increase in cost of use of swimming facilities in the year 1967 over 1966, and be it

Further Resolved:

That the Board of Aldermen recommends that the rates of 1966 be restored, namely one dollar for children and three dollars for adults.  
Resolution offered by Alderman Burke  
Seconded by Alderman Magni

Adopted 21 Yes 1 Nay 2 Absent  
(Nay - Alderman Flaschner, Absent - Aldermen Glovsky and Hovey)

Mr. Penney then read an opinion from the Legal Department stating that the Recreation Commission had the power to set the fees without approval of the Board of Aldermen.

Discussion followed. It was the concensus of those present that the overwhelming vote by the Board and some of the opinions expressed by Aldermen as reported in the newspaper showed that the Recreation Commission was in a poor position from a public relations point of view. That it would be better part of valor to bow to the expressed will of the Board of Aldermen, and attempt to get our story across at a later date.

It was voted (4 to 0) to restore the 1966 rates (\$1 for students and \$3 for adults) in accordance with the Board of Aldermen resolution as of June 29th. Rebates to those who purchased permits under the higher fees previously in effect would be handled by the Commissioner through the City Treasurer's office since the funds have already been deposited. It was voted (4 to 0) also to issue replacements for lost permits at one half the original cost (50¢ for student and \$1.50 for adults.) It was voted (4 to 0) to recind the vote of the Commission on June 19th giving free student permits to more than four to a single family.

A letter prepared by the Commissioner to be sent to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen explaining the position of the Commissioner on the matter of fees and desire of the Commission for improved and additional facilities was considered. Several changes were suggested. (A copy of this corrected letter is to be attached with these minutes in the Commission minute records).

It was decided to issue a report to the newspaper stating only that the 1966 rates were being restored and the administrative procedures involved. The letter is to be sent to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen directly with no copies to the newspapers at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

12<sup>th</sup> ...  
M.L. ...  
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION  
September 11, 1967 - 8:00 A.M.

Present: Mrs. West, Messrs. Copp, Selden, Shaw, Whitmore, Penney.  
Mrs. Marjorie Lesbirel was introduced to the Commission. She will act as Secretary from now on.

1. Minutes of the June 19th regular meeting and June 28th special meeting were approved.
2. Monthly reports of activities and maintenance for March, April, May, June, July, August were distributed.
3. Proposed playground on Turnpike land in the Hunnewell Hill section of Newton Corner.

A group of residents have signed a petition for the City to acquire a 5 acre site at the end of Grasmere Street bordering the toll road. Alderman Hopkins introduced a resolution to this effect, which was referred to Public Works Committee. Commissioner Penney was called to report to them August 17. He investigated the land, met with the residents, checked child population in area etc. In his report to Mayor and Public Works Committee he noted increasing child population as new families buy older homes, and the fact that this section of the city north of Washington St. and east of Newton Corner was classified as "inadequately served by existing recreation areas" in the 1963 Community Renewal Report. This established a definite need. However, the piece of land has many drawbacks as to shape, location, orientation, access, hiddenness, etc. He recommends that the area towards Boston not be acquired, but that the end nearest Grasmere could serve with minimum of development. Engineering department estimates maximum cost of \$38,000 for fencing, access road, loam 6" deep, seed, fertilizer. Mr. Penney reported that the Public Works Committee wanted the whole Commission to consider the petition, and perhaps meet jointly with them at later date.

Discussion followed. All members had seen the property in question. Many defects in the property for playground use were pointed out. General consensus of commission was unenthusiastic, but recognized the need of a play area in this section of the City. Commission was generally opposed except perhaps for a small area near Grasmere Street end for children under eleven years at minimum of cost. Commission members willing to meet with Public Works Committee at their request.

4. Petition by some adults and youngsters from Nonantum for a place to operate go-carts and mini bikes.  
Commissioner Penney reported his conversation with boys to the effect that they have tried to use Our Lady's parking lot, and contacted various stores with parking lots - to no avail.  
Commission agreed that our facilities are not suitable for this use, and department no place to offer.
5. Discussions of upcoming meeting with School Committee on September 18th to consider joint school dept - recreation dept. program in new Burr, Hyde, and Carr gyms. Entire Board in general agreement to work cooperatively with schools on this.

- 6. Report on Carnival held at Hawthorn Playground in July under auspices of Society of Our Lady of Carmel. Mr. Penney provided a detailed report of notes he had observed and had from Police department, Miss Swartz, Mr. Shea, and a neighbor. The original request was from the local group, but the carnival itself was run by a commercial operator. This led to various complaints - ran a dozen mechanical rides instead of three, trucks and trailers arrived on grounds three days early, police had to close down several gambling games, people living on grounds in tents and trailers caused disturbance, setting up and closing down lasted all night long and disturbed neighbors etc. Commission voted not to allow carnivals of this type in the future.
- 7. Mr. Whitmore raised the question of how the fees at Crystal Lake and swim pool would be handled next year to avoid the trouble we had this year. He suggested that a member of the Commission be appointed to (with the help of the Commissioner and department staff members) make an objective investigation on beginners such as: review of permit system, costs of operation, costs of control systems, locker problems, peak attendances, practical applications, methods used at nearby pools outside Newton, etc. Purpose to try to establish a policy applicable over the next few years. Mrs. West appointed Mr. Whitmore a chairman of this study committee to report findings to whole commission in December or January in time for 1968 Budget hearings.
- 8. Commission approved use of Hawthorn Field on November 11th by Boston University varsity team.

Adjourned 10:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Marjorie Lesbirel  
 Secretary

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(attached to case records in appropriate number)

On September 26, 1967, Mr. John Finelli (whose name appears on the deed records in 1922 as Justice of the Peace) came in to the Newton Recreation Board Office and gave to Recreation Commissioner, John B. Bennett, the following verbal account of the purchase of Hawthorn Playground (as recorded by Mr. Bennett directly following the interview)

Mr. Finelli approached Mayor Childs in 1921 with a proposition that the City buy some vacant land on Hawthorn Street for a playground. Other sections of the City had playgrounds but lots of children were playing in the street in this neighborhood.

Mayor Childs was reluctant to propose an appropriation to buy. So a group of people in the area began to raise money from the people in the area (mostly Italians) collecting nickels, dimes quarter - anything. Raised some \$2500.00. Contacted owners of the property. Agreed to sell for the assessed value. Needed \$5000.00 for land. Mr. Finelli then contacted Joseph Jamison, who contacted men like Auer, Frank Richardson, Judge Bacon etc. who raised the remaining money amongst their friends and turned the money over to this group.

Joe Jamison and Loretto Gentile, acting as trustees for the Hawthorn Playground bought the property and turned it over to the City in 1922.

The property involved corresponds to about one half the present size of Hawthorn Playground. The land on which the building now stands was added to as was the area around the tennis courts. In the deed transferring the property to the City the following wording is used:

“We, Joseph B. Jamison and Loretto Gentile, Trustees, for Hawthorn Playground, both of Newton, Middlesex County, Massachusetts for consideration paid, grant to the City of Newton, a municipal corporation, existing in the County of Middlesex aforesaid with quit-claim covenants but in trust nevertheless to be held and maintained by it as a public playground for play, sport and physical education as provided by law, the land in said Newton described as follows:”

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD

MONDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 16, 1967

Present: Mrs. West, Messrs. Copp, Selden and Shaw, Penney, Mrs. Lesbirel, Sec.

Guests: Mrs. A.G. Asaff - Mrs. Prendergast, Mrs. Lowell and Alderman Hopkins

Meeting called to order by Mrs. West

It was suggested that the minutes of the joint meeting of the School Committee and the Recreation Commission be distributed to all Commission Members for review when received from Clerk of School Committee. Commissioner Penney pointed out that co-operation between the Recreation Department and the School Physical Education Program were already in progress at the Burr School, but not a formal joint program.

Reviewed again the situation on the Carnival at Hawthorne.

Commissioner Penney reported that he had had an interview with Attorney Finelli who gave him a report of how the land for Hawthorn Playground was purchased by public subscription and given to the City. This information is now attached to the deed records in the department files. (Mrs. West suggested that perhaps some form of recognition could be given for this good work - a write up in the paper or some similar thing.)

New Business

Mrs. West informed the group that she had been informed that the residents of Parker House (elderly citizens) felt that Mrs. Robert Toher has generated much good will in her dealings with the people there.

Capital Improvement Projects:

Commissioner Penney reported that construction and work on Capital Improvements is underway. Hard surface courts at Peirce and Hamilton has been refinished, new basketball court at Newton Centre, new tennis courts at Ward: new play equipment area being constructed at Hawthorn.

Mr. Penney reviewed the lighting situation at Newton South High School tennis courts. The installation of poles is not yet acceptable; but a change order is being processed, which we hope will clear up the discrepancies. Mr. Selden noted the probable necessity for money to be used in resurfacing these Newton South High School Courts next year. Mr. Penney stated that there was a drain that will cause major repair to the asphalt. He also said that vandalism has been extremely bad this year to the nets at N.S.H.S. They have been torn, cut, and pulled down repeatedly. Recreation Department has had to replace them several times. These things have all caused complaints by tennis players in this area.

There have been some unfavorable comments as to the condition of the Newton Centre courts this year - some due, no doubt, to extreme wet weather through the summer and some partly due to the fact that a new and inexperienced but willing and good man, took over the care of the courts this year. It has also been very difficult to locate clay which is necessary to replace surfaces of courts in order to make them more stable.

Two Guests at Meeting #1-Mr. A.G. Asaff

Mr. A.G. (Ernie) Asaff supplemented his letter with a personal message advocating a lighted baseball field. Although he is interested in lighting for baseball, he also feels that lighting could increase participation in other sports as well. Mr. Asaff has been instrumental in increasing the number of teams and participants in baseball by older youths and men through the organization of the Newton twilight leagues in cooperation with the Recreation Department.

He believes that more facilities for all ages - day or night - will be necessary as more adults participate and take an interest in physical fitness, and that the availability of sports both to see and participate in, is most desirable. Mr. Asaff has spoken to Mayor Basbas regarding this subject. He has gathered information regarding construction and operating costs etc. of the Boston lighted field. He feels that lights would give "two parks for the price of one" and could also be used for bands, drill teams etc. He gave copies of this information to Mayor and aldermen during 1967. Mr. Asaff says that the Mayor and Aldermen gave him favorable comments and suggested that the Commission include this in the 1968 budget, since it has to be initiated with the Commission. He mentioned the possibility of getting Federal money by lighting North and South High School Complexes. Mr. Asaff feels, that with imagination, many adults could be served now that there is more leisure time available to them. Mrs. West pointed out to Mr. Asaff that the Recreation Commission has had this in Capital improvement plan, but it is a delayed priority. In answer to Mrs. West's questioning Mr. Asaff gave the breakdown of Newton teams involved as follows:

Babe Ruth League	21 teams	(15 youngsters per team)	Total	180 boys.
National "	18 teams	" "		270 "
American "	7 teams	" "		105 "
Little "	5 leagues,	includes approximately		2,000 "

Mr. Asaff suggested the selection of Newton Highlands Playground as the site to light.-- Some of the reasons for this choice are: Parking available, possibility of tennis, baseball and football - all as one big complex - serviced by one set of lights. (Boston Park Dept. has an arrangement like this). Allison was also mentioned as another possible location as well as Newton High School. Mr. Selden pointed out that there are many local problems involved with residents who are opposed to lighting. There would also be the necessity of screening lights to prevent vandals from breaking them. Mr. Asaff pointed out the possibility of a high use by older groups than the "school boy" age. Interest by college level coaches - Mr. Pelligrini, coach of Boston University is interested in keeping college teams in the local area during the summer. Mr. Asaff estimated that such a lighted facility would be in use six nights a week.

Mr. Penney says the cost of construction would be in the vicinity of \$55,000.00. Mr. Asaff feels that this is a good time politically to make the request in the 1968 budget. He also suggested that it be called a "Recreation facility" rather than "Baseball lighting".

Mr. Asaff was told that the Recreation Commission will give serious consideration to this subject but cannot say what the final decision will be until after discussing this in the course of preparing the 1968 budget request.

Guest #2 - Mrs. Prendergast, Mrs. Lowell and Alderman Hopkins

There is a letter on file concerning the proposed playground on Massachusetts Turnpike land in the Hunnewell Hill section, signed by a group - requesting a playground for about one hundred and fifty children. At its last meeting, the Commission considered this question and sent a letter to the Public Works Committee recommending,

Guest #2 - (continued)

at most, a small area for young children. The visitors, however, do not want this type of playground. Each family in the area seems to already have their own "tot lot" in the backyard. What they want is a play area for boys about seven to fourteen years old. They state it is a neighborhood of older, large houses, ten to twelve rooms and many children (families of six to ten children). The boys now play in the streets and are very noisy. Parents receive constant complaints, and are afraid for the children due to the traffic.

The Turnpike property is the only vacant land available in this area which is firm and level. Alderman Hopkins pointed out that even this is very limited in size. He points out that conditions in this area are probably settled now since the installation of the Turnpike. Traffic is very bad coming out of Hunnewell Ave. in the morning. Alderman Hopkins pleads for "tax-dollars" to be re-assigned to this area.

Mrs. Prendergast said she didn't feel that access for cars to the playground to be a necessity, or even desirable to residents. They mainly want the playground for these boys, seven to fourteen, who could walk there easily.

These visitors went on to suggest that an area of vacant, privately owned, land adjacent to the Turnpike Land be acquired also. It is a plot of "land locked" property evidently useless to almost any other group - with no access except over this Turnpike land. There are approximately two acres of wooded, hilly land, near the Brighton Faneuil Section. Mrs. Prendergast suggested this would be nice for coasting in the winter time.

According to Mrs. Lowell, what they need is a field for the boys to play ball in, not necessarily a formal field, but in general area of a soft-ball field. Mr. Shaw pointed out that a very high fence might have to be constructed if balls could be batted out into a 70 mile-an-hour traffic condition on the turnpike.

Mr. Penney in a previous memo to the Public Works Committee, recommended not taking over the entire property. He feels that a portion of the property on the Grasmere St. end would be the best. This area would be large enough for a modified ball diamond (not over 200 feet) large enough for play, but not for organized sports with other teams coming in.

Mr. Hopkins recommended to Commissioner Penney that he "take the bull by the horns" and advocate taking this entire area regardless of cost - developing parts as needed. Each part to be developed as needed and as money became available. (this would include the privately owned property previously mentioned.)

It was pointed out by the Commissioner that this piece of private land would be very difficult to police and supervise because of its relative isolation and as it is heavily wooded. Alderman Hopkins feels that if it was taken over by the Recreation Department, they could then prevent improper use of this land by clearing out scrub etc. for better coverage.

The visitors were told that the matter could not be decided upon at this time, and would have to be worked out jointly with the Public Works Committee. (visitors left)

The Commission continued discussion on this subject but agree that policeing this land would be extremely difficult. It was pointed out that it would be possible to grade and make a 200' soft-ball field with cage backstop plus a basketball court in an area less than the total acreage.

Points to be checked on and clarified:

- 1. Is there a "right-of-way" over Rivet Lathe land? Could this end of the piece be used for other than playground use?
- 2. Find out from Mayor Basbas if cost of land has been discussed with the Turnpike Authority.

Commission decided to notify Public Works committee of this visit and state again that we are available to discuss this matter in joint session with them.

Final Item discussed:

POP-WARNER FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Re: Use of Lighted Field

Up to the present, lights at Albemarle Field has been used free of charge only by the Recreation Department sponsored activities. Pop-Warner Football League would now like to use these facilities without charge.

It was decided to all free use of the lights by the Pop-Warner League, subject to the Commissioner's discretion for budget control.

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Marjorie Lesbirel  
 Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY

NOVEMBER 20, 1967

Present: Commissioner, Penney, Mrs. West, Messrs. Selden, Whitmore and Shaw and M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Observers: Mrs. Linwood Adams, P.T.A. Council Representative, Miss Jane Freitas  
Mr. Ed Solomon, University of Mass. Recreation Majors.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 A.M.

Minutes of October Meeting reviewed and accepted as circulated.

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COMMISSIONER'S REPORT OF DEPARTMENT FUNCTIONS - Mrs. West reports that she has personally observed the new hardsurfact court at Newton Center and the tennis practice area in use and was gratified to see the frequent use they are being put to.

Ward School tennis courts and "ewton Centre basketball courts are almost complete: Hawthorn Playground play apparatus area is nearly finished. The play apparatus area is now being used by approximately 35 children each day, whereas prior to its installation, Hawthorn did not attract young children.

Hawthorn fields used for High School and Newton Soccer Club year around and LaCrosse in the Spring. This limits its use for neighborhood children. It may be possible to use Allison field next year with the new addition of combination movable and adjustable goal posts.

Installation of a Bocci court and hardsurface basketball court at Hawthorn next year will increase its use for the neighborhood.

Newton South High School Tennis court lights construction is now complete but waiting for final legal department acceptance.

Commissioner Penney distributed an inventory booklet, compiled by the City Planning Department, of the Newton Recreation Department equipment and facilities. (This book describes, in detail, previous Recreation Analyses, Planning Standards and an actual inventory of present Recreation facilities throughout the City.

USE OF SCHOOLS, YOUTH CENTERS AND NEW GYMS: Indoor Season at Youth Centers has begun. Warren Junior High School has a Friday evening program for High School age students. The Recreation Department provides Custodial Service this evening. There is adult chaperonage.

There is also a Youth program in progress at Newton South High School. This is a cooperative arrangement with the PTA and Student representatives working together. Mr. Sid Shulman, formerly very active in a similar program at Meadowbrook Junior High, is very interested in the present program which is utilizing the Cafeteria. An "Open House" type program has been very popular, with various activities such as ping-pong, games etc. Coke is available. There was a ban on smoking but Mr. Shulman checked with the Fire Department and now, as long as the students smoke

only in this restricted area, the Cafeteria, permission has been given. The Commissioner has allotted 2 custodians for duty on this evening.

The Pilot Program, combining Recreation and School Department Physical Education activities, has been delayed until the beginning of the year but the Recreation Dept. is making separate arrangements as follows: It is anticipated that the playground at the new Burr School will be in a great deal of use. Supervisor Barry and Mr. Ryan, Recreation Leader, plan an additional use of the playground with many more activities being participated in by many groups. The Principal of this school favors the use of the Playground as much as is feasible. (It was recently determined that some of the principals do not like to have children in the playgrounds adjoining schools after school closes. It is the policy at these schools to send the children home.)

Hyde School in Newton Highlands will be using their new gym facilities with the cooperation and help of the Recreation Department and the PTA organization.

Carr School is handling their own program at present.

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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON HALLOWEEN: Generally reported to be very successful. Excellent reports on parties held in the various grade schools. A particularly good and novel party at the F.A. Day Junior High School was held, with much active participation by many of the young teachers.

Bigelow Jr. High party at the YMCA was not particularly successful and was poorly attended.

Clafin School: New interest is being shown in reviving the parties.

Those schools that would not hold parties were generally found to have principals who were not in favor of the parties.

The High School Student Council decided not to have a party this year. Part of this disinterest may be due to the fact that there are daily examinations during all of this Halloween week and many students feel they cannot really participate in Halloween and do justice with exams at the same time.

Commissioner Penney received very few reports of vandalism over Halloween. The Recreation Department has not received the formal police report on Halloween as yet.

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Preliminary Report on Crystal Lake and Gath Pool:

Permits sold at Gath Pool	- Total 3,821		
3,283 student permits		\$6,519.00	
538 adult permits		2,084.00	
			\$8,603.00

Permits sold at City Hall Recreation Dept.

	Total 580		
377 student permits		814.00	
203 adult permits		203.00	
			\$1,655.00

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Preliminary Report on Crystal Lake and Gath Pool: (continued)

Permits sold at Crystal Lake

	Total 3,062		
2,099 student permits		3,383.00	
963 adult permits		3,479.00	
			\$6,862.00
Total Revenue from Permit Sales	\$17,120.00		17,120.00
Total Revenue from Guest Swims @ 50¢ each	121.00		121.00
Total Revenue from Locker Rentals (at Gath Pool) @ 10¢			577.10

(There were also 180 permits issued to the Welfare Dept. at no charge)

Total	\$17,818.10
Less refund by Treasurer	<u>4,342.00</u>
Grand Total	\$13,476.10

Last year (1966) 6,987 student permits Attendance was down this year due to a cool  
 This year (1967) 5,759 student permits summer, probably less use this year than  
 last which was extremely hot.

Last Year (1966) 2,330 adult permits  
 This Year (1967) 1,704 adult permits

Approximate cost of operating both facilities was \$30,000.00 (for personnel only)

A complete report, in depth, will be provided in the near future.

ITEM #4: Transfer of ALBEMARLE LAND TO SCHOOL DEPARTMENT FOR THE F.A. DAY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

No definite action taken at this time.

ACTION ON PIECE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE RIVER STREET PLAYGROUND: Commissioner Penney reminded the Commission of its previous vote to abandon River Street Playground once the new Burr School Playground was ready. It was voted unanimously to declare the River Street Playground surplus and no longer needed for Recreational and Playground purposes.

*Prison St.  
11/20/67*

REVIEW OF RECREATION DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES AND PROGRAM: Commissioner Penney informed the Commission that Mayor Basbas has suggested the possibility of using interested citizens to study and make recommendations regarding the Recreation Department program and facilities. Commissioner Penney has previously favored a professional consultant. Some concern was expressed by commission members, to a large study committee of citizens. Mr. Whitmore suggested a small citizen committee, plus limited professional consultation and interviews, of citizens, might be the way to limit confusion.

Commissioner Penney said he would check the N.R.P.A. for their recommendation of a professional consultant.

It was also suggested that each member of the Commission, present their ideas at the next meeting as to how, why, and what would be the best method of obtaining the most pertinent information from the Community, in order to make recommendations and suggestions on this matter.

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COLD SPRING GOLF COURSE PROGRESS: A great deal of interest is evident in this Golf Course Plan. Commissioner Penney was invited by a church organization in Newton Highlands, to speak on this program early in November, describing the initiation of this Golf Course Program and the progress that has been made so far. On December 13th, the Kiwanis Club of Newton has invited him to speak on this Cold Spring Golf Course program.

Originally the city debt limit had been a factor in disallowing loans to complete this project, however, recent legislature now allows, under circumstances, loans to be made for a Recreation facility of this type. It will be necessary to charge a fee to golfers using this course, to defray the costs of construction.

These various points have been covered in informal conversation between Mr. Penney, Mr. Selden and Mayor Basbas. (Mr. Shaw also strongly stresses the need for acquiring the necessary land in this area as soon as possible and while it is still available.)

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POLICE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, REQUEST FOR USE OF HAWTHORN: Two representatives of the Police Athletic League came in to the Recreation Department office to see Commissioner Penney. They would like to make Hawthorn the headquarters for their Youth Program. They propose to use the gym one night and the playground several times a week (Mr. Hamilton of the Recreation Department would be there.) While Hawthorn gym is used almost every night for various recreation programs, their program, as it stands now, would not interfere with any of the present programs.

Commissioner Penney raised the question as to whether the Recreation Department should actively "back" this program - to the extent of paying custodial fees, etc.? He feels that excellent relations between the Community, Police and Recreation Department will be achieved in this program.

The Commission, voted in favor of the use of Hawthorn by the Police Department. They decided, at this time, to delay any action as to custodial fees.

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FERNALD SCHOOL - REQUEST TO JOIN PEABODY SCHOOL SUMMER DAY-CAMP PROGRAM: A group representing Fernald School, met with Commissioner Penney regarding the involvement of 15 children, all presently living at Fernald School but children of Newton Residents. The Fernald Organization would like to have these children take part in the activities of the Peabody School Summer Day Camp. However, this would involve considerable extra expense by the Recreation Department (cab fare alone from Fernald to the Day camp area is @ \$10.00 per day for 5 children, or a total of \$30.00 per day). One of the important questions raised being - why these children were not living at home? Fernald representatives said that this was due to "certain circumstances" and that they are willing to give reports on those children that they propose to have participate.

FERNALD SCHOOL- REQUEST TO JOIN PEABODY SCHOOL SUMMER DAY-CAMP PROGRAM: (continued)

Cost for these additional children would be about \$1620.00. 50% of this, or \$800.00 would be paid by the State. Cost to the City of Newton for the Season, would be between \$800.00 and \$900.00 (including transportation and extra leaders). Mr. Penney is not ready, at this time, to make a definite recommendation without further consultation with the State Department of Education and School Department, Special Education personnel.

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OTHER BUSINESS: Also discussed was the new Newton High School Recreation facilities. It is hoped that the program will include facilities for community use, including the pool. Many recreation facilities were included in the original plan but were labeled not necessary for the school program by the principal. Original specifications recommended by the Physical Education Department were cut back approximately 40%. These included a larger swimming pool, locker facilities, a lobby, a college-type "cage" or drill shed. The cage could be used for indoor track activities, etc. Mayor Basbas will allow Mr. Penney to meet with the School officials and architect, to plan these facilities, but reserves judgment on what will be allowed to be included in the final plan.

The next Recreation Commission Meeting will be an evening meeting on December 18th. Mrs. West will be unable to attend after December 10th, as she leaves for England and Germany for the Holidays.

There will be a reception given by the Playground friends and neighbors for retired leader, Mrs. Edith Wolcott, on November 29th. Mr. Penney and Mrs. West will attend, in addition to other members of the Recreation Department, present and past.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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SPECIAL RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING

NOVEMBER 29, 1967

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. West, Messrs. Selden, Whitmore and Copp.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.

A special meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, November 29, 1967, at 7:00 P.M. at the Recreation Department office at City Hall. Notification of the meeting was filed with the City Clerk at 2:10 P.M. Tuesday, November 28, 1967, and notices delivered to the Commission members.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was VOTED: That the Recreation Commission of the City of Newton hereby declares the herein-after-described portion of the Avery Memorial Park, so-called, no longer need for recreational or playground purposes:

Beginning at a point on the easterly line of Edinboro Street, distant 322.52 feet from the accepted portion of said Edinboro Street as laid out by the City of Newton Dec. 29, 1898; thence N. 85°59' 59" W., 310.00 feet across the end of the private portion of said Edinboro Street and by land now or formerly of Thomas F. Copp and Isabel C. Copp; thence N. 22°23' 34" E., 538.76 feet over land of the City of Newton, Recreation Department; thence S. 29° 35' 19" E., 137.00 feet; thence S. 55° 21' 40" E., 108.89 feet, the last two described lines being by land now or formerly of Florence Avery Moore; thence S. 20° 44' 56" W., 142.03 feet; thence S 68° 26' 31" E., 78.95 feet, the last two described lines being by land now or formerly of Elizabeth Hedland; thence S. 45° 57' 36" W., 85.68 feet by land now or formerly of Orvil F. Hagaman and Isabel C. Hagaman; thence S. 7° 10' 01" W., 118.27 feet by land now or formerly of Fred L. Atwell to the point of the beginning.

The above described parcel contains 106,889 square feet and is a portion of Lot 2, Section 21, Block 22, in the records of the Assessors.

It is recorded as Parcel A. on Plan N-78 36986 of the City Engineer dated April 14, 1967.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

JBP/ml

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November 29, 1967

Honorable Mayor Monte G. Basbas  
and  
Board of Aldermen  
City Hall  
Newton Centre, Mass.

Gentlemen:

I hereby certify that at a duly-called meeting of the Recreation Commission of the City of Newton on November 29, 1967 at 7:00 P.M. in the office of the Recreation Commissioner, at which a quorum was present, the following vote was taken:

On motion duly made and seconded, it was voted; That the Recreation Commission of the City of Newton hereby declares the herein-after-described portion of the Avery Memorial Park, so-called, no longer needed for recreational or playground purposes:

Beginning at a point on the easterly line of Edinboro Street, distant 322.52 feet from the accepted portion of said Edinboro Street as laid out by the City of Newton Dec. 20, 1898; thence N. 85° 59' 59" W., 310.00 feet across the end of the private portion of said Edinboro Street and by land now or formerly of Thomas F. Copp and Isabel C. Copp; thence N. 22° 23' 34" E., 538.76 feet over land of the City of Newton, Recreation Department; thence S 29° 35' 19" E., 137.00 feet; thence S. 55° 21' 40" E., 108.89 feet, the last two described lines being by land, now or formerly of Florence Avery Moore; thence S. 20° 44' 56" W., 142.02 feet; thence S 68° 26' 31" E., 78.95 feet, the last two described lines being by land now or formerly of Elizabeth Hedland; thence S. 45° 57' 36" W., 85.68 feet by land now or formerly of Orvil F. Hagaman and Isabel C. Hagaman; thence S. 7° 10' 01" W., 118.27 feet by land now or formerly of Fred L. Atwell to the point of the beginning.

The above described parcel contains 106,889 square feet and is a portion of Lot 2, Section 21, Block 22, in the records of the Assessors.

It is recorded as Parcel A. on Plan N-78 36987 of the City Engineer dated April 14, 1967.

A true copy.

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

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3-11-67

November 29, 1967

Honorable Monte G. Basbas  
and Board of Aldermen  
City Hall  
Newton, Mass.

Gentlemen:

At the regular meeting of the Recreation Commission of the City of Newton, held at the Recreation Department office in City Hall on November 20, 1967, at which a quorum was present, it was voted to declare the River Street Playground no longer needed for recreational and playground purposes.

The Commission's vote was based upon the recognition of the new Burr School playground site now available in the vicinity for neighborhood use and Recreation Department programs.

Very truly yours,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Department

JBP/ml

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY EVENING

January 15, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. West, Messrs, Shaw and Copp and  
M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Minutes of November Meeting were reviewed and accepted as  
circulated

Minutes of Special Meeting were also reviewed and accepted  
as circulated

I. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. On January 2, 1968, two new Recreation programs were begun at the Hyde and Carr Schools. This is a joint effort of the Recreation and School Departments. Two student leaders from the Northeastern Co-op. program will be provided and paid for jointly by the two departments. Since a portion of this program will be funded on the Federal "work-study" basis, it will cost the Recreation department budget approximately \$45.00 for the two students each twenty hours per week.

Mayor Basbas approved starting this program in January.

2. NEWTON HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROGRAM: An architect has been selected for the High School. The School Department is now developing specifications for this building. Commissioner Penney went before the Aldermanic Board to encourage and suggest facilities which could be used for Community Recreation, as well as, student activities. The specifications presented by the School Principal are lacking in a lobby and locker space for the public to use the pool, a simulated outdoor area to be used for inclement weather sports practice and indoor track and tennis, handball and squash courts, etc. Commissioner Penney is now meeting with the principal and physical education people to incorporate community recreation needs in their specifications.
3. SKATING AT PONDS: This was finally achieved but with considerable difficulty. Just as the ice became thick enough for general skating, a major snow storm covered the area. While the ice was thick enough for skating, it was not thick enough to hold the heavy equipment necessary to remove the extra heavy, water laden snow. It was tested each day until the continued cold made it practical to clear.

A skating derby planned for Sunday, January 21st. This will be held at Crystal Lake at 2:00 P.M. - weather permitting.

4. SKATING INSTRUCTIONS AT CRYSTAL LAKE are not available to children from six years of age. General skating instructions and speed skating instructions will be conducted by Ruth Moore, Speed Skating Champion. Newspapers and schools were notified that this program was available. Registration is now in progress.

Junior Hockey program: This year the junior hockey program has been shifted from a staffed departmental program to a citizen's volunteer group, coordinated by the Recreation Department. There are more children involved this year. More ice time has been available at MDC rinks. The Department still pays for the rental of ice and some equipment.

- 5. MASSACHUSETTS RECREATION SOCIETY: On February 13, 1968, the Newton Recreation Department will act as Host at a noon meeting to be held at the Sidney Hill Country Club. All Commission members are invited to attend. The speaker will be Katherine Allen, Dean of the Boston Bouve College.

II. COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. Boston University - Mr. Vic Stout, has again requested the use of the ball diamond at Auburndale for a Varsity baseball site. This requires no special treatment for practice on the field. Boston University pays a fee for preparing the field for games; which covers our maintenance cost. In the past this use has not interfered with anyone or any program. There have been no complaints from neighbors in the past. It was voted unanimously to allow this use - unless the diamond should be found to be needed by Newton School teams.
- 2. Petition from Nonantum residents: A Petition was presented to the Commission requesting the use of Hawthorn Playground "One week in the month of July each year by the St. Mary's of Mt. Carmel Society" Petition was signed by residents and friends of the Society. They would like to be represented at the Recreation Commission Meeting when this comes up for decision. Since there was so much difficulty last year when this group held a Carnival, it was suggested that a small group of no more than three persons represent the Society, (Mr. Dominic Messena, Chairman of the Celebration Committee, the Spiritual advisor and chairman) be invited to attend the February Commission Meeting, for a hearing on this subject.

III. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Turnpike Land - There has been no action taken on this land by the Aldermen at the close of 1967. However, it was carried over into the 1968 Aldermanic Docket. With regard to access, Commissioner Penney has been in correspondence with the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority. They do hold a right-of-way about fifty feet, across the Rivet Lathe Land, so that this area is accessible from the Boston end without going over private property, should it be decided to use this land or a portion thereof for some use other than playground.

It was decided by the Commission members to table this issue at the present time and until such time as the Public Works Committee of the Board of Aldermen desires further discussion.

- 2. SWIM FEES - 1968 - Action on this issue was postponed to the next meeting of the Commission in February, after the Investigative report is available.
- 3. EVALUATION OF DEPARTMENT PRIORITIES: While Commissioner Penney was in Florida attending the NRPA convention, he spoke with the former Washington D.C. Commissioner who is doing this type of evaluation study. He has worked with citizen committees. Mr. Penney is also going to contact the NRPA New England representative about the availability of a consultant to work with the Commission on such a study. It was generally felt by the Commission that a small, carefully chosen group of citizens could be included in the committee, to work with a professional consultant. No formal vote was taken on this issue pending further study.
- 4. BIOLOGICAL CONSULTANT - It was generally felt that this was a good program and should be continued this year.

- 5. Day Junior High - (land transfer from Albemarle Playground) Commissioner Penney reported that the Board of Aldermen took no action on this matter in 1967 and it was not carried over for the 1968 Board.
- 6. River Street land - Commissioner Penney reported that no action has been taken by the Mayor regarding the Commissions vote to discontinue this property for playground use.
- 7. Construction Projects - Since the contract work for the Newton South High School lights has not yet been accepted, the money will be carried to 1968 to be held until payment can be made.

The Auburndale Skate House cannot be worked on during the winter but will be completed in the Spring. The work on hard surface courts not completed, will be finished with the funds carried over into 1968.

IV. NEW BUSINESS: Budget - Executive Session. All Commission Members were given a copy of the preliminary budget for study and suggestions. The Executive Session will be held next Monday evening, January 22, 1968 at 7:45 in the Recreation Department office.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Marjorie Lesbirel  
 Secretary

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SPECIAL RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING

JANUARY 22, 1968 - 7:45 P.M.

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. West, Messrs. Copp, Selden, Shaw and Howard Whitmore, III, M. Lesbirel, Secretary.

A Special meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission, meeting in executive session, was held at the department office at City Hall on Monday, January 22nd at 7:45 P.M. to consider the 1968 budget request.

Copies of pages from the 1968 Preliminary Budget Request, pertaining to New Equipment and Capital Improvements were distributed to each member of the Commission for review. Copy of memo to Mayor Basbas from the Commissioner concerning personnel recommendations was also included.

M. Lesbirel  
Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY EVENING

February 26, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. West, Chairman, Messrs. Shaw, Whitmore, Selden, Copp and M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Minutes of January meeting were reviewed and accepted as circulated.

I. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

A. Skating - Commissioner Penney noted that Newton has enjoyed many more days of skating at the local ponds this year, than in recent years. Once it was established, the attendance has been excellent. It was noted that Crystal Lake has been available for skating more than the other areas of Bullough's and Auburndale (18 days in January, opposed to 8 and 6 in the two other areas) probably because of the quality of the ice. Due to Crystal Lakes open area, the water froze into a clear hard "water ice". At the other areas a snow storm shortly after freezing caused a slush condition that did freeze but the ice was of a somewhat grainy "snow ice" which does not hold up well in a thaw condition. Possibly these conditions did reflect the big difference in attendance at Crystal.

It was also noted at this time by the Commission members, that the dredging and cleaning of Bullough's Pond would likely improve the quality of the ice in this area.

B. Lake Swim Schedule (neighboring towns) Commissioner Penney provided the board members with a comparative report of the local Lake swim area and nearby Lake areas in Wellesley, Needham and Natick. Incorporated in this report were: operating hours before close of school, operating hours after close of school, weekend hours and a few "special" explanations as to schedule in these other areas. It was also noted by Commissioner Penney that while the surrounding towns do have longer and wider beach areas with a smaller population served, that by comparison, Newton with its smaller beach area and much larger population, gives as much if not more swim time to the individual.

C. River Street Playground Land - This item is on the 1968 Aldermanic Docket and was referred to the Public Works Committee. This is being held at present, with no action taken at this time.

D. Avery Street Land - It is the Commissioner's understanding that an agreement with the heirs of this property has been reached but that no further action need be taken on this matter by the Commission. The previous vote is sufficient.

E. Commissioner Penney - has been invited by the PTA Council to speak at their March 7th meeting. His topic, at that time, will be "The Recreation Department".

*Review of Committee*

II COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Pop Warner League - seeking audience. In a communication with Commissioner Penney, the League has requested that a delegation of four men, be permitted to attend the next regularly scheduled Recreation Commission Meeting to present and explain, what the organization is now doing and how it is being handled.

It was agreed by the Commission, that this would be acceptable but due to limited space, it would be advisable to limit the delegation to only three persons. Commissioner Penney will advise the League of this decision.

III OLD BUSINESS

A. Delegation from St. Mary of Carmen Society: At the January Recreation Commission Meeting, a petition was presented requesting the use of Hawthorn Playground for "One week in the Month of July each year by the St. Mary of Mt. Carmel Society." Since there were many abuses of a similar permit granted to them last year, it was suggested that a small group be invited to attend a hearing on this subject.

Alderman Magni, plus Mr. Leone and Mr. Scarsella represented the Society. They agreed that there were many difficulties last year due to the fact that the man contracted with to operate the Carnival, ran the affair in a high-handed manner, ~~disregarding~~ disregarding the desires of the local citizens, the Recreation Department and the Police Department.

Commissioner Penney reviewed the board's dissatisfaction with the abuses that occurred at that time - early arrival on the playground, more mechanical rides than agreed upon, people living in trailers on the grounds, attempted gambling, loud noise late at night etc. However, the Commission is still interested in hearing the Society's position.

All members of the Commission agreed that the basic premise of the affair, (its attempt to keep an old cultural pattern alive) was good. Alderman Magni and Mr. Leone stressed the fact that they would cooperate fully with the Recreation Department. They have tentatively retained a new Carnival operator (one previously employed by the ArchDiocese and the Cardinal) They suggested that before the permit would be granted or the final contract made, that they meet here at City Hall with Commissioner Penney, the Carnival Contractor, Captain Quinn of the Police Department, Mr. Leone and Alderman Magni, to see if they could find a format acceptable to all parties. They feel they can give reasonable references from satisfied former patrons, plus a reference from the Cardinal, if it is necessary.

The delegation feels that they made a bad choice in the Carnival Operator last year but hope to rectify the situation this year with a good Celebration. It is their big "fund raising" event of the year, necessary for the carrying out of their many charitable affairs, so this serves a two-fold purpose, religious as well as financial. It was also pointed out that it would be necessary for the Carnival to last a week as originally petitioned for, but would run probably - from Friday evening to Sunday evening - incorporating in to this time, the Religious procession or parade from the church to the playground, the band concert, the Carnival and the returning torchlight procession back to the church with the Statue.

Commissioner Penny interested in the affair as a unique cultural event. Alderman Magni reports that the Mayor is in favor of this, providing that Captain Quinn of the Police department finds all in order.

The Board stresses the fact that no gambling will be acceptable. Commissioner Penny, will meet with the Society representatives, Mr. Magni, Captain Quinn and the Carnival contractor some time in the near future.

The final disposition of this matter will be voted upon at a later meeting by the Recreation Commission.

B. SWIM FEES: Mr. Howard Whitmore is working on a report regarding the swimming fees. Commissioner Penny will work with Mr. Whitmore to get this completed and in written form to the members before the March meeting.

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Next Commission meeting will be held on March 18, 1968.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY EVENING

March 18, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penny, Messers Joseph Selden, T. Frank Copp, Howard Whitmore III, and M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P. M.

Minutes of February meeting were reviewed and accepted as circulated.

1. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

(a.) The Commission noted with regret that Mr. Alan Shaw, who has served in the Commission since 1963, has given Mayor Basbas his resignation, effective immediately.

(b.) Monthly report for February was submitted by Commissioner Penny on the various areas and programs.

Carr School Physical Education and Recreation program, a new program, recently received an excellent newspaper write up in the Newton-Waltham Tribune on March 14, 1968. The new Hyde School program is also developing well in their new gym.

(c.) Commissioner Penny reported that the Board of Aldermen had assigned the portion of so called, Avery Land, to be used for and by the School Department for the New Day Junior High.

(d.) It has been recommended by Mayor Monte G. Basbas that the city make an effort to acquire a parcel of property known as the "Webster Estate" land. Application was made to H.U.D. (Housing and Urban Development) for permanent "open space land for recreation purposes". The cost of this acquisition is approximately \$304,210.00, if approved with H.U.D. supplying one-half of this amount. A letter to the Housing & Urban Development by Commissioner Penny, approving the application of this acquisition was endorsed by all the Commission members.

2. OLD BUSINESS

(a.) POP WARNER LEAGUE. On March 5, 1968, Commissioner Penny wrote to Mr. Frederick Dalicandro, President of the Newton Pop-Warner League inviting he and his delegation (at their previous request) to attend the meeting of the Recreation Commission this evening in order that they might present their ideas and plans for this years season.

Fred Dalicandro, President, Ted Pleuler, Financial Secretary and Mr. Keefe, attended the meeting. They explained that their organization is now organized under the direction of the National Pop-Warner League with their own franchise in Newton. This Newton League was increasing in size and organization until it presently consists of the above officers, plus a fifteen member Board of Directors, who meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

They feel that this now reaches boys who for various reasons, would probably not be in any other organized and equipped football league - in particular, boys from schools that do not have organized football (Our Lady's) or boys, due to smaller stature who do not make Junior High Teams.

It is organized into 3 Divisions at present with competition for boys in a carefully comparative age and weight class. Boys must submit proof of age (either birth certificate or Baptismal record at time of first weigh-in, plus doctors certificate of good health. Various rules and regulations of National Pop-Warner organization were presented.

Mr. Dalicandro expressed appreciation for free use of night-lighted field. The Pop-Warner officials requested the Recreation Department to aid them further financially (possibly aid in cost of officials and maybe footballs for each game.) He says their expenses are very high and while they do have many "fund raising" ventures, and do have people helping out, they still are not solvent. It costs approximately \$4000.00 to outfit one team. It would cost about \$600.00 for 3 officials and the balls for a series of six home games. It is Mr. Dalicandro's belief that Wayland-Cochituate is aided by their Recreation department and that Waltham and Watertown aid financially. It is their hope that a similar program to the Babe Ruth League could be worked out. Commissioner Penney pointed out that the Recreation Department originated the Babe Ruth Fanchise and it was started by the Recreation Department. It was also pointed out that it would be difficult to help them and not help other organizations who request aid (such as Little League).

Mr. Dalicandro said they would be willing to open their financial records to the Recreation Commission and also provide seat to a Recreation Commission member on the Pop-Warner Board of Directors.

After the delegation left, a discussion by the Commission members followed. Mr. Penney pointed out that we would be setting a precedent if we did aid the League financially beyond just the playing field.

One point that Mr. Selden made was the fact that while at the time of the year, the fall, when the boys were practicing, the playgrounds are not covered by their leaders.

Mr. Copp felt that he would be opposed to aid unless the Commission was presented with a much clearer picture of the League's financial status. Mr. Whitmore had examined briefly, the financial record which they brought. Mr. Whitmore felt that while the record seemed well done, it was brief and could benefit by a more complete, double entry system and a better auditing statement. He expressed an inclination to sponsor them further financially.

Final disposition was not made at this time.

- (b.) CARNIVAL BY ST. MARY OF CARMEL SOCIETY -Request for use of Hawthorn Playground. Reviewed original request and letter which Commissioner Penney sent to Society redarding meeting with Carnival operator, Larence Carr, Mr. Penney, Captain Quinn, of the Newton Police Department and Mr. Leone, representative of the Society.

After discussion, the Commission members felt they would like to give the Society one more chance. However, this would necessitate, Mr. Carr the Carnival operator, to sign an agreement with the City of Newton, re-affirming his original promises as to carnival equipment, uses, time, care of playground, operation of concessions, etc., set forth in letter of March 11, 1968.

A motion was made by Mr. Copp and seconded by Mr. Selden. It was voted unanously to allow the Carnival (according the the stipulations in the Commissioner's letter of March 11, 1968)

(c.) SWIM FEES FOR SUMMER SEASON -(Mr. Whitmore's report supplied to each Commission member by Commissioner Penney) After reviewing Mr. Whitmore's excellent report in depth, it was generally agreed that if the Commission anticipated reducing the deficit reflected in last years figures, it would be necessary to increase the swim fees in some manner this year. It was also pointed out by Commissioner Penney that it is necessary to anticipate expenses that, at this point, do not actually show in the report - such as staff raises, the opening and closing of the pool which originally were taken care of by the contractor in the initial operation and later by the Building Department. A ruling by the comptroller makes this a Recreation Department expense from now on.

Various methods of issuing swim permits and collecting swim fees were discussed. Many were excellent as far as revenue or check for Newton residents, but too involved or complicated for limited personnel to handle.

It was finally agreed by the Commission, that Commissioner Penney confer with Mayor Basbas regarding this problem and ascertain his recommendation on this issue. These views can then be reviewed at the next Commission meeting in April and acted upon at that time.

Recreation Commission Meeting adjourned at 10:35 P.M.

Next Commission meeting will be held on April 15, 1968

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY EVENING

April 15, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. West, Chairman, Messers Joseph Selden, Howard Whitmore III, and M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 8:25 P. M.

Minutes of March meeting were reviewed and accepted as circulated.

1. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

- a. Monthly report on programs and attendance were not ready at this time due to the fact that Miss Swartz was working on Playing field permits at present. Most indoor programs ended with the exception of the Carr and Hyde Schools. These two programs are continuing under the leadership of North Eastern students.
- b. Commissioner Penney presented each Commission member with a recent newspaper release describing the early opening of all the Recreation Department tennis courts. Due to the Spring weather, it was possible for the maintenance department to ready the courts for play at an earlier than usual date.
- c. Extensive repairs have been made at the two main batteries of courts at Brewer Playground, Newton Centre and at Newton High School in Newtonville. New clay was added to those courts to fill in depressions where water and loose red coat tended to collect last year.

Other clay courts available are at Hawthorn, Nonantum, Cabot Park, Newtonville, and Lyons Playground and Auburndale. The clay courts at Angier Playground will be rebuilt into hard surface courts this year. This will give Newton 20 clay courts and 50 asphalt courts - open for public use.

For the first time, night-lighted facilities will be available at the Newton South High School courts. These twelve courts have been accepted by Commissioner Penny, as complete, upon the advise of the legal department and an outside consultant. An Astronomical time clock is being installed now and the switch will be set with the coming of daylight saving time, at the end of this month. This clock will compensate for change of sunset times throughout the summer and, it is hoped, will eliminate the necessity for an attendant on duty.

Tennis permits will be ready for sale at the various clay courts about April 18th.

A major rebuilding job will be done on the asphalt courts at Newton High School this year. These courts have been subject to cracking ever since they were built ten years ago.

Mr. Whitmore reported that on this past weekend, all the tennis courts in areas that he visited, were in heavy use.

Two new courts are now available at the Ward School playground. These courts were constructed last fall and final sealcoats were applied this past week, Commissioner Penny said.

- d. FINAL 1968 BUDGET APPROVAL - \$30,175.00 was approved for Capital Improvements; \$17,000.00 for school areas and \$13,175.00 for playground areas. \$100,000.00 was cut out of the budget for acquisition of land for the Cold Spring Golf Course project.

Money was appropriated for the position of a new Recreation Leader.

A new position for a Time & Construction clerk was again turned down by the Aldermanic Board but money was appropriated for three more temporary laborers than in the 1967 budget.

Some new equipment was allowed: a tractor and 7-gang mowing unit, 4-wheel drive 3/4 ton truck and 4-wheel drive Jeep-type.

### III COMMUNICATIONS & BOARD OF ALDERMEN

- a. On April 9th, Alderman Auryansen brought in a petition signed by some of the abutters to Hawthorn Playground, protesting a request for a Carnival to be held by the Mt. Carmel Society at this playground.

The Commission members discussed the situation again and feel that there seems to be a preponderance of support for, rather than against the Carnival and feels that with certain restrictions (already agreed upon by operator and Society) that the Carnival should be allowed. It was agreed that Commissioner Penney would write to the Petitioners explaining the situation.

- b. Board of Aldermen resolution - Recreation Commission Membership. It has been suggested by some Aldermen that the Recreation Commission be increased to eight members, plus the Commissioner. They feel that in this way all Wards of the City would be represented.

The members of the Recreation Commission expressed opinions, pro and con, concerning this proposal. It was decided not to oppose this move.

- c. Other Action by the Board of Aldermen

1. Hammond Pond Parkway land - Approximately 30 acres of land, west of Hammond Pond Parkway and North of the Temple. So called "Webster" land to be purchased for open space purposes. Subject to acceptance by Federal HUD fund action.
2. Minot Place Land - This is private property required for entrance to the new Day School.
3. Old Bowen School - School to be sold, land to be used for Garden-type apartments.
4. Conservation Commission appointments - Mr. David Skein and Mr. Ray Tighe were appointed.
5. Survey of Senior Citizens - Mayor Basbas and the Board of Aldermen approved funds to conduct a survey of all Newton Senior Citizens to ascertain their needs and desires. Letters and questionnaires have been mailed out to all Senior Citizens. Mrs. Toher, Mrs. West and Mr. James Murphy (all of the Recreation Department) have worked with the Community Council to complete this program. There will be a luncheon for Senior Citizens on May 15th.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Swim fees - Commissioner Penney issued to each Commission member, a further recommendation of his, recently sent to Mayor Basbas, based upon Mr. Whitmore's Analysis of the Swim Fee Schedule.

After review by Commission members, it was generally agreed that this was the most satisfactory arrangement of fees and manner of collecting these fees. It was recommended that Commissioner Penney contact Mayor Basbas and suggest the Mayor arrange a meeting with the Board of Aldermen to gain approval for these recommendations.

- b. Ellison Fund - Mrs. West reported that she had contacted one of the Ellison heirs to find out if it was acceptable for the Recreation Commission to purchase equipment for the Hawthorn playground. The old records state that the fund "is to be used for permanent equipment at the playground in Nonantum". The heirs said that anything which the Commission wishes to do, that carries out the idea of the original will, will be acceptable to them. Mr. Penney reported that the fund is approximately \$1400.00 He will make a recommendation at a later date.

V. NEW BUSINESS -

- a. Massachusetts Recreation and Park Society Board Members Dinner, May 15, 1968  
This dinner will be held at the Hibernian Hall in Watertown. Mr. Elwood Allen, Recreation Consultant, will be the speaker.
- b. Repairs to Building at Crystal - Commissioner Penney notified the Commission that \$5000.00 was available in the Public Buildings Department budget to make repairs in plumbing, plus some painting will be done.
- c. MBTA Fence - It was pointed out that a dangerous condition existed along the MBTA tracks just beyond the swimming area. Children have damaged the chain-link fence so that they can now go through this area and into the Lake. Commissioner Penney and Mrs. West are apprehensive that some youngster will go into this unprotected area of the Lake and drown. Prompt corrections of this condition will be taken care of, either by the MBTA or the City of Newton. Commissioner Penney will notify the Public Works Commissioner.
- d. The next Recreation Commission Meeting will be held on May 20, 1968.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY EVENING  
MAY 20, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penney, Messers Joseph Selden, T. Frank Copp,  
Howard Whitmore II and M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P. M.

Minutes of April meeting were reviewed and accepted as circulated.

1. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

- A. Monthly Reports Commissioner Penney distributed these to all board members. Reports are not 100% complete due to the fact that the office, at present, is very shorthanded.
- B. Construction projects: The night lights at the NSHS tennis courts have been working satisfactorily. One or two complaints only about unauthorized use and hogging of courts. Signs have been installed. Sidney Cohen has suggested installation of parking meters but Commissioner Penney is concerned with vandalism and theft. Mr. Cohen is also strong advocate of courts for Meadowbrook Jr. High. Mr. Selden pointed out that the championship high school teams produced at NSHS shows the value of providing sufficient facilities.

Auburndale Fieldhouse is almost complete at this time. There is still a small amount of electrical work to be done and we are waiting for the electrician. Partitions are needed in the rest rooms also. This should be open very soon.

Little League Fence at Newton Centre is nearly ready at this time.

- C. Halloween Meeting - A meeting was held with Dr. Sylvester and Mayor Basbas evaluating the Halloween program and discussing the possibilities for the upcoming year.

2. COMMUNICATION

- A. Community Council request to name two Delegates for coming year - There should be one Commission member to represent the Commission as a whole in this years board, in addition to Commissioner Penney. No delegate was definitely appointed at this time.
- B. A letter was recently received by Commissioner Penney from the Selectmen of the town of Wellesley regarding an artificial ice rink to be built by Met. Dist. Comm. They would also like to have a report on what its effect would be for Newton. They would also like to make arrangements to meet with the surrounding communities, Needham, Newton and Weston to exchange information and press for construction of such a facility. This is agreeable to the Recreation Commission unless Mayor objects.

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MONDAY EVENING - (HOLIDAY)

June 17, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. Joseph Selden, T. Frank Copp, Howard Whitmore II and M. Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P. M.

I. Minutes of May meeting were reviewed and accepted as circulated.

II. Commissioner's Reports

A. Monthly reports of program and maintenance were distributed by Commissioner Penney to all members of the Commission. Ball fields have been marked for all National League, International League, Softball, Little League, Elementary School, Secondary schools and college games and also Lacrosse games this year. All areas are ready for the summer season: raft, floats, ladders, "H" pier and side raft for sail boats were put in Crystal Lake and sand was added to beach. Sand boxes and picnic tables and swings installed in playground areas. Pool was set up at Peabody Home for summer use. Gath Swimming pool was filled and equipment put into operation. High grass was cut in playground areas, Bullough's Pond and Edmond's Park. Edmond's Park was cut, raked etc., trash taken away and barrels installed for church-school and picnics for June and July. Sub-soil was put out on each backstop for fill. Tennis courts were maintained and salted

Mrs. West reported that the tennis courts are in the best condition they have ever been (she went to most of the courts in the city and deliberately asked people how they felt about the tennis courts. Those people she talked with, felt that the courts were in excellent condition).

B. Since swimming facilities are open on June 10th, from 2:00 to 4:00 P. M. and 6:00 to 8:00 P. M., the staff for swimming at pool and Lake are arranged. Bob Jackson is manager at Crystal Lake and Jim Gifford is manager at Gath Pool.

Playgrounds will open the 24th of June. Staff is organized and plans are made for a training session on Friday and a final Staff meeting of Monday morning. After the meeting, they will disperse to the various playgrounds.

C. Commissioner Penney reported that the Board of Aldermen had acted on the Infirmary land. Effective by July 1, 1968, the transfer of approximately 20 acres of land, known as the "Infirmary Land" on Winchester St. from the Welfare Department to the Recreation Department (about 10 acres of this land may be used by School Department if needed).

III Communications

A. The Bay State Judo Club has requested permission to charge a higher fee - \$1.00 per week. At present they have volunteer Black and Brown belt holders as instructors. A registration fee of \$10.00 would be charged plus \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for juniors. They need extra funds to bring in visiting experts for special clinics and to send club members to compete in meets.

The Recreation Commission specifies that no profit is to be made and no Newton resident shall be denied membership, also that the Recreation Department would be unable to pay for the City Tournament.

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The Commission unaimously voted to allow the increase in fees with the understanding that Scholarships would be available, at the discretion of a representative or of the Commissioner of Recreation.

- B. Visit by two representative from Newton Highlands Churches - regarding the Cold Spring Area. The Social Action Committee from the Combined Weekday Church School; representatives - Mrs. William Ward and Mrs. Phillip Snodgrass. This Committee feels that the Cold Spring Areas, as it is at present is an area of danger and liability. A report was read to the Commission by Mrs. Snodgrass, explaining their ideas and proposals. (report on file)

correct

Mr. Selden pointed out to the ladies that not too many years ago a field house was constructed in this area at an approximate cost of \$20,000.00 only to be destroyed ~~within two years~~, by boys in Newton Highlands. Commissioner Penney has arranged leaders for playground activities and ball diamonds have been prepared only to have poor attendance and more vandalism. This is a fairly inaccessible and remote area and difficult for the police to patrol. Commissioner Penney said that the possibility had been discussed of incorporating some additional recreational facilities, in conjunction to the Golf Course which is now in the planning stage. Mr. Selden said that this would have the extra advantage of reaching many people in the 20 to 50 age group - plus younger people in the grade and high school levels. At present, the plan for eventual development is an eighteen hole - par 60 - golf course.

#### IV Old Business

The Commission discussed the possibility of hiring a Consultant - possibly the Allen Organization, Recreation Planners - to evaluate either the entire department or separate programs or areas.

Mr. Selden made the motion that Commissioner Penney, contact the Mayor and request permission to have Mr. Allen make a proposal. The Commission unanimously voted in favor of this.

#### V. New Business - Youth Service Board

- a. Mr. Penney explained the new Youth Center program to be funded by the Youth Service Board. The Recreation Commission will act as official City-of Newton agency, approving use of these funds by means of sub-contract to Newton Community Services Center Inc. Five areas in all - proposed to cover the different city areas. More detail on this program to be available at a later date.
- b. Mrs. West mentioned the Boy Scout troop that has met in the Field House on Tyler Terrace and spoke about Mrs. Bernard Cole (wife of leader). There is a great deal of traffic congestion on Tyler Terrace, evidently due to parents of Scouts. She has spoken to Mrs. Cole requesting one side of the street parking, but has had little cooperation. It was suggested that possibly it would be a good idea if the Scouts met at another location this year as there are many Recreation Department programs that have difficulty finding available time at the Field House.
- c. Mrs. West will be at Hawthorn playground building on June 24th at 9:00 A.M. for the opening of the July and August summer program.
- d. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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SPECIAL RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

July 15, 1968

8:30 A.M.

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. West, Chairman, Messrs. Howard Whitmore III, T. Frank Copp and Joseph Selden, and M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 8:45 A.M.

Special meeting held to review and make recommendations regarding Mayor's request to increase swim time at Gath Pool and Crystal Lake.

On Tuesday last, Commissioner Penney received a memo from Mayor Basbas, asking that the Recreation Commission reconsider the schedule for the swimming facilities at the Pool and Crystal Lake. He Recommended that they be kept open longer in the day and opened earlier. He also said he had received many calls regarding these schedules. He requested that regulations regarding the wearing of swim caps in the pool be enforced as this had been brought to his attention by various Aldermen.

On Wednesday, Commissioner Penney spoke very briefly with the Mayor regarding his memo. Explained that while the Lake is actually open at 9:00 A.M. the schedule shows a later opening as the earlier sessions are devoted to swimming lessons, but did not have time to talk further. On that same day Commissioner Penney called a meeting in his office of Mrs. West, chairman of the Recreation Commission, Mr. Murphy, Supervisor of both Crystal Lake and Gath Pool and Mr. Robert Jackson, and Mr. James Gifford, Managers of the two areas and Mrs. Delaney. At this meeting, it was recommended that swim areas continue to close for a lunch break - not only to give the life-guards a much needed break - but also so that children who came early in the day would go home during the lunch hour and have a regular lunch. It was also decided at this meeting that without further personnel and additional funds to pay this personnel, it would be impossible to keep the swim areas open continuously from 9:00 A.M. to dusk as the Mayor requested.

On Thursday, Recreation Commissioner Penney checked with the Health Department regarding regulation requiring the wearing of a swim cap in the local pool. It was ascertained that there is no State or Municipal regulation requiring the use of cap in pools.

Commissioner Penney sent memo to Mayor Basbas advising him of the meeting and the findings and his recommendation, and requested a chance to talk over the situation with him. As yet the Mayor has not called for him. An article appeared in Thursdays newspapers regarding the Mayor's criticisms.

Commissioner Penney stated that all qualified life guards that were available at the start of the summer season had been hired by the Recreation Department, and are now working - including one former guard on strike from the Telephone Co. At present, and at the schedule in effect now, we are able to adequately safeguard swimmers in both locations, but have no leeway.

Mrs. West pointed out that one of her chief objections to keep<sup>ing</sup> open during lunch time is the fact that children are brought there and left for the day with no lunch. If the swimming facility is closed, they do go home and eat. She did feel that perhaps the meal hour breaks could be shortened somewhat.

Mr. Selden feels that we should be open more due to the short season but does not want to do this at the expense of safety to the swimmers. He feels that we should request more money to meet competitive salary rates and hire additional personnel. Mr. Selden also suggested that possible we could utilize guards for more time on hot days and let them have extra time off when the weather was cold or bad.

Mr. Copp says that he feels the present closing times seem to have been well received by responsible parents as he has received calls to this effect. Parents like to know when the lake or pool actually close and when they can expect their children home.

Mr. Whitmore agrees that since so much money was spent on these areas, it is too bad that it is difficult both financially and personnel-wise, not to get more use from these facilities.

Another point brought up by Commission members was the fact that while the Aqualator is running adequately and efficiently at present, the addition of more concentrated swimming with little or no rest time for the water, might seriously detract from its present satisfaction, possibly allowing a heavy concentration of bacteria.

Commissioner Penney stated that approximately 22 extra sessions or additional guards at an additional cost of \$2400.00 could conceivably allow the area to remain open straight through without the complete shutdown. (The Recreation Dept. doesn't have this money available in its budget). Even at this additional cost, we would still be understaffed in comparison to surrounding Communities. M.D.C. pools have a life-guard staff of 12 compared to our 8 at Gath Pool and the Wellesley Lake has a staff of 16 to our 12 at Crystal Lake. Also Wellesley lifeguard starting salaries are \$10.00 a week more than Newton's and the M.D.C. is over \$20.00 more. (Each year we do lose a few of our former lifeguards to the M.D.C.)

In spite of the difficulties, the Recreation Commission voted unanimously to change the Gath Pool and Crystal Lake hours on this coming Thursday, July 18th as follows:

Week days

9:00 A.M. to 11:45 A.M.

12:30 P.A. to 4:45 P.M.

5:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. (or dusk)

(the 2:45 P.M. to 3:15 shift change would still continue, if necessary when the lake capacity of 1000 is reached and people are waiting to get in, as we have been doing at present.)

Sundays

1:00 to 4:45 P.M.

5:30 to 8:00 P.M.(or dusk)

These time changes will reduce rest and lunch periods for lifeguards by one-half hour both at noon and supertime, but would not require additional staff or funds.

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Another change necessitated by the rescheduling of personnel, will be the necessity of having an additional man from the regular Maintenance Department go to the pool to help clean decks and vacuum pool (work which is now done by guards before day schedule begins).

Commissioner Penney will write a memo to this effect to the Mayor and also request permission to release these new schedules to the newspapers.

Commissioner Penney also notified the Commission members that on Friday, July 26th, there will be a consultant here to check on the fish population at Crystal Lake as a result of Biologist Cortell's request.

Mrs. West reported that she and Mr. Penney, by letter to the Mayor, had acknowledged the receipt of Infirmary land.

Danger zones at the Lake where children are swimming unsupervised were pointed out by Mrs. West. It is hoped that the police department will enforce the "No Swimming" in these areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 16, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman; Messrs. Joseph Selden, T. Frank Copp and M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P. M.

I. Minutes of June 17, 1968 reviewed and accepted as amended; Minutes of July 15th meeting accepted as circulated.

II. Commissioner's Reports for June, July and August: Reports of the various recreation programs, attendance, maintenance etc. were distributed by Commissioner Penney to the Commission members. Commissioner Penney reported that the State Fish and Game Department had, so far, been unable to make the study of the fish population in Crystal Lake although three appointments had been made. Each time poor weather or equipment failure have made postponement necessary. However, a new appointment will be made.

III. Old Business:

- a. Revision of Commission Membership by Board of Aldermen: The Commission discussed this pending revision which is now in legislative committee of the Aldermanic Board. It has been turned over to the City Solicitor by them, for review.

Commissioner Penney has asked Mr. Morang, Acting City Solicitor, to clarify Commission and Commissioner's relation under the law, in this matter.

It is generally felt by the Commission, that these pending changes may have long-range repercussions on other existing appointed commissions within the city. The Commission members have voiced individual concern with these changes to the Alderman, but feel no official action by the Commission, should be taken.

b. Youth Center Project: Commissioner Penney distributed a copy of the Youth Center proposal to each member of the Commission. It was agreed that discussion would follow at a later date, after available information had been studied. Commissioner Penney reviewed briefly, this project, which involves the State Youth Board funding to the Newton Community Service Centers with City Recreation Commission cooperation. There should be more information available on this report by the October Commission meeting. Mr. Selden motioned to take this subject up at that time and it was so moved by the Commission.

c. Planning Consultant for Cold Spring and Infirmary Land: Upon receiving the requested permission from his Honor Mayor Basbas, to ask the Allen Associates, a Recreation Consultant and Planning Organization, for a proposal, Commissioner Penney contacted Mr. Allen and made an appointment to show him the portions of land to consider for development be the Recreation Department. These were: Cold Spring, 55 acres; Edmond's Park, 25 acres; Auburndale Playgrounf, 30 acres; and the so-called Infirmary land, 33 acres (recently acquired).

Allen Associates submitted a proposal for doing these plans, giving the following quotations on the individual plots of land - \$1,400.00 (Cold Spring) \$1,000.00 (Edmond's Park) \$1,000.00 (Lyons - Auburndale) \$1,000.00 (Infirmary). Total separately \$4,400.00. Combined as a total venture, the proce would only be \$3,800.00. After discussion by the group, a motion was made and voted to present the Allen proposal to his Honor, Mayor Basbas with a request from the Recreation Commission that the Mayor request the funds from the Board of Aldermen, to enable the Allen Associates to do the complete survey and plan a proposal.

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d. Carnival at Hawthorn Playground: Generally the carnival this year was successful. It seems to have been a better affair, as a whole, with better relations between operators of the carnival, Recreation Department and Police. One complaint was received several days after the carnival, from a Robert Berkheart, regarding damage to his fence by one of the carnival trailers. He also mentioned that trailers were going out as late as 5:00 A.M. the next morning. Alderman Magni received one call on opening night because of late arrivals.

The Police Department was pleased - they did close one game because of its gambling nature but felt the carnival was generally well run and conducted with a minimum of nuisance.

e. Playground Petition - Turnpike Lane, Hunnewell Hill: Commissioner Penney met with Mayor Basbas again last week and at that time, his Honor asked that the Recreation Commission make an independent decision.

The Commission took the matter off the table, reviewed the past action, and the Commissioner's memo to the Mayor, of March 1st (recommending use of only a portion of the property for a playground).

It was voted to inform Mayor Basbas that we have received his letter and the resolution of the Board of Aldermen and that the Commission will make the study as requested. It was further determined that, in order for the Commission to make a considered judgement, they would need further information - namely - whether or not - and how much - of this land is available from the Turnpike Authority - and how much it would cost.

Therefore, the Commission voted to respectfully request the Mayor to inform them as to the availability and cost of acquisition of the land in question - possibly by October 9th, the date of the next Recreation Commission meeting.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Review of policy on playground use permits: During the summer recently past, Commissioner Penney received a request from the Newton Draft Counseling Center for the use of Newton Centre Playground for a "Rock-band" concert and a "Street Theatre" performance. After checking further, there seemed to be some discrepancy on just what they did want and a question of whether either of these activities would cause a disturbance to neighbors. Commissioner Penney refused their application as an "unusual request", (i.e. ordinarily the use is for sports or picnic - neither of their uses fell into this category) which should be considered by the whole Commission. Commissioner Penney then received correspondence on the request from Mr. Huber, to which he replied, saying that it was being held for Commission consideration. He also received a telephone call from Alderman Flaschner, to which he gave the same answer. With members of the commission out of town and away on vacation, it was not possible to call a special meeting. After consideration of the repercussions possible, Commissioner Penney requested advice from the legal department.

Commissioner Penney now requested the advice of the Commission on this request. A discussion brought out several possible problems relative to the community, as well as the Recreation Department - such as disturbance to neighbors, other playground users, etc. Mr. Selden noted that sometimes function of this type may bring an element from outside of the city and also attract a certain group more prone to "incite and promote" agitation which would not be desirable in the Community or on the playground. Commissioner Penney noted that the Newton Draft Counseling Center had been asked to submit a full description of what was planned to do at the playground so that the Commission could give their request proper consideration. However, no answer has been received.

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It was suggested by the Commission that a definite ruling be made on this subject, together with development of guide lines for the Commission, at a latter date, when a complete Commission was on hand. Meanwhile, if the Commissioner was confronted with a decision of this type, he was advised to call a Special Meeting of the Recreation Commission or hold the request for a regular meeting. The Commissioner's approval of a request by the Republican Committee for a "Candidates Rally" and Alderman Flachner's letter of September 9, 1968, concerning both requests was discussed.

The current thinking of the Commission is, as expressed in the discussion, to refuse permits for Politically oriented meetings.

b. It was agreed by the Commission to allow a permit for the Boy Scouts to meet at the Newton Center Field House. The parking problem on Tyler Terrace caused by large meetings involving Cub Packs and Girl Scouts was discussed and it was decided that the Commissioner should investigate further, to see if either of these uses should be restricted.

c. Twilight League Banquet: September 25, 1968. Conflict with Testimonial for Chief Purcell on the same night.

Chief Quinn would be happy to have the Commission members come to the Testimonial after the Twilight League Banquet. As they will not be able to be there for the actual banquet, he suggested they donate \$5.00 (if they wished) to be used for a gift for retiring Chief Purcell. Mr. Penney, Mrs. West and Mr. Copp, will attend the sports banquet and go later to the testimonial. Mr. Selden will attend the Chief's Testimonial.

d. Next Commission meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 9, 1968 because of inability of Commissioner Penney and Chairman, Mrs. West, to be in attendance on the regular meeting night in October.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

NOVEMBER 18, 1968

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman, Messrs. Joseph Selden, T. Frank Copp, and M. Lesbirel, Secretary, Howard Whitmore.

MEETING called to order at 7:00 P.M.

I. Minutes of September 16, 1968 meeting reviewed and accepted as circulated.

II. Commissioner's Reports:

- a. At this time, Commissioner Penney informed the Commission that Mr. Frank Shea, Recreation Foreman, will return to work on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 1968 on a part-time basis, after his recent heart attack.
- b. Reports of monthly maintenance and attendance were distributed by Commissioner Penney to the Commission members. It was requested by the board, that if possible, these monthly maintenance reports be included with the minutes of the previous month at the same time when they are sent out to the members so that they might view them more fully before the regular meeting.

III. Old Business:

- a. Revision of Commission Membership by Board of Aldermen: Since there has been no further information regarding this revision and no report from the Legal Department, it was decided that no further action was necessary at this time.
- b. Youth Centers Project: More information is now available on the Youth Centers. At this time, there are two centers in operation: one at Warren Junior High School in West Newton on Friday and Saturday nights and one - a Coffee House - on the lower level at the Congregational Church in Newton Highlands Square on Friday night. Good attendance in both centers.

These programs are funded by the State of Massachusetts and each center will have an advisory board composed of adults and students. The Recreation Commissioner is on the Advisory Committee, together with Director of the Newton Community Service Center, Tony Bibbo. Other members include, Judge Yesley, Officer Feeley, Attorney Peter Harrington and Representatives of the various neighborhood centers.

Presently, Newton Centre and Newton Upper Falls are attempting to form their own centers.

There are still many problems unsolved but time may correct these flaws. While the Warren Center started with great enthusiasm, there were abuses - since corrected by having a police officer assigned.

The Recreation Department has provided a leader for the gym, one evening - Chub Ryan. The Recreation Department pays for a Police and the custodial fees.

- c. Planning Consultant Park areas: In September a proposal to His Honorable Monte G. Basbas concerning a development proposal requested and received from Allen Associates, regarding Newton lands: i.e. Cold Spring, Edmands Park, Auburndale Park and the so-called Infirmary Land. After study, the Mayor indicated that he would advise putting a request for monies for this project into the 1969 budget request.

Commissioner Penney has since requested from His Honor, permission to retain Mr. Allen, at this time, so as to be assured of his services after the beginning of the year, but has received no answer.

(It was noted that a call had been received from Mrs. Phillip Snodgrass of the Social Action Committee of Newton Highlands, regarding the disposition of the Cold Springs area - this a follow-up of a personal visit by representatives of this committee to a previous Recreation Commission Meeting - recorded in June 17th, 1968 minutes of the Recreation Commission.)

- d. Playground Petition - Mass. Turnpike Land - Hunnewell Hill: On September 20, 1968 a letter from John Driscoll, Turnpike Authority regarding this piece of property was sent to Mayor Basbas which said that the Turnpike Authority will contact the Mayor directly, at some time in the near future, to let him know if this land is available and if so, at what cost etc. The Commission directed Commissioner Penney to wait until word has been received from Mr. Driscoll.
- e. Letter to Alderman Flashner regarding permit for Newton Draft Counseling Center was received and answered by Commissioner Penney: Commissioner Penney has been in contact with Mayor Basbas and Solicitor Morang regarding the use of Parks for this purpose. The Mayor questions the banning of all "Political" Meetings.

Mr. Penney noted that this problem had been discussed at the Seattle, Washington National Convention of the Recreation and Parks Association. The Omaha Nebraska Solicitor ruled that banning meetings of this type was a violation of the Constitution of the United States. Detroit allows political meetings, but no amplification of voices or music.

The Recreation Commission advised Commissioner Penney again to follow those guide lines set forth in the September 16, 1968 (Page 3) minutes of the Newton Recreation Commission Meeting until firm guide-lines have been adopted.

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- f. Disposition of River Street Playground by Board of Aldermen:  
At this time, a final disposition of this land has not been made  
by the Board of Aldermen. This site has been proposed for Low  
 Income Housing by the Planning Department. However, the Aldermen  
 from Ward 3 are for keeping it open.

*Review of  
land*

*(Earlier declared no longer needed by Reclamation)*

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Petition for a playground on Stanton Ave., next to Woodland MBTA:  
 A petition was received by the Recreation Commissioner from Mrs.  
 Mitchell, Jr. of 99 Stanton Ave. for a playground to serve the  
 children of that area. Unfortunately, this land is fairly a steep  
 hill with a gravel or sand base (loam has been stripped from here  
 in the past.) This property of approximately 3½ acres and located  
 on Stanton Ave. has a value of about \$10,000.00 an acre.

City of Newton Engineers evaluated the cost of grading this land to obtain a small level play area of approximately 250' x 125' - and seeding and fencing at about \$20,000.00. This would not include purchase price of course. It was noted that this playground could only service one side of Washington Street due to the heavy traffic situation.

At present, the Recreation Commission lacks information as to the number of children to be served. A motion was made and seconded to defer further discussion until such time as more information was available.

Commissioner Penney suggests actual visitation to this site (as was done with the Hunnewell Hill site) by each Commission member, to better enable them to evaluate both requests.

- b. Letter from Nonantum Post 440, American Legion, regarding Victory Field: The Commission has received a letter from this Legion Post, requesting that Victory Field be sold to them, to locate a new building on this site. Discussion followed. This site is included as a possible location for low cost housing in the Planning Dept. report.

It was noted that land contiguous to Allison Park is owned by the Atina St. Marco Society. Commissioner Penney recommends purchase of this approximately 47,000 feet of land (valued at about \$5,000.00) if Victory is declared surplus. Included in a plan of development would be Bocci Courts to replace courts that the Society has constructed.

Problem, at present, is the uncertainty of the Urban Renewal Program. They could select either Allison or Victory - or even Stearns. Presently under consideration for low cost housing are these areas, plus portions of the so-called Colletti land at Cold Spring, Ginsberg land at West Pine Street in West Newton and some in Auburndale.

Since the only possibility would be for the Commission to declare this land no longer needed for recreational purposes - which it would not do under existent circumstances - it was motioned by Mr. Whitmore

seconded and unanimously voted, that a letter be sent to Post #440, stating that, at this time, Victory Field was not available.

- c. Letter to Editor regarding use of Dickinson Stadium: Commissioner Penney reported on the circumstances surrounding this letter and his answer.
- d. Indoor Tennis Association Treasurer's Report: Indoor Adult tennis program as Newton High School on Friday and Saturday nights. Program runs from October to April. Report for 1967 & 1968; cost \$4,076.07, out-go - \$4,036.07. Balance on hand is \$40.00. Current season budget 1968 and 1969; anticipated expenses, \$4,214.00. These should be covered by players' contributions of \$4,180.00, plus a present balance of \$34.73. Reported by Dr. Victor Penzer, Treasurer.
- e. Letter from Newton Draft Counseling Center offering speaker: This letter was read to the Commission. No action - no comment.
- f. Petition to Board of Aldermen to change name of Hawthorn Playground: It was suggested that, first of all, a ruling should be obtained from the legal department, as to who is officially responsible for naming or renaming one of the Public Parks or Recreation areas - the Recreation Commission - the Board of Aldermen - or other. Also, it was decided that it should be ascertained the feeling of the neighborhood and the Legion organization, or Veteran's organization in that immediate area.
- g. Webster Property: On October 7, 1968, the City of Newton purchased the so-called Webster land for Park and Parklands, with Federal, State and City funds.
- h. Plans for Newton High School: Commissioner Penney and Miss H. Breivogel and Mr. Reggie Smith of Newton School Physical Education Department, have met several times and recommend specifications and space requirements for physical education and community Recreation facilities to be included. It is uncertain at this time just what will be approved.
- i. Joint School, Physical Education - Recreation use of Neighborhood Schools: Commissioner Penney, together with Mr. Huston and Miss H. Breivogel, of the School Physical Education Department presented a budget request to the School Board. Since this was questioned by some Board members, it may possibly be necessary to have a joint meeting between the School Committee and the Recreation Commission.
- j. Preliminary 1969 Budget: This preliminary budget has been completed and sent to His Honor, the Mayor.
- k. There will be a joint meeting of the Recreation Commission with the Conservation Commission; meeting date and location to be announced later.

1. Mrs. West advised the Commission that she had been appointed by the NRPA to be New England delegate to the governing board of the Commissioners, Branch. This requires attendance at two meetings per year.

The next meeting will be held on December 16, 1968 at 7:00 P.M.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary



NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING FEBRUARY 18, 1969

PRESENT: Commissioner John Penney, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman, Messrs. T. Frank Copp, Howard Whitmore, III.

MEETING: called to order 7:20 P.M.

I. Minutes of the November and January meeting were accepted with the following correction: Mr. Whitmore to be listed as present at November meeting.

II. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

- a. The December and January activities and maintenance reports were distributed.
- b. The attention of the Commission members was directed to the Recreation Department's mimeographed listing of all winter programs which has been widely disseminated.
- c. The order #969-68 of the Board of Aldermen of December 16, 1968 authorizing the expenditure of State Youth Service Board funds to be administered by the Newton Community Service Center under the Recreation Commission was presented. The current program of the Youth Centers was described by which hopefully will improve.
- d. Commissioner Penney reported that the Halloween evaluation by Staff and Dr. Emerson Sylvester, General Chairman, recommends a Spring meeting of PTA Halloween chairman to review past performance and make plans for next fall. 1968 attendance at elementary parties matched 1967 of approximately 6800. Jr. High attendance dropped 100 to approximately 1640.

III. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. It was noted that several Board of Aldermen docket items concerning the Recreation Commission are still pending and being held in committee.
- b. A petition of Mark Chesler et al opposed to the conversion of Cold Springs Playground to a golf course was presented. The following motion by Commissioner Penney, seconded by Mr. Whitmore was passed: "that this petition be referred to the Allen Organization to be considered when they make the proposed study of Cold Springs and other recreation park areas."
- c. A letter from John P. Alevizos requesting permission for the Newton South Little League to construct dugouts at Richardson Playground at their expense seconded by Mr. Whitmore was passed: that permission be granted subject to conditions set forth by the Recreation Commission in conjunction with other

- c. City officials (City Solicitor, City Engineers, etc.); and that no other similar request be granted for at least a year until sufficient time to been determined.
- d. A request by Marshall Glen to hold a dog obedience training match on Lyons Playground at which an admissions charge will be made, was read. The following motion by Mr. Whitmore, seconded by Commissioner Penney was passed; that the Commission be directed to issue a permit under the conditions that a donation could be collected from spectators, but that no person could be denied access to the playground for non-payment.
- e. A request from Victor Stout for use of Auburndale baseball diamond for Boston University varsity was read. Permission was granted for the 1969 season.
- f. A letter of thanks from the Second Church for the use of Edwards Park for a two week day camp in 1968 was noted.
- g. A communication from the Highland Glee Club of Newton asking financial subsidy by the Recreation Department was presented and discussed. The following motion by Mr. Whitmore, seconded by Mrs. West was passed; that the Commissioner inform the club representative that the priority of needs for the departments budgeted funds is such that the departments budgeted funds is such that the departments cannot undertake to support the club financially.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

a.b.c. The following motion by Commissioner Penney, seconded by Mr. Whitmore was passed: that any action or recommendation by the Recreation Commissioner on the matters of (a) The Turnpike Land Playground proposal, (b) The Stanton Avenue Playground proposal and (c) The reconsideration of River Street Playground be delayed pending a review of the Planning Department's Open Space and Recreation Analysis Part II, which currently is in preparation.

d.e. (Re: Re-naming Alison Park and Hawthorn. Letters sent to Tambasco and Valenzano) Order #791-68 of the Board of Aldermen and the City Solicitor's opinion that the naming and the re-naming of playgrounds lies solely within the jurisdiction of the Recreation Commission was discussed in connection with petitions to re-name the Hawthorne Playground the Sargeant Enrico Pagnano Memorial Park and to re-name to Allison Park the Private First Class Richard J. Forte Playground. The following motion by Mr. Whitmore, seconded by Commissioner Penney was passed: that these petitions to re-name Hawthorne Playground and Allison Park both be denied. That the Recreation Commission suggest to the petitioners that the residents of Nonantum consider the establishment of a suitable memorial to honor all Nonantum citizens who gave their lives for their country in all wars.

f. The newspaper article regarding the Nonantum Legion Post proposal to acquire a part of Victory Field was discussed. The following motion by Commissioner Penney, seconded by Mr. Copp, was passed: That any action regarding Victory Field be delayed pending a review of the Planning Department's Open Space and Recreation Analysis Part II, which is currently in preparation.

*Re: Alison Park*

V. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Relationship of the Recreation Commission to the Conservation Commission and the Planning Department was discussed. The following motion by Commissioner Penney, seconded by Mr. Copp was passed: that the city Planning director be notified that the Recreation Commission awaits the completion of the Open Space and Recreation Analysis Part II, and requests that he meet with the Commission at as early a date as possible following its completion and before the final draft is printed, to discuss it and other related matters at a special meeting of the Recreation Commission.
- b. Commissioner Penney reported on meeting he has had with Reggie Smith, NHS Athletic director, architects, and others with new High School plans. A swimming pool and space for indoor tennis are still included up to this time and is expected will be built. A motion by Commissioner Penney to request a joint meeting with the school Committee to reach agreement on use of these facilities was not seconded and laid over until a future date when specific information is available.
- c. Commission members were given in 1969 Final Budget as requested and approved by the Mayor, and were requested, if possible, to attend the hearing before the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen at 9:00 A.M. Saturday, March 1, 1969 at City Hall.
- d. Monday, March 17, 1969 was set for the date of the next regular meeting of the Commission. Mr. Copp recommended that the Meeting start promptly at 7:00 P.M. and continue no later than 10:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner



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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES OF THE MEETING MARCH 25, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. Joseph Selden, T. Frank Copp, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 P.M.

- I. Minutes of February meeting reviewed and accepted as circulated.
- II. Commissioner's Monthly reports of activities and maintenance, distributed and reviewed.
- III. Communications:
  - A. Upon written recommendation of Mayor Basbas, Commissioner Penney has decided to supply season permits, free of charge, to Newton Recreation Facilities (swimming, skating, and tennis) to the Board of Aldermen. The Mayor's purpose in making this request was to allow these gentlemen who must pass on appropriations and programs the opportunity, and to encourage them, to visit, at least once a year, the various facilities of the Recreation Commission. Also to be included are the Mayor and Commission members. Mrs. West stated she prefers to buy her own.
  - B. Nick Pasquaroso for the new Youth Football on South side of City: Former officier of the Pop Warner football league is now seeking to form another league for the South side of Newton - to be known as the Newton Athletic Association (primary interest football). In a meeting with Commissioner Penney, he has outline the assistance he hopes to receive from the Recreation Department: use of football fields for play and practice at Newton Highlands, Newton Upper Falls, Lincoln and Meadowbrook, a meeting place at Newton Centre, a member of the Recreation Department (preferably Mr. James Murphy) to sit on their board, lights for practice and \$500.00 in funds as a subsidy, if possible.
  - C. After discussion by the Commission, it was agreed to table this item until the next meeting or until such time as further information could be made available.
  - C. Mr. Mechum - concerning swimming pool in new school: Richard W. Mechum, Principal of Newton High School, has written to the Mayor and Supt. of Schools regarding his concern about the inadequateness of the proposed swimming facility for the new High School. He has recommeded the addition of a separate 35' X 35' diving pool. This is in line with previous recommendations of Commissioner Penney and school physical education personnel.
  - D. Newton Little League - Commissioner Penney has received a letter from the president of Newton East Little League, congratulating the Recreation Department on the work done on the Little League Fields last year and also requesting the addition of bench fencing at Bowen, Weeks, Spaulding and Oak Hill. (Note: it would be necessary to obtain permission from these schools before work could be considered.)

It was pointed out by the Commission that possible these fences might be a hazard or limit the existing areas that would also be used for another field sports.

Mr. Copp also questioned the advisability of setting a precedent which might find the Recreation Department in a position necessitating the installation of similar facilities for other leagues.

No definite action will be taken at this meeting since final approval of the budget is still pending in the Board of Aldermen.

- E. Snowmobile use on Playgrounds: Mr. Frank DiCarlo visited the Recreation Commissioner with a request to use a snowmobile on Bowen Playground. Commissioner Penney refused this permission on the ground of noise. It was brought to the attention of the entire Commission. After discussion, a motion to deny use of snowmobiles or similar vehicles on any playground (due not only to noise but damage to turf and possibility of accidents) was made by Mr. Selden, seconded by Mr. Copp - unanimously voted by the Commission.
- F. Community Council Dinner - On April 10th, there will be a "Dutch Treat" dinner held. Delegates are invited to attend. Commissioner (a delegate) will attend and will check with Mr. Howard Whitmore III (also a Delegate).
- G. Massachusetts Park & Recreation Society Annual Board and Commission Members Dinner will be held on April 9th, in the N. C. O. Hall at Hanscom Field in Bedford, Mass. Cost is \$6.50. Robert Quinn will be the quest speaker. Tables of 8 are available to members.. Commissioner Penney will make reservations for the 4 Supervisors, Mr. Frank Copp and himself (others to notify him by next week if they are able to attend - Mr. Selden, Mrs. West, and Mr. Whitmore).

IV. Old Business

- A. Visit of City Solicitor concerning Commission membership revision. At Commissioner Penney's request, Mr. Charles Morang, Acting City Solicitor, called upon the Recreation Commission to give them the benefit of his legal opinion regarding the presently proposed re-organization of the Recreation Commission, to include eight members, one from each ward, and the Commissioner.

Since this is contrary to the present State Statue, it is necessary for the Board of Aldermen to propose a change of amendment to the General Court of the State of Massachusetts. This has been prepared as directed, by Mr. Morang, according to the resolution of the Board. If accepted, the Legislature must then pass this by a 4/5 th vots. This change must be filed by March 27th.

If this is allowed by the Legislature, the Board of Aldermen would then be able to begin the revision of the Commission. Mr. Morang estimated that approximately two months would elapse before this revision could begin. If

rejected by the Legislature, the bill could be re-filed again next December, which would postpone action another year.

Mr. Morang noted that if this did pass the Legislature, it would clarify the legality of the present city ordinances, even if it were not revised.

In the discussion which followed his visit serious consideration was given to the Commission officially opposing this proposed revision in the city should the Legislature make it possible. No official vote was taken but the sense of the meeting was that the Commission should try to dissuade the Mayor and Board of Aldermen from making this change, since Commission members should view the city as a whole, rather than representing individual wards.

Consideration was given to preparing a report showing the citywide nature of recreation improvements made over the past twenty years.

- B. COLD SPRING - Letter from the Mayor to the Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources for matching funds to purchase 10.6 acres of land east of the area already City owned.

Mr. Miller, Director of the Planning Department and Mr. Penney, Recreation Commissioner are collaborating on this B. O. R. project proposal for a 66 acre multi-purpose Recreation facility, containing a 9 hole golf course, indoor skating rink and possibly an indoor tennis area.

- C. Commissioner Penney reported on cuts to date, by the Board of Aldermen - still awaiting final vote.

V. New Business

- A. Review of Planning Department Preliminary drafts of Master Recreation plan for certain planning districts to date. These were distributed to Recreation Commission for study and consideration.
- B. Review of Brookline Parks & Recreation Department regulations. Copies of these regulations were distributed to Recreation Commission members for study and consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 P. M.

Next meeting will be held on April 22nd (Tuesday due to Holiday) at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Minutes of the Meeting April 22, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. T. Frank Copp, Howard Whitmore III, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:20 P. M.

I. Minutes of March meeting accepted as circulated.

II. Commissioner's Monthly reports of activities and maintenance distributed.

III. Old Business:

A. Youth Football - South Side of City - request: It was moved and voted to accept and assist the formation of this new league to the following extent: To provide a meeting place at Newton Centre building unless it conflicts with an already established program; to provide a storage place for their equipment at the Upper Falls building (they must provide insurance coverage); to provide a representative from the Recreation Department to their Board of Directors, as requested; to work out a compromise on playing fields so that both Pop Warner and Newton Athletic Association will have a fair use of fields. The Recreation Department would also be willing, dependent upon the availability, to provide some lighting on an alternate night schedule, with the Pop Warner Football League at Highlands Playground. The Recreation Department would not be able to provide any funds.

B. Recreation Commission revision: Commissioner Penney reported that Mr. Morang, Acting City Solicitor has advised him that while the legislation has been acted upon, the legal department is still dissatisfied as they feel the issue is not fully delineated.

C. Cold Spring Land: There will be a Public Hearing held on April 28th, on the extension of Beaconswood Road for homes. According to the City Engineer, the zoning appears acceptable, but approval would have to be obtained for drainage as this is a natural drainage land and is covered by the Hatch Wetlands Act. City Solicitor advises that there would be no advantage to attending this hearing. (There will be a period of 45 days after the hearing before there is any word.)

D. Allen Organization study: Since the money was approved in the new budget in the amount of \$4,000.00, Commissioner Penney contacted the Allen organization to see if they would include the Hunnewell Hill section, as per Aldermanic resolution, for the difference in the original estimate of \$3,800.00. They have accepted. Mayor Basbas has approved waiving of bids on this contract. It is now necessary to wait for the legal department to approve a wording for this contract.

Old Business, cont'd

- E. Planning Department - Master Recreation Plan: Commissioner Penney advised the Commission members that he was in receipt of further reports from the Planning Board and will distribute them as soon as they have been photo copied. It was generally agreed that it would be advisable to have the complete report on hand before any action or recommendations be made by the Commission.
- F. Rules and Regulations: Commissioner Penney distributed to the Recreation Commission, copies of a suggested set of rules and regulations for use of playgrounds and school grounds, not covered by other City Ordinances. After study and discussion, it was unanimously agreed to approve these regulations - as to content - subject to acceptance of wording by the Legal Department.

IV. New Business:

- A. Request by St. Mary's of Mt. Carmen Society for a festival and carnival at Hawthorn Playground again this year: It was moved and voted to allow this carnival, subject to the same rules and regulations in effect last year.
- B. Next Recreation Commission meeting will be held on May 27th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 P. M.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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CITY OF NEWTON  
RECREATION DEPARTMENT

May 5, 1969

Mr. Nunzio F. Leone  
158 Adams Street  
Newton, Mass. 02158

Dear Mr. Leone:

Following are the regulations which must be adhered to to make the enclosed permit valid for the St. Mary of Carmen Society Carnival request:

1. The amusement company contracted with to handle the concessions must receive approval of Police Chief William Quinn.
2. The amusement contractor must sign a written agreement with the City of Newton spelling out the restrictions the Recreation Commission sets.
3. The number of mechanical rides will be restricted to the number the land will accommodate for the safety of the public and in no case more than ten. The amusement contractor will submit a list of rides and description to the Recreation Commissioner no later than one week before starting date.
4. No gambling concessions will be allowed either by the amusement contractor the Society or any individual or group. The Newton Police will close down any illegal games. The amusement contractor will submit a list and description of the concessions to both the Police Chief and Recreation Commissioner no later than one week before starting date. No substitutions after that allowed.
5. No setting up allowed before 12:00 noon or after 10:00 P.M. Wednesday, July 16th. Setting will not commence again until 8:00 A.M. Thursday, Carnival will operate Thursday evening, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
6. Carnival will close before 10:30 P.M. on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. All noise and lights will stop by 11 P.M.
7. No more than four male watchmen will be allowed to stay overnight to secure equipment. No families will live on the grounds. Watchmen will maintain quiet in the area from 11 P.M. until 8 A.M. At his discretion, the Recreation Commissioner may require the Society to hire a Newton Police Officer to stay on the grounds all night.
8. Carnival will close at 10 P.M. Sunday. All removal operations will cease before 1 A.M. Monday morning and will not commence again until 8 A.M. Quiet will be maintained between 1 A.M. and 8 A.M. All trucks, booths, etc. will be removed before noon, Monday.
9. Sufficient police will be hired to maintain order.
10. No alcoholic beverages will be sold or allowed on the grounds.

11. All necessary licenses and insurance will be obtained by the society and amusement contractor prior to the start of the carnival. In addition the society or amusement contractor will retain insurance coverage to replace any permanently damaged turf caused by trucks, tents, booths, etc. - or heavy foot traffic of the public. The Recreation Commissioner will determine whether turf needs to be replace within three months after carnival closes.

12. The society will see that all trash is removed and the area is suitable for public playground used before Tuesday morning.

Very truly yours,

John B. Penney  
Recreation Commissioner

cc: Chief William Quinn  
Mayor Monte G. Basbas  
Alderman Andrew Magni  
Mrs. Worthing West, Chairman Recreation Commission

REPORT ON HEARING HELD IN JUNE BY RECREATION COMMISSION AND ALLEN ASSOCIATES - RECREATION PLANNERS - REGARDING AREAS TO BE DEVELOPED IN NEWTON

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The following four large areas were presented for suggestions and recommendations from the community.

Auburndale & Lyons  
Edmands Park - Cabot Woods  
Cold Spring  
Infirmary Land

The following suggestions were made by interested citizenry:

AUBURNDALE

Pool - possibly in wooded area. (Mr. Allen noted that a pool in a wooded area was not feasible due to maintenance problems) Algae growth.

Sailing on Ware's Cove. Sailing and safe boating to be taught in school then complimented with further instructions and practical experience in crafts on the cove, such as rowboats & sailboats.

Little League Field Possible relocate in North Area

Bike Racks

Hoops and Backboards for practice

More lighting in South Area would prevent vandalism

Band concerts

An imaginative pre-school area (possible similar to Newt. Ctr.)

Shore-line fishing

Swimming in Charles once it is free of pollution (it was noted by a conservationist present that the likelihood of ever swimming in the Charles was practically nil due to the color of the water, causing a impossible visability factor.)

COLD SPRING (Approximately 60 acres)

Bicycle paths - possibly utilizing aquaduct

Hiking trails

Bridle trails

Ball field

Play area - swings etc.

Building shelter - toilet facilities

Year round pool

Day camp or Saturday nature camp

Commercial leasing - bowling etc.

Skating - winter - (possibly nucleus to use as focal point - branching out)

Small zoo

Hard surface area for multiple use

Suggest also leaving some of this area "au-naturel"

Some discussion of a small golf course

EDMANDS (32 or 33 acres of Oak forest)

Good potential for education use

Dam-excellent biology use but a limited water supply

Swamp - specimen supply - but dries in late summer

Forestry development - student participation - learning to cut

" " - learning to plant

Ski trails for cross-country skiing ( not hilly enough for down-hill skiing)

INFIRMARY LAND (Farmland along bank of Charles River - undeveloped at this time)

- Boating - canoes & rowboats (no motor craft)
- Back board for tennis and hand ball practice
- Bicycle trail
- Bird sanctuary
- Horse shoe courts
- Bowling green
- Shuffle courts
- Fishing dock
- Walking trail
- Picnic area (reserved) fireplaces & tables
- Garden area for senior citizens
- Baseball diamond
- Model Farm - live animals; chickens, ducks, sheep, lambs, etc.

It was noted that vandalism was a problem in all recreation areas and that there must be easy access for the Police Department to get in to these areas in order to effectively patrol them.

In a short commentary at the close of the hearing, at the request of Mr. Penney, Recreation Commissioner, Mrs. West, Chairman of the Recreation Commission, thanked those residents of Newton that attended for their comments and suggestions. This hearing had acted as a "sounding board of the community." Mrs. West also noted that the senior citizen now has more leisure time - with less recreation available. This will necessitate more recreation ideas for this group - and facilities - possibly within some of the Recreation areas discussed.

Mrs. West also stressed natural uses of these areas whenever possible.

Hearing concluded at 10:25 P.M.

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Recreation Commission Members: Recreation Commissioner John B. Penney, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman, Messers, T. Frank Copp, Joseph Selden, Howard Whitmore III, Dr. Burton D. Levine, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Recreation Planner - Elwood Allen and Mrs. Allen, Secretary.

Aldermen: Miss Adelaide Ball, Mr. D. Jackson, Mr. A. Barkin, Mr. W. Auryansen.

About 40 persons attended this Public hearing.

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NEWTON RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Minutes of Meeting May 27, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. T. Frank Copp, Howard Whitmore II, Dr. Burton R. Levine and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:10 P.M.

I. Minutes of April meeting reviewed. It was voted that the wording used by the secretary in writing up the minutes of the vote on the new Youth Football organization was incorrect. The corrected version of the first sentence under old business of the April 22nd meeting should read as follows:

- A. Youth Football - South Side of City - request: It was moved and voted to grant the request of this new organization to the following extent: It was voted that the Commission does not intend to "accept and assist in the formation of this new league" beyond the service it would normally give to any group of citizens with a particular interest in sports and recreation.

II. Commissioner's Monthly reports and summer plans.

Since the April Monthly report was not yet available, Commissioner Penney reported briefly on activities and maintenance for the past month. He also reported some of the problems that are presently bothering the Recreation Department at the Harry Gath Memorial Pool. There is a drainage difficulty underneath the pool due to capillary action. This is an engineering problem which is caused by an accumulation of ground water. This has caused cracks in the floor of the pool and loose tiles. Evidently a different drainage arrangement will have to be made in the future. At present it is being repaired, patched & painted. It is hoped that the Pool will open on June 7 and Crystal Lake on the 14th.

There will be a First Aid Training Session held for the Water Safety personnel on Friday the 13th.

Henry Barry and James Gifford have been assigned as managers at the swimming areas, both are teachers.

The Swimming Lessons this year will be given as a Newton Recreation Department program since the Red Cross Chapter cannot support it financially. Commissioner Penney, Mr. Murphy, Senior Supervisor and Mr. Bob Julien and Mr. Gil Champagne of the Red Cross are working out the arrangements.

This season the swim facilities will operate without breaks. The staff lunch and supper hours will be staggered. The only exception to this will be during exceptionally hot days when overcrowding occurs. Then the areas will then be closed, cleared, and reopened for a new session.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. A communication from Fred Dalicandro was read protesting the Recreation Department decision to accept the formation of a new football league in Newton. Mr. Dalicandro requested that he be allowed to come before the board and state his reasons for objection. Commissioner Penney had invited him to the Recreation Commission Meeting on this evening, and he appeared.

Mr. Dalicandro and another representative from the Pop Warner stated that basically they felt there wasn't enough room in Newton for 2 separate football leagues. Mr. Dalicandro felt that there would be many problems created by lack of playing fields ( in particular - sharing Newton Highlands field and felt that while Pop-Warner equipment was adequate, this new league would not have proper equipment, proper organization, proper coaching and would generally interfere with the work with boys 8 to 13 they were engaged in.) In brief, they object to the formation of this league and feel that somehow by accepting this new league, the Recreation Department is opposing them.

Commissioner Penney and other Commission members stated to Mr. Dalicandro that the Recreation Department had a responsibility to all Newton residents for the use of fields and that the allowing of this new group to use playgrounds in no way reflected any desire to oppose the Pop-Warner League.

After these gentlemen left, a motion was made by Mr. Selden and seconded by Mr. Copp, to request a schedule of fields and dates desired from these two leagues ahead of time.

It was also motioned to rescind the previous vote, stating that a member of the Recreation Department would be available for the Board of Directors of the new organization "Newton Athletic Association."

There will not be a representative sent from the Recreation Department for either of these two Leagues. A letter will be sent by Commissioner Penney communication this information to both leagues.

- B. Commission revision was briefly discussed but until such time as more information is available from the law department, no further action can be expected.
- C. Planning Department Master Plan - To be presented at June meeting by Planning Director - James Miller.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mr. Stuart Allen of the Allen Organization visited the Commission meeting after a day of visiting the areas of interest with Mr. Penney, which will be included in the general upcoming recreation study.

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Mr. Allen is a veteran planner with 24 years of experience in Recreation Planning (in 1965 his plan for the city of Brattleboro, Vermont won the All-American City Award).

A contract has been extended to his company signed by Mayor and the Legal Department of the City of Newton, for planning of the following areas - Infirmary Land, Cold Spring, Edmund Park, Auburndale Playground, Hunnewell Hill area and so-called Turnpike Land.

Mr. Allen spoke very briefly to the Commission regarding this study.

Mr. Allen says that he would welcome talking with various people of the community and may even hold an "idea" meeting with people of the City. He feels that there are many groups with varied interest and the Allen Organization is interested in knowing about them all. Feels that they would like to improve but not necessarily change the areas.

With regard to the Cold Spring area, Mr Allen feels that a City Golf course could pay for itself and even make money.

- B. The so-called "Ginsberg" land next to Auburndale Park sold to a developer and the area has now been staked out for single housing. Also discussion of Garden Apartments but area is not zoned for these at this time.
- C. Retirement: Miss Lillian Swartz has notified Mr. Penney, that she expects to retire after 43 years of service in the Recreation Department this June.

Temporarily Mr. George Frost will take over Miss Swartz's job as supervisor until such time as a permanent selection can be made.

Mr. Penney also is investigating the possibility of a college graduate becoming an intern.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 P.M. Next meeting to be held on June 16, 1969 at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

May 27-1969  
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City of Newton

Recreation Commission

Rules and regulations for use of playgrounds, school grounds\* and parks (hereinafter referred to as play areas) under the jurisdiction of the Newton Recreation Commission, not covered by other City Ordinances.

1. No person shall enter or leave any such play area except at the regularly designated entrances and exits.
2. No animal shall be ridden or driven through any such play area without written permission of the Recreation Commissioner.
3. No person shall drink or be under the influence of, or have possession of, any intoxicating beverage, <sup>1966</sup> within such a play area.
4. No person shall make a speech, take part in a parade or organize a meeting, or put on a performance in such a play area, without written permission of the Recreation Commissioner.
5. No electronic sound amplification device may be used in any play area without written permission of the Recreation Commissioner.
6. There shall be no parking in any such play area between dusk and dawn nor shall any person be in any such play area between dusk and dawn - except persons and their vehicles attending a special function authorized by the Recreation Commissioner - in writing.
7. No fires of any description shall be allowed in any play area except in fireplaces made for this purpose except by permit from the Fire Chief.
8. Archery, golf and model airplane flying are prohibited from all play areas except for instructional programs of the school or recreation departments duly authorized by the Recreation Commissioner.

9. Snowmobiles, mini-bikes, go-karts and other motor vehicles of this type are not allowed on any play area.
10. No swimming, wading or boating in any body of water in any such play area except by permit from the Recreation Commissioner.
11. Public attire must be worn by all persons in any such play area. Bathing attire or men dressed without a shirt of some type is prohibited.
12. No person in any such play area shall fail to comply with any reasonable direction given by any police officer, or by any authorized recreation leader or maintenance man or contained in any notice posted by the Recreation Commission. The lands and structures under the control of the Recreation Commission are public property and it is the duty of every person to see that all rules are observed and to call to the attention of the police or person in charge, of any violation thereof.
13. No person shall wash, clean, polish, repair or perform maintenance upon any private vehicle in any such play area.
14. The Newton Police Department is hereby authorized to enforce all duly established rules and regulations and ordinances and laws within any such play area.

Violation of any of the aforesaid rules and regulations is punishable by a fine of not more than twenty dollars under the provisions of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 45, Section 24.

By order of the Newton Recreation Commission

Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman  
T. Frank Copp  
Joseph Selden  
Howard Whitmore III

John B. Penney

approved 4/22/69

\*These regulations apply to school grounds where under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Commission

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting, June 16, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. T. Frank Copp, Joseph Selden, Howard Whitmore III, Dr. Burton R. Levine and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM.

Note: At this time, due to preparation for summer programs, there were no May reports or minutes of the May meeting. These will be mailed to the Commission members as soon as possible.

- A. Plans for a Public Hearing to be held at City Hall on June 30, 1969 in the Aldermanic Chambers are being formulated, at the request of the Allen Associates, Recreation Planners, to receive suggestions by interested citizens regarding the development of Recreation land at Auburndale, Cold Springs, Edmands Park and so-called, Infirmary land. Commissioner Penney will clear the date through Mayor Basbas for his approval, then information will be released to the newspapers and all interested organizations.
- B. Turnpike land: Briefly discussed area recommended by Alderman Hopkins for a playground. Since original recommendation was made, there have been several protests and complaints from residents in this area brought to Commissioner Penney's attention. It was suggested by the Commission that these protests should also be called to Alderman Hopkins attention.
- C. At 7:55 PM, the Recreation Commission moved to the City Planning Department for a preview of the upcoming report of recommendations by the City Planner, James Miller - "Open Space and Recreation Analysis, Part II".

The Planning Districts analyzed were made on a basis of population, traffic patterns, man-made barriers (such as golf courses, railroads, street cars, turnpikes, etc.) and natural physical barriers. Standards are based upon the National Recreation and Park Association recommendations for recreational area for population per acre.

The recommendations for recreation areas were detailed by James Miller, Planning Director and Jack Simmons, the Assistant Planner. This report will be presented in full, in booklet form, the delivered to the Recreation Commissioner for distribution to the Commission sometime in the future after the Mayor has approved its publication.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting - September 8, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. T. Frank Copp, Joseph Selden, Howard Whitmore III, Dr. Burton R. Levine, Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary and Miss Fran Towle, Recreation Intern.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

1. Old Business

- A. Minutes of May and June Recreation Commission meeting (mailed to members) accepted as circulated.
- B. Miss Fran Towle, Recreation Intern, was introduced to the Recreation Commission. Miss Towle will be with the department for a year. She is a graduate of the University of Iowa and majored in Recreation, is a member of NRPA and AAHPER, has had a variety of experience in college sports, (golf, volley ball, swimming, tennis, bowling, pool and basketball). She was captain of the women's basketball team and a candidate for Women's Olympic Basketball team.

Since Miss Towle has come to the Recreation Department, she has been involved in organizing a swimming meet at the Gath Pool, a water show at Crystal Lake, she has also organized a girl's softball team which has played competitively with surrounding towns. Currently she is becoming acquainted with-and helping to organize - fall and winter programs, particularly for girls and women.

- C. Crystal Lake: Closed after the Labor Day weekend and after a very successful summer. A report from Henry Barry, Manager, will be made available shortly.

2. New Business

- A. Victory Field: Commissioner Penney read a letter received from his honor, Mayor Basbas, recommending that the Recreation Commission declare surplus, that land known as Victory Field. He also requested that the Recreation Commissioner advise him of action taken.

After discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously voted, "that the Recreation Commission of the City of Newton hereby declares Victory Field in Nonantum, no longer needed for recreational and playground purposes".

Commissioner Penney will write a letter to Mayor Basbas duly notifying him of the action taken by the Commission.

- B. Allen Associated - Recreation Planners: Mr. Elwood Allen presented preliminary sketches and plans to the Commission for their inspection and approval. He suggested that they

Motion  
carried

make any corrections or changes, at this time, before the final drafting and printing. Some minor changes were made or suggested by the Commission.

According to Mr. Allen, the next step will be the final drawing (after corrections and changes). The plans will then be printed. One master plan will be colored, than all the plans reduced and put into a report showing the recommendations by the Allen Organization. These will accordingly be presented to Commissioner Penney and the Recreation Commission. In a separate report, priorities will be scheduled. Estimated cost of construction will also be included in this supplement.

- C. National Congress for Recreation and Parks will be held in Chicago, Illinois from September 12th to 18th. Mr. Penney and Mrs. West will be attending.
- D. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

Next meeting: October 20, 1969, 7:30 PM

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

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Minutes of meeting October 20, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. Howard Whitmore III, Dr. Burton R. Levine and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m.

1. Old Business

A. Commissioner's reports.

1. Monthly reports are in preparation and will be available at the next Commission meeting.

2. Staff vacancies and changes: Commissioner Penney noted that there were several vacancies in the department existing at present. Miss Swartz and Mrs. Shea have both retired from the office staff. At present there are four openings for laborers on the maintenance crew. The newly created Time and Construction Clerk is being filled by Tom Timmons (promoted within the department) until a Civil Service Test is held and subsequent certification.

B. Meetings attended: Commissioner Penney reported on his attendance at the Nation Congress of Recreation and Parks in Chicago in September. Mrs. West, Chairman of the Commission also attended.

Early in October, Commissioner Penney attended the Massachusetts's Governor's Conference and also the Metropolitan District Commission Hearing Parks Development. He has also attended a joint Conservation and Recreation Commission meeting in Needham on Cutler Park. This is an area of approximately 800 acres of land, much of it "wet land" running along beside the Charles River. It is actually located in Needham and Dedham. The Conservators hope to develop this area in a very natural manner with wooded paths for nature walks, possibly board walks, close by the river for bird watching, canoeing, etc. There would be no vehicular access beyond what would be necessary for maintenance. This area is named the "Leslie Cutler Park" in honor of Mrs. Cutler long time resident and Senator from Needham.

C. Construction projects: (1) Angier ball field has been resodded. (2) Lincoln ball field resodded; Varsity and Jr. Varsity will use this field in Auburndale as substitutes for Newton High School during construction of new school. (3) Newton South High tennis courts (lighted courts) are now being re-surfaced with a cork-asphalt preparation. (4) Newton High School can no longer accomodate Newton South High School for field events such as jumping, broad jump, pole vault, shot putt, high jump, etc. due to new construction. A short discussion followed and Commissioner Penney said that some money was available if a suitable area at Newton South could be found for these facilities. (5) Cost of the fence for the new Hunnewell Playground will be \$7,500.00 and will have to be a special appropriation from the Board of Alderman.

- D. Programs: (1) Youth football leagues - both Pop Warner and Newton Athletic League have been practicing and playing. (2) Miss Fran Towle, Recreation Intern has started several girl's programs. An evening group at the Lincoln-Eliot School, one at Hamilton School and also is currently organizing a swim team (to be AAU sanctioned) which will be conducted at the Sidney Hill pool.
  
- E. Reports: At Commissioner Penney's request, Hub Testing has initiated a series of tests on chemical action of the lime marking material used in lining athletic fields for various events, to see if it was likely to be harmful to athletes taking part in these events. It was found that it is less harmful if put on in solution - as the Recreation Department now does. No final decision was made at this time. It was also noted that paint, as a substitute, would increase by several times the cost of the marking material, but would be worthwhile to protect the young athletes, if necessary. No reports of any injuries due to lime on Newton athletic fields have ever been reported.
  - 2. Mr. F. Elwood Allen's Recreation Plan is incomplete as he still is waiting to have located some areas at Cold Spring and Auburndale. Commissioner Penney will have this information from the Planning Department and Engineers this week, and will forward it to him.
  
- F. New Business:
  - A. Newton, East, Little League Banquet November 2. Dr. Levine will represent the Recreation Commission at this banquet.
  - B. Newton Community Council Dinner, October 29th
  - C. Halloween Executive Board Meeting, October: Commissioner Penney, Dr. Sylvester, Mrs. Robert Toher, Mayor Basbas, and Commission members are all invited to attend. This meeting will be held in the new Bigelow Junior High auditorium. Mrs. Toher will conduct this meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

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Minutes of meeting November 17, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messrs. Joseph Selden, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Mr. George Maletesta, University of Massachusetts - Student Intern and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Old Business:

- A. Minutes of September meeting reviewed and accepted as circulated.
- B. Minutes of October meeting reviewed and accepted as circulated with the exception of a correction from Miss to Mrs. (Leslie B. Cutler) in paragraph "B".
- C. Commissioner Penney distributed monthly reports for May, June, July, August and September, for Commission members to study before the December meeting.
- D. Mr. Selden stated that he had given the matter of Crystal Lake fishing further thought and now felt that the Recreation Department should consider stocking the lake, but do so on its own, rather than by the State Fish and Game Department.

2. New Business:

- A. It was noted that Mr. T. Frank Copp, Commission member was unable to be present as he is confined to Newton-Wellesley Hospital due to illness.
- B. Reconsideration of the renaming of Allison playground: At the request of some of the Nonantum residents, the question of renaming Allison playground in memory of PFC Richard Forte, whose father is employed by the Recreation Department, was again brought up before the Commission. (Previous action on this subject is recorded in the minutes of the Recreation Commission on February 18, 1969 under - Old Business, IV, paragraph D.E.)

At this time, two members of the Recreation Department maintenance division and one former member, representing the petitioners, came before the Recreation Commission to review this request. (Messrs. Valenzano, Gorgone and Williams). After a hearing, the Commission members again discussed this problem but still feel that this disposition would not be fair to all the other Newton boys who have given their lives for their Country. The general feeling of the Commission members is that it would be far better to select a completely different facility as a special memorial to all Viet Nam casualties. (Still in question is another petition requesting the Hawthorn Playground be renamed Pagnano Playground in memory of another young man) This problem has also been presented to the Aldermanic Board by Alderman Shea in the form of a resolution. The Commission took no action pending word from the Board of Aldermen.

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C. Allen Organization Study: Mr. F. Elwood Allen, Recreation Planner came to Newton to meet again with the Planning Department and the Engineering Departments. due to their concern regarding traffic patterns and the peat deposits in the Cold Spring area. It was decided that vehicle traffic would be routed out on to Beacon Street and only walking and bicycle access on the Duncklee Street side. Certain parking area modifications in the plans were also made which Commissioner Penney felt were good.

The preliminary plans for Auburndale also were reviewed by the Planning Department before Mr. Allen makes his final recommendations.

D. News Releases: Mayor Basbas has requested that no news releases or statements to the press or radio be made - without his approval.

E. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m. Next meeting of the Recreation Commission to be held on December 15, 1969 at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbiral  
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of meeting December 15, 1969

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Mr. George Maleteste, University of Massachusetts Student Intern and Marjorie Lesbirol, Sec.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 P.M.

Since there was not a quorum present, no business could be transacted. However, Commissioner Penney distributed copies of the November monthly reports and the minutes of the November meeting.

HEARING ON ACQUISITION OF COLD SPRING LAND

At 8:00 P.M. the Commission was requested to attend a hearing in the Aldermanic Chambers on the land taking by eminent domain of additional land to be incorporated into Cold Spring Park, utilizing Federal Open Space funds reimbursing the city 50%.

President Bauckman of the Aldermanic Board requested Mr. E. Michael Ferris, Director of the Planning Board, describe and point out the area in question on the chart of the city. Mr. Ferris noted that the area was an integral portion of the Cold Spring complex to be developed.

Mr. Charles Morang, Acting City Solicitor was also requested to describe legal boundaries, etc.

Opposing this acquisition, Mr. Colletti, owner of the land in question, claimed that he plans to build low cost housing here (although the planning department has noted that the land use is not recommended for housing - due to drainage) Mr. Colotti's brother also stated that he opposed it.

Representative Fishman spoke, at great length, in opposition.

Commissioner Penney was requested by President Bauckman, to speak to the group present, giving briefly, the use anticipated in this recreational development. Mr. Penney told them that since the Recreation Planners report was not yet complete, he was unable to give details, but a multi-use plan was being created for the recreation of all age groups. He noted that the plan did not anticipate a major use as a golf course (but that part to be developed as a golf area would be a "public golf course" as others, in or near Newton, are all private courses.

Commissioner Penney was asked if the land could conceivably be used for other than recreational use. He referred this question to Mr. Morang, Acting City Solicitor. Mr. Morang stated that since the land was not acceptable for housing, the question was irrelevant.

Mrs. Moralow of Newton Lower Falls was also opposed to the purchase of land because of high tax reasons. Another Colletti brother also opposed the purchase as he said city did not need it.

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The Recreation Commission left the Aldermanic Chambers upon the conclusion of this particular hearing, returning to the Recreation Department. The Commission meeting adjourned at 11:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted  
Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting - January 19, 1970

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Mr. Joseph Selden, Mr. Howard Whitmore III, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 P.M.

1. Old Business:

- A. Minutes of the November 1969 meeting were reviewed and accepted as circulated.

Since there was not a quorum at the December meeting, no business was transacted. However, a report of the meeting is available.

- B. Commissioner Penney distributed monthly reports for December. He explained that the girl's programs are increasing and he also noted the opening of the toboggan slide at Newton Centre.

Mrs. West proposed that the Recreation Department no longer make a charge for the use of the slide but continue to charge for the use of the toboggans, if not privately owned.

- C. Commissioner Penney reported that the proposed change of Commission Members which would include one Commissioner from each existing Newton Ward, is to be considered by the Board of Aldermen this evening.
- D. Commissioner Penney reported that the site of the proposed memorial plaque in honor of PFC Richard Forte, at the Allison Playground, has been decided upon by the Committee of Friends and information as to size, construction etc. has been provided to the Commissioner. It was also noted that the cost of erecting and maintaining this memorial, will be stood by the Committee of Friends of PFC Richard Forte.

An area of about 20 x 20 feet will be acceptable to the Commission (located where it will not interfere with the actual playground activity.) It was moved and voted by the Commission that the area plan and actual size be left to the descretion of Commission Penney.

2. New Business:

- A. A report of the budget funds, locations and activities were made available to the Commission by Commissioner Penney. He reported that Youth Centers were in operation at Nonantum-Hawthorn Recreation Building, Newton-Warren Jr. High, Newton Highlands-Congregational Church and Upper Falls-Methodist Church. Those proposed at Newton Centre and Newtonville are not in operation just yet.

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It was voted unanimously to approve the proposed funds to be included in the Recreation Department budget for custodians, police, and assistant leaders to supplement State Grant.

3. Allen Organization Blueprints: Inspected blueprints of Edmunds Park, Hunnewell Hill Area, Cold Spring Playground area, Auburndale and the so-called Infirmary Land. (There will be a joint Finance and Planning meeting on this coming Thursday night to take up the Cold Spring Land Taking. It was suggested that Commissioner Penney try and attend this meeting, to present the Allen Plan with the explanation that it is still subject to review and change.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

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Minutes of Meeting - February 23, 1970

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Mr. Joseph Selden, new Commission member, Mr. Paul J. Burke, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m. at which time, former Alderman Paul J. Burke was welcomed, as a new member, to the Recreation Commission.

1. Old Business:

- A. Minutes of the January 19, 1970 meeting read and accepted as read.
- B. Commissioner Penney distributed monthly reports on programs and maintenance. He also reported that skating conditions at Crystal Lake are dangerous at present, due to the recent heavy rain and mild temperature.
- C. Memorial Plaque in honor of PFC Richard Forte at Allison Playground.  
Commissioner Penney reported that he has instructed the Committee as to size and location allowed. Plans call for it to be dedicated on Memorial Day. It was suggested that Commissioner Penney should attend, and also, the Commission members from the area.
- D. Commissioner Penney attended a joint Finance and Land Use Committee meeting, of the Board of Aldermen on the Cold Spring land acquisition, to give additional explanation of the project. Planning Director Ferris and City Engineer Schiavone also testified, the Committee's report to the full board was to favor the land taking for Cold Spring, but it will be held by the board for 90 days to await further information on "Turnkey Housing" by the owner (Coletti).
- E. Commissioner Penney reporting on the Auburndale Flowed Meadow - former Ginsberg land - and now owned by McIssac, said that the present plan is to build approximately 250 units of Garden Apartments in this area. However, the necessary approval of the Board of Aldermen has not been obtained.

2. New Business:

- A. Bentley College - use of Auburndale or Newton Centre baseball diamond request for use of Varsity games. This would be for this Spring only until

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their new facility was available. We have allowed use of baseball diamond to Boston University in the past, but have since notified them it was not available due to local use. After discussion, it was decided to leave this to the descretion of the Commissioner. The Commission was favorably disposed to granting this request unless the field was needed by Newton High School because of construction work at their regular field.

- B. Model Planes: Dr. Levine noted that he had been requested by an advocate to inquire into the feasibility of using some open area in the City for the use of model planes - gasoline motored - by a Newton Model Plane Club or group. They would probably teach, assemble and learn to operate these planes. The Commission decided that since the neighbors complain about the use of these planes, due to the noise factor, unless an area could be found that was acceptable to neighbors, this form of recreation would have to be discouraged at present.

(The Commission recessed for coffee and dessert graciously provided by Mrs. Penney.)

- C. Problems coming to the attention of the Recreation Commission: Mr. Burke suggested that possibly when a problem came up before the Recreation Commission, that the Recreation Department publish this problem in the local paper, stating problem and date of discussion by the Commission. He felt that probably those persons primarily interested would then appear at the Commission meeting.

Mr. Burke also recommended personal contact with the Board of Aldermen. As a former Alderman himself, he felt that a closer contact with the Board of Aldermen would benefit both bodies, enabling both the Board and Recreation Commission to better understand inter-related actions and achieve greater rapport. It was recommended that each Commission member personally contact members of the Board of Aldermen favoring the Cold Spring land acquisition rather than a formal letter.

- D. Nets at Crystal: Commissioner Penney advised the Commission that he had

he had written to Alderman Harrington advising him of the inadvisability, (both practically and economically) of employing acres of underwater nets in the various skating areas, as was his suggestion in the local papers.

E. Change of Commission meeting night. Conceivably a different Monday evening would be better for the Recreation Commission to meet since it would sometimes be advisable for the Commission to attend Aldermanic meetings held on the same night that the Commission now meets. This seems acceptable to everyone and a new day will be selected.

F. Miscellaneous:

1. Commissioner Penney gave the evening date 3/5/70 and time of the Finance Committee meeting at which time, the Recreation budget will be considered. All Commission members are welcome to attend.
2. Commissioner Penney will write to former Recreation Commission member, Howard Whitmore III, thanking him and expressing his appreciation for his work on the Commission and interest in the Recreation Department.
3. Commission members also requested that Mr. Penney to thank Mrs. Penney for her refreshments at tonight's meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Majorie Lesbirel

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

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Minutes of Meeting - March 23, 1970

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Messers. Joseph Selden and Paul Burke, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m.

Old Business:

- A. Minutes of February 23, 1970 meeting accepted as circulated.
- B. Commissioner Penney distributed monthly reports of programs and maintenance. In addition, ~~Miss~~ Fran Towle, Recreation Intern has prepared a recap of programs initiated or expanded by her, during this past winter season. These reports were distributed to Commission Members.
- C. Field Use Requests

Bentley College - Auburndale - Baseball

A request for use of baseball field, for practice only, from 4:15 to 6:00 p.m. Mondays through Fridays - with no games played on this field, was discussed. (It was observed that this request was for this Spring only, as they are, at present, building their own facility. They may, also, provide baseball clinics at Auburndale with the cooperation of the permanent Recreation Leader there, "Chub" Ryan.) To avoid any problems with neighbors, parking regulations would have to be strictly adhered to. Since no games are to be played, no extra maintenance would be required by our department.

Dr. Levine motioned that the request be granted with the one restriction suggested by Mr. Burke, to be noted - that Newton School use is to take priority if necessary. Voted affirmative, with no charge unless special maintenance would be requested. Commissioner Penney will notify college by telephone or letter.

St. Mary of Carmen Carnival - Hawthorn

The use of Hawthorn for a carnival, held annually, was requested by Alderman Magni and Mr. Leone. They would like to use Hawthorn Playground for this festival, starting Thursday, July 16 (to be set up on Wednesday) and running until Sunday, July 19, culminating in a parade and band concert on Sunday.

The Recreation Commission voted to grant a permit to this society with the understanding that the same conditions and restrictions would be in effect as last year.

Soccer

Commissioner Penney advised the Commission that Soccer has become a year round sport in Newton with much enthusiasm and subsequent requests for use of Soccer area - particularly at Hawthorn. His most recent request for use of Soccer field on Saturday, was from Honeywell Co. It was agreed by the Commission to allow the use of the Soccer field at Hawthorn when not in conflict with Newton school use.

D. New Business

- A. Visit by Mr. Robert MacLaughlin, president of Newton Youth Hockey, concerning

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an artificial hockey rink. Mr. MacLaughlin feels that a youth program of this scope and growing yearly with greater interest, will of necessity, have <sup>more</sup> ice time available. At present, in addition to the ice time made available by the Newton Recreation Department in Newton, Boston, and Cambridge, the hockey association has to buy ice time at Boston College and where ever else they are able too.

Mr. MacLaughlin feels that with so much interest in skating, not only by youth hockey enthusiasts, but as a general recreational sport, a city the size of Newton with a population of 90,000 would hopefully be considering a municipal ice rink or arena.

Each year more boys between the ages of 9 to 15, join this program. While the number of boys have increased, the ice time proportionately, is not available. According to Mr. MacLaughlin's estimate, the City is now spending about \$20,000.00 for various ice programs (including School Dept.). He feels that if this amount could be spent on a permanent installation, it would be more economical all around.

Mr. MacLaughlin has explored various ways of funding a project of this type. It could be done as a private enterprise, with private capital but on land provided by the City. (The example of Loring Arena in Framingham that services several surrounding communities was mentioned.) Or it could be funded by the City. It was hoped that whatever method was finally acceptable, the end result would be a facility that could be used year round.

After consideration by the Recreation Commission, it was motioned and voted to ask Mr. MacLaughlin to bring back to the Recreation Commission research material, relative to cost of a hockey arena and rink, and also information relative to financial income and operation and expenses of other cities or towns who have rinks. (Send copy of motion to R. MacLaughlin).

Since any financial move must be initiated by his honor the Mayor, this information must be compiled before any further action can be taken by the Commission.

- B. Letter from Arthur Ehrenberg of Newton East Little League regarding fencing in front of players' benches on school junior diamond. Mr. Ehrenberg came in person to the Commission meeting to explain his views. Briefly he feels that a dangerous situation exists for boys who are sitting in the open on benches and feels that a fence in front of each bench would protect the boys from foul balls.

Mr. Ehrenberg has made this request before, but since the Recreation Department must have the agreement of the School Department representative, Mr. Warren Huston, on school grounds, who feels that these fences would interfere with other sports, the Recreation Department has not proceeded to install fences.

Commissioner Penney will be willing to go with Mr. Huston and Mr. Ehrenberg and review this situation again this year. However, even if Mr. Huston agrees that fences could be installed, money is not available in the budget and would require a special appropriation from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

- C. April 14th Board and Commission members dinner of Mass. Recreation and Park Society. Commissioner Penney informed the Board that this year the dinner will be held at the King's Grant Motel in Beverly, with Bill Veeck as speaker. All Commission members said that they will be able to attend. Plan is to meet at Department office at 6:00 and travel together.

- D. Tennis Court permits and fees for 1970. After discussing this issue, a motion was made and defeated to increase tennis fees from \$1.00 to \$2.00 and \$4.00. The Commission is uncertain of its position on assessing fees in view of the Board of Aldermen recinding past recommendations of the Recreation Commission regarding fees.

Tennis courts at Newton South have heavy play. Motioned and carried that the Commission explore the possibility of having a metered collection system installed. It was also suggested that Commissioner Penney request a current ~~and~~ financial statement and roster from the Newton Indoor Tennis Club.

- E. Miscellaneous and not otherwise classified. A motion was carried to direct Commissioner Penney to contact the City Solicitor to seek clarification as to whose prerogative it is to set all fees and charges assessed by the Recreation Department; and when this ruling has been made, to communicate this information in writing to the President of the Board of Aldermen and the City Clerk. (sent June 1970)

Another motion was made and passed to seek a ruling from the City Solicitor as to whose prerogative it is to name Recreation areas or facilities; and to also communicate this information to the honorable board. *15-1-1970*

- F. Additional parking space at Day Junior High. Commissioner Penney brought to the attention of the Commission that there may be a desire on the part of the School Department for more parking space at the new Day Junior High, now just barely under construction. No definite request for any additional land for this has been requested as yet, however.

- G. Representative of the Newton Community Development Foundation mentioned several sites as possible locations for low and middle cost housing to Commissioner Penney. Among these are several Recreation Department areas including: Edmands Park, Webster Playground, Cold Spring, Infirmary land, and Hunnewell Hill. Commission members expressed grave concern about this. The Commissioner was directed to find out from the City Solicitor what authority the Commission has to retain its lands.

It was also suggested that Commissioner Penney communicate with Mr. Casselman suggesting that they may be wasting time and money making architectural plans for property under the jurisdiction of the Recreation Commission.

- H. Additional Revenue Mr. Selden advised the Board that it had recently come to his attention that perhaps 25¢ on each Fish and Game License collected by city or town could be claimed by the Recreation Department. This money could be used for stocking lakes or ponds.

Meeting adjourned at 12:10.

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting - April 28, 1970

Present: Commissioner Penney, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman, Mr. Paul Burke, Dr. Burton D. Levine, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m.

Minutes of March 23, 1970 meeting accepted as circulated.

Minutes of Special Meeting April 2, 1970, accepted as read.

Monthly reports distributed by Commissioner Penney.

- 1. Commissioner Penney reported that a Charles River Clean-Up Day has been organized by MDC and neighborhood groups - with the Recreation Department cooperating - for May 16, 1970/
- 2. Since the question of a legal quorum was brought up by Commissioner Penney, Mr. Paul Burke moved that Commissioner Penney request from the City Solicitor, in writing, the legal qualifications of the number of Commission members necessary for a quorum. Motion seconded by Dr. Levine and it was voted unanimously by Commission to accept.
- 3. Correspondence

A. Commissioner Penney referred to copies of letters before the Commission of letters sent to him from NCDF representatives, Marc Slotnick and Robert Casselman, formally requesting release of City land for the NCDF housing. A motion was made by Mr. Burke to postpone, in the absence of a legal quorum of the Recreation Commission and the absence of representative from NCDF, <sup>city</sup> and decision regarding Hunnewell Hill and Cold Spring lands. Motion seconded by Dr. Levine, all present voted in favor.

Mrs. Esty and Mrs. Litman from the Hunnewell Hill came to the meeting to protest use of NCDF in this area. Commissioner Penney explained to them that a further meeting would be held in the near future.

Dr. Whoriskey, from the Hunnewell Hill area came in late and expressed opinion in favor of playground in area.

B. Parents of Swim Team

A concerned group of parents, many of whom had children on last winter's Swim Team, came with a petition of approximately 176 names. They would like to see the Gath Pool covered and usable all year round. Would like the Commission to consider covering pool - possibly with a plastic bubble or an air-supported bubble. They would consider various forms of raising money for this venture. Willing to wirk toward this goal themselves, if city could match funds.

Representatives were:

Patricia Holland	182 Webster Street	West Newton
Mary T. Early	26 Cottage Place	West Newton
James D. McGowen	48 Kensington Street	Newtonville
Edward J. Mulvaney	61 Wildwood Avenue	Newtonville
Terry McGowen	48 Kensington Street	Newtonville

It was pointed out to this group that, at present, there were no funds available for this purpose and Mr. Burke explained to them that the Recreation Commission can recommend - but not appropriate - money. Initiation of funds or finance must come from the Mayor. Commissioner Penney said that he would be willing to

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meet with the group. He suggested that they obtain specific recommendations as to finance, structure, etc. The Building Commissioner's consideration will be necessary since he has charge of all city buildings.

(One lady inquired as to the availability of the so called "Sleigh Ride Fund" 1924 - 1934). Nothing immediately available as far as information as nobody present seemed to know what this was.

Additional considerations will be heat & light, not necessary at present. Commissioner Penney anticipates receiving literature from the Birdair Company on air-supported structures, and also information from the Bloomington Indiana Department, which has been using such a seasonal cover.

- C. Letter from Paul Burke, Commission Member, regarding new programs was read. Due to lateness of meeting, these suggestions were discussed briefly. Recommendations will be considered more fully later.
- D. Mayor's memo to Commissioner Penney was protesting the use of Newton baseball fields by outside colleges. Since this was a temporary measure, until the Newton High School needed the field, the problem no longer exists.

Commissioner Penney reported:

1. A resolution has been introduced by Alderman Concannon, proposing a new playground in the Central Avenue, Crafts Street, and Washington Street Newtonville area on a site presently part of City Yard. This has been referred to Legislation and Rules Committee of Board of Aldermen.
2. A resolution will be introduced by Alderman Jefferson relative to a play area to be located on Crescent Street property adjacent to the departments new yard in opposition to Housing Authority request that the area be developed for low income housing.

(Motion was made to hold this item for consideration at a later time.)

3. Neighborhood protest of gasoline storage because of increased traffic at the Crescent Street maintenance headquarters has resulted in a denial by the Board of Aldermen.
4. Three additional motions were introduced by Mr. Paul Burke.
  - A. A motion to request Commissioner Penney to send a copy of the City solicitors opinion on matters Recreation Commission requests, to President of the Board of Aldermen and to the City Clerk. (2nd by Commissioner Penney - voted unanimously.)
  - B. A motion that the possibility of a recording machine be investigated to help secretary record meetings. Commissioner Penney reported that the Department has a tape recorder which had not been satisfactory when tried for this purpose.
  - C. A motion requesting that the docket be mailed before meetings approximately four or five days in advance.

(no action)

Meeting adjourned at 11:15. Next meeting to be held on May 20, 1970

Respectfully submitted,

M. Lesbirel, Secretary

Newton Recreation Commission

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Meeting May 30, 1970

Public Hearing

Meeting held in the Aldermanic Chambers due to Public Interest in Recreation lands being considered for housing by the NCDF.

Present: John B. Penney, Commissioner, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman, Mr. Joseph Selden, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Mr. Paul Burke and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order at 8:00p.m.

A brief preliminary meeting was held by the Commission in the Committee room in order to again inform Commission members of portions of land in question and the Recreation Commission's concern with them now and in the future.

An informal discussion was held and it was decided that it would be necessary to restrict testimony rigidly to the sites in question. Mrs. West also noted that it should be pointed out to the public that Recreation Commission as such, is not concerned about NCDF but only upon its effect on Recreation lands.

It was agreed to conduct this meeting generally along the lines of a public hearing with those persons for or against the NCDF use, being allowed to voice their ideas.

At this preliminary meeting, it was also voted to send a letter of condolence to Mrs. Frank Copp to be composed by Mrs. West. The Commission also voted to contribute, as a group, to the Cancer Fund in memory of their long-time friend and colleague. The money was given to the secretary, Mrs. Lesbirel, to send to the Cancer Society.

The Commission then went to the Aldermanic Chambers where most of the gallery and balcony seats were full. Mrs. West, Chairman, spoke to the group briefly to give them an idea as to how the meeting would be conducted and requesting that they speak only as it concerned the Recreation Commission, not as to their opinion of NCDF. Mrs. West introduced the members of the Recreation Commission at this time also and opened the meeting.

Mrs. Blair Shick read a prepared statement regarding the proposal from the League of Women Voters (on file) part of which was considered out of order as it was not pertinent to the sites in question.

Mr. Casselman of NCDF spoke saying that the idea of NCDF was predicated on the assumption that low rent housing is necessary for Newton people in Newton and that generally in other cases the arrangement has been to locate large units in isolated areas. In this case, NCDF is trying basic scatteration of houses in order for better assimilation in the entire city.

4/15

Commissioner Penney moved and Mr. Burke seconded that the request of the Newton Community Development Foundation for the Recreation Commission to declare the property off Beacon Street (Section 54, Block 22, Lot 64) no longer needed for recreation purposes, be denied since "it is part of the Cold Spring Recreation Park area for which the Recreation Commission has plans." This was voted unanimously in favor.

It was also moved by Commissioner Penney with Mr. Selden seconding, that the Recreation go on record to the Mayor, the Board of Aldermen and other city agencies having jurisdiction over any part of this general Cold Spring Recreation Park area, to oppose any diversion to other used. Voted in favor: Mrs. West, Mr. Selden, Dr. Levine, Mr. Penney. Opposed: Mr. Burke.

Mr. Penney moved to release a portion of Hunnewell Playground, but there was no second to the motion.

Dr. Levine moved and Mr. Burke seconded the move that the request of the Newton Community Development Foundation for the Recreation Commission to declare the property at Hunnewell Hill Playground, no longer needed for recreation purposes, be denied. Voted in favor: Mrs. West, Mr. Selden, Mr. Burke and Dr. Levine. Opposed: Mr. Penney.

It was moved by Commissioner Penney and seconded by Mr. Burke that the Recreation Commission recommend to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen, that the NCDF request to acquire a portion of the present Stern's School play area, be denied. It was further recommended that the housing be confined to the area now occupied by the school building, lawn, drives and parking lots. This was voted unanimously in favor.

(RE: Stearns School area. While the Recreation Commission does not have jurisdiction, it was pointed out that the NCDF housing in this area would definitely effect the playground at this site, cutting it about in one-half its present area.)

Mr. Selden spoke again, as he has in the past, saying how fortunate the Recreation Commission is to have the opportunity to make available for future generations, open space recreation areas. All concur.

A public motion was made by Paul Burke that the Recreation Commission send a letter of condolence - Chairman, Mrs. West to write letter- in appreciation for 25 years of involvement and service in the Recreation and sport's field of Newton to the recent widow of Frank Copp - Recreation member. Seconded by Mr. Penney and voted unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Next regular meeting to be held June 15, 1970.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Hunnewell Hill area first area discussed.

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Those opposed

Mrs. Cadwell  
Sally Locke  
Mr. Cadwell  
Stuart Beard  
Mr. Leo Manfreddi

Those favoring

Mrs. Paul Thomas  
Valarie Webber

General feeling of Hunnewell Hill residents seemed to be that housing in area was undesirable and they were not in favor of it. Prefer to keep it as a recreation area.

Cold Spring area second site discussed.

Those opposed

Mr. Steven Waxer (absent but strongly opposed)  
Jerome Packer  
Walter Silver  
Mrs. R. Ratner  
Alvin Bean

Those favoring

Mrs. Axel Koffman (petitions in favor of so-called, "snow dump" site) This not valid as this is not site in question

General feeling was to keep Cold Spring area as open area and oppose housing.

Stearn's School Area (It was noted by Commissioner Penney that the Recreation Commission does not control release of this land)

Those opposed

John Webber  
Valarie Webber  
Margaret Cormier

Those favoring

Mr. Burke again reiterated that lots and sections were clearly defined and that the Recreation Commission could not be concerned except with those definite sites previously recorded. No alternate sites could be considered at this meeting.

He also stated that the Recreation Commission hoped and expected to make a decision this evening and that the Public was welcome to remain for the balance of the meeting, at the conclusion of the Public Hearing.

A five minute break was suggested by Commissioner Penney at this time.

Reconvene at 10:00 p.m. Commission meeting at a table at front of Aldermanic Chambers where members of the public who wished to stay could sit in public gallery section and listen.

Minutes of April meeting were accepted and circulated.

A discussion of the site request was carried on amongst the Commission. The following motions were made and voted:

Newton Recreation Commission Meeting

Minutes of June 15, 1970

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Present: Mrs. Worthing L. West, Chairman, Mr. Selden, Mr. Burke and New Commission member, Mr. Annis Asaff and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.  
Absent, Dr. Burton D. Levine.

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Mrs. West at 7:45 p.m.

1. Welcome extended to new Commission member, Mr. Asaff. Since NCDF requests for land have been upmost on the agenda in recent meetings, an attempt was made to bring the new commission member up to date as to land, recreation etc. It was again stressed that the Recreation Commission is not "For or Against" NCDF but that their only interest being in the Recreation use of the land. It was also suggested that the secretary send some form of comprehensive summary of Recreation Commission action within this year in order that Mr. Asaff may be made cognizant of problems and action taken at monthly meetings.

Commissioner Penney reviewed the motions taken at the public meeting in May.

The Commission again raised the question as to the legal designation of lands. The possibility exists that the City could not give away those lands. No legal ruling has been made. Mr. Asaff also raised the question as to the legal status of NCDF and wondered if this had ever been determined. He suggested that if no legal entity existed, nothing could be resolved.

2. Commissioner Penney again mentioned the problem of the gasoline storage at Crescent Street. All equipment, at present, must travel back and forth to Craft Street in order to gas up. According to Frank Shea, Recreation Foreman, this takes a great deal of time and would be much more efficient for all, with less traffic, if gasoline storage were allowed in the already present storage tank near the garage. It was agreed, after discussion that a communication gap had existed at the time of the public hearing, between the neighborhood and the Recreation Department and that if the neighborhood saw that in six months there was no appreciable increase of traffic in their area, in spite of all equipment being garaged at Crescent Street, the subject could again be brought up and received with favor. It was agreed to hold this subject until Fall.
3. NCDF A petition and letter were presented for the Board's study favoring the Beacon Street so-called "snow dump" site as a housing area rather than the Beethoven Road site. This had been presented to the Commission by Jean Strobeck (Mrs. Leo).

A motion was made by Paul Burke requesting that it be duly recorded that it is not within our province (Recreation) to favor or disfavor public housing. This was seconded by Mr. Penney and voted unanimously by the Commission.

The "snow dump" site in question is Park land and not Recreation. However, even if the Park Commission voted to release it, it still would be necessary to go to Legislation and be voted. Ideally Recreation and Park Commissions should be combined. This has been suggested to his honor the Mayor by Commissioner Penney. Mayor

COMMUNICATIONS (continued)

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Re: Stocking  
Lake with  
fish

C. Cortell - Biologists - It is the general feeling that the Recreation Commission should think about doing additional work at Bullough's Pond due to its present condition. The main problem in this area is lack of money. Mr. Cortell will be experimenting with a new piece of equipment for Crystal, which would bring colder water to the top to cut down algae growth. At present there is some difficulty with an electrical part in the aqualator which will be remedied shortly.

It was suggested by Mr. Selden stocking Crystal with Bass rather than Trout would not only be good for the water, but would also be less attractive to "beer" fisherman. Bass is a bit more expensive but better for the lake. The size suggested was between 6 and 10 inches. Another advantage to Bass would be the fact that they do not bite in the cold weather, while pickerel and trout do. Since this is a skating area, ice fishing is not desirable.

It was generally felt by the Commission that it would be a good idea to talk with Mr. Cortell and suggest Bass rather than Trout as a "stocking" fish.

D. Coletti Complaint. Mrs. Coletti, whose property abutts the Albemarle Playground came in on May 20th to complain about fireworks being discharged frequently on or near her property. She has also spoken to Mr. Copp. This is done late at night and is often quite frightening. (She would like a fence, but no funds available). The men on the various teams that play in the park are also using her woods for a bathroom. Mr. Penney said that he had told her that he would get in touch with the attendant there and ask him to notify all teams and leaders that the building toilet facilities were available and to please use them. He also notified the Police of the firework activity and asked them to keep a careful check on this. A fence along these properties should be a part of any land taking as suggested by Dav Jr. High site committee report.

III OLD BUSINFSS: A. SWIM FEES - Commissioner Penney and Mrs. West have met two times with the Finance Committee. The Committee has been presented with Mr. Whittmore's complete study of fee analysis and Mr. Penney's report - including recommendations of the Recreation Commission. Mr. Auryansen, chairman of this Committee, will present the Finance Committee's recommendations to the entire board of Aldermen at their next meeting.

While it is not obligatory to receive the actual vote of the Board of Aldermen as to swim fees, the Recreation Commission prefers to have a general idea of what the Board of Aldermen would find acceptable. The Commission has never really ascertained their feelings about the following:

1. Should the Recreation Dept. give swimming privileges to Newton residents free?
2. Should the Recreation Dept. be able to pay costs through this revenue?
3. Should the Recreation Dept. make a profit?

The Recreation Commission is desirous of promoting good will between the Board of Aldermen and the Recreation Commission at all times. (even though the law states that the Recreation Department can set the fee)

SWIM FEES: (continued)

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At this point there has been no definite action taken by the Board of Aldermen or by the Recreation Commission.

- B. Re: The Board of Aldermen's resolution (suggested by the Committee of Public Works, Mr. Hicks, Chairman, Committee member; Sacks, Egelston, Hopkins, Flaschner and Magni) to increase the size of the Recreation Commission.

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B. Request by NCDF to re-present their plan for sites (particularly Hunnewell Hill) within Recreation Commission jurisdiction. Commissioner Penney again reminded the Commission that the purpose of the meeting with NCDF was to discuss sites and housing, not NCDF.

In these revised plans for Hunnewell Hill, the NCDF has modified and changed their ideas, using a smaller amount of Recreation land. They would also agree to provide, if Recreation agreed to this site, a "right of way" access from NCDF land to Recreation land, in order to provide a suitable entrance for equipment servicing playground.

Mr. Casselman was questioned at length as to other sites, notably Beacon Street, Newton Highlands, Stearn's School area and Pine Street and the Esty Farm area, by Recreation Commission.

Mr. Burke also made apparent to Mr. Casselman of NCDF that he felt that the Recreation Commission had been unjustly criticized by NCDF in the paper, especially since he had been an early advocate of "low-income" housing as a member of the Board of Aldermen. Had the NCDF been more open and frank initially regarding sites, understanding would have been better on all sides.

At 11:35 p.m., NCDF representatives left.

After visitors left, the Recreation Commission agreed that it would be advisable for them to tour the two neighborhoods and areas - (Pine and River Streets-Auburndale) and (Hunnewell Hill - Newton Corner) within the next few days. The date will be set within a few days and members notified so all can go together for comprehensive consideration.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

July 16, 1970

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman Mrs. Worthing L. West, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Messers, Joseph Selden, Paul Burke and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m.

This special meeting was called to clarify the needs and desires of the Pine and River Street neighborhood in Auburndale and to again consider the request of NCDF for land in the Hunnewell Hill area and to review other sites, and to allow these groups to communicate with the Recreation Commission. Pine  
River  
St.

In addition to the Recreation Commission members attending this session were: Alderman Jackson, Alderman Bullwinkle, Alderman Concannon, Alderman Jefferson, Alderman Harrington, Mr. "Jack" Matthews and NCDF officials, Mr. Mark Slotnick and Mr. Robert Casselman.

A. Petition for playground area in the Pine-River Streets area in Auburndale had been previously presented to Commissioner Penney after the residents of this area had requested a meeting with Mayor Basbas. In turn, he had suggested that they come to the Recreation Commission with their request.

Community leaders from this area, stated that while this area is increasing in population, housing etc., there had been no increase in recreation facilities for children, adults or senior citizens. Jack Matthews, spokesman for the group, suggested that the Recreation Commission recommend to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, that city owned land within this area be transferred to the Recreation Department and that sufficient funds for development of a playground be appropriated in this next year's budget.

He also compared unfavorably, the available space in the neighborhood to the playground at Newton Centre with its more sophisticated equipment. The Recreation Commissioner pointed out to him that the River Street playground had been closed 3 years ago due to general abuse, vandalism and constant complaints from abutters. Since then no person from the area has made known any protest about this playground being closed with the exception of Mr. Matthews who visited Mr. Penney to register his objections.

Various possible locations were discussed. It was suggested that the subject of re-zoning by the Board of Aldermen should be settled before any changes could be made. Mr. Paul Burke suggested that probably the ideal way would be to find the proper recreation and then make the request before re-zoning - rather than afterward.

Complaints were registered about the lack of playground facilities in the general West Newton area. It was pointed out that the Recreation Commission could consider the land acquisition and facilities improvements as two separate issues.

The Commission members do recognize that the residents petitioning for more recreation space and facilities in this area do have some substantial factors which should be given serious thought by the City, but at this time, do not feel that they can make a specific proposal. The delegation was complimented by the Commission on their presentation.

The Delegation from Auburndale left at 9:30 p.m.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Sunday, July 19, 1970

Convened 6:15 P.M. - 70 Crescent Street, Auburndale - Department Headquarters

Present: Mrs. West, Chairman, Messers. Burke, Levine, Seldon, Penney

The Commission followed up on its meeting of Thursday, July 16th, when they met with the representatives of the Pine & River Street area and with NCDF official about the Hunnewell site, by touring the areas in question Sunday evening, July 19th. The Commission members went to the Grasmere Street entrance of Hunnewell Playground and walked over the entire area to the Boston end. Then we got back into the car and toured the West Newton area viewing Franklin School Playground, former River Street Playground, Pine Street Dump (NCDF site), new Burr School Playground, Murray Road School, Delan's Pond area, West Newton Common (J.W. WEEKS) Playground, and the streets and neighborhoods surrounding these areas.

Returned to Department Headquarters - 7:30 P.M.

In the discussion relative to reconsidering the Commission's May 20th vote not to release any of the Hunnewell Playground, Paul Burke informed the other members of a conversation he had had with Melvin Dangel, City Solicitor, at George Hick's wake. Mr. Dangel informed him that he was investigating a particular case which might well indicate that the Recreation Commission does not yet have jurisdiction over the Hunnewell Playground, since the Board of Aldermen never took a separate vote, assigning the area to the Recreation Commission following its purchase.

After much discussion of the whole issue, including the Allen Organization's recommendation, NCDF requests, access for department vehicles, characteristics of the site, etc., Dr. Levine made the following motion, which was seconded by Mr. Burke:

"That the Recreation Commission not vote on the Hunnewell Playground Land in question until a ruling has been obtained from the City Solicitor in the light of the new information he is investigating whether or not the Recreation Commission has legal jurisdiction."

This motion carried four to one with Penney opposed.

Regarding the Pine-River Street Area. The Commission members recognize that the residents petitioning for more recreation space and facilities in this area have some substantial factors which should be given serious consideration by the City, but were not prepared to make specific proposals at this time. After considerable discussion, the following motion was made by Mrs. West and seconded by Mr. Seldon and voted unanimously:

"That the Recreation Commission, having met with the citizens of the Pine and River Street area concerning the park and recreation needs of the neighborhood, recommends that the Mayor and Board of Alderman consider retaining and acquiring sufficient land for park and recreation purposes in the Pine and River Street area."

Adjourned - 8:15 P.M.

John B. Penney, Rec. Commissioner  
Secretary Protem

The Recreation Commission considered this proposal and various ramifications. The sense of the Commission was to advise Commissioner Penney not to enter into an arrangement for this system at this time.

- 10. Lion's Club Carnival: Hawthorn - August 5 to August 8 Charity. Following discussion, it was generally agreed that it would be wise to deny this carnival request since they had so little information available. Mr. Burke motioned that the request from Lion's Club for a Carnival to be held in the playground be denied, since no specific plan of operation has been presented to the Commission and it would be impossible to act upon. However, if in the future they would present the Commission with information as to specific details well in advance they will consider it. This was seconded by Mr. Asaff and voted unanimously.
- 11. Mr. Penney reported on the pool and lake opening. At present, the staff is receiving registrations for swimming lessons to be held during the summer at both pool and lake.
- 12. A series of band concerts is being planned this summer through a co-planned program with the High School and Recreation Department. Band concerts will be presented at various places throughout the summer playground season.
- 13. A new Drama program is in its initial stages. A drama coach will visit the major recreation areas during the summer playground season, working with those children interesred in taking part in theatricals. In place of the Children's Theatre which has presented a day of plays sometime during the summer, this group will be working on presenting a play actually acted by the local children in their own presentation.
- 14. New Business: Paul Burke has suggested a research of the percentage of the Recreation budget reflected directly to the overall available budget of the City. He feels that it is possible that Recreation could get a larger percentage if a thorough review were made. He suggests that in the fall, the Recreation Commission investigate this issue and compare with other departments and to this end he motioned "that research be done on the Recreation Commission ten year percentage of the Recreation budget with reference to comparing to the total city budget percentage wise. This was seconded by Mr. Asaff and voted unanimously in favor.

Meeting adjourned at midnight.

Next meeting to be held September 21, 1970.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of October 5, 1970 Meeting

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Dr. Burton D. Levine, Messers. Joseph Selden, Paul Burke, Annis Asaff, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order by Chairman at 7:50 P.M.

- A. Minutes of Special Recreation Commission meeting of July 16, 1970, accepted as read.
- B. Minutes of Special Recreation Commission meeting of Sunday, July 19, 1970, accepted as read with the exception of the final paragraph re: Pine Street & River Street area, which will be acted upon later during the meeting.
- C. Last paragraph - Special Recreation Commission meeting of Sunday, July 19, 1970, voted to accept as read on October 5, 1970.
- D. HALLOWEEN REPORT: Mrs. Toher, General Chairman of the Newton Halloween Committee for the Recreation Department, delivered her pre-Halloween report. This year the parties will be held on October 30th, Friday. Generally, this is acceptable to most schools and to the Recreation Department as Saturday parties would involve additional problems for food delivery, custodial coverage, overtime costs, etc. The City of Boston is holding its Halloween Parties also on Friday, October 30th.

Many of the same problems exist as in previous years, some of the schools do not want evening parties (possibly a self-defeating situation since evening parties provide activities for children that might otherwise be involved in Halloween pranks), difficulty in obtaining building chairmen, lack of parental involvement and enthusiasm.

Generally, the Recreation Commission members will visit parties according to their wards. The decision as to the Halloween supper at Mrs. West's home was delayed temporarily.

There will be an evaluation meeting after Halloween.

- E. Senior Citizen Report on Fall Foliage Trips was made by Mrs. Toher. Within October, the Recreation Department will sponsor several trips for the various Senior Citizen housing projects at Jackson Garden, Horace Mann, Parker House and the new Norumbega Gardens, under Mrs. Toher's leadership.
- F. Petition from residents of Stanton Avenue Area for Recreation Area; Representatives of the area came to the Recreation Commission meeting to present their request for playground space within acceptable and safe distance from their homes. Among those present were: Mrs. Mitchell, spokesman for the group, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Wyman and the President of the Auburndale Community Assoc. They stated that many of the children in this area now play in the Woodland MTA parking lot or the Temple parking lot.

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There is vacant land of 3.5 acres available on Stanton Avenue hillside. There are approximately 600 people in this area with about 111 children between the ages of six and eighteen and 32 children from under one, up to five years of age - according to a Planning Department report. They would like to request an area of one acre - or more, of land, equipped in a suitable manner to best service the most people. In this case, probably, a ball field of some kind and a screened-barrier tot-lot.

The Commission felt it was unable to give any positive answer at this time.

Mr. Paul Burke made a motion that the Recreation Commissioner contact the City Assessors relative to the cost of this land in question and also the City Engineers, for a cost-of development plan with recommendations - within sixty or ninety days (or before the end of the year). Motion seconded by Dr. Levine and voted unanimously.

The president of the Auburndale Association is now concerned that while this land is presently available, it might conceivably be used in some other manner if not purchased or obtained soon by the Recreation Department.

- G. EDMANDS PARK RESOLUTION BY ALDERMEN: Comm. Penney reported that this area has had a major cleanup, by a special crew, this summer. The Newton Conservators plan a "walk" through Edmands Park on October 18th. The Recreation Commission members agreed with the sense of the Aldermanic resolution, to encourage more use of this area.

Mr. Burke's recommendation is - that before going into any major scale development of Edmands Park, or similar area - that existing playgrounds should be brought up to date and improved.

The Board of Aldermen's resolution referred to the Allen report. Since the Allen report has not been released, it was suggested that the Recreation Commission members might informally question his Honor, the Mayor, as to the release of this report.

- H. Letter from City Clerk: for the Public Works Committee of the Board of Aldermen, requesting definitive plan of Pine-River Street and a resolution by Aldermen Harrington requesting Mayor to release, to the Recreation Commission, a portion of the Pine Street Dump site for a recreation facility.

On a motion made by Mr. Asaff, the Commissioner was directed to send a letter to the Mayor to request that the Mayor donate what, if any, portion of the Pine Street dump site area he is considering, to be given to the Recreation Department for a playground. Seconded by Mr. Burke and voted unanimously.

- I. Discussion about "Recreation Open Space Plan for Newton" in relation to various requests for additional playgrounds (Stanton Ave., Pine-River Streets, Crescent Street, Newtonville, et all.) Since this plans' publication, it has never been established what priorities the City desires regarding its recommendations. This master plan has been made with the Recreation Commissioner's cooperation and aid but the Commission has not established or evaluated priorities. During the discussion the Commission members expressed the feeling that they must be more aggressive in making their desires known to the Board of Aldermen.

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At this time, Mr. Burke made a motion that the Recreation Commissioner be directed to contact the Chairman of the City Planning Committee and request that he call a special joint meeting of this committee with the Recreation Commission and the City Planner, to discuss the "Recreation/Open Space Plan for Newton, Mass. 1969". This was seconded by Mr. Selden and voted unanimously.

Mr. Burke also reminded the Commission that earlier this year he suggested contacting the high schools - probably the Student Councils - to advise youth that they would be welcome to attend Recreation Commission meetings and express their desires concerning Recreation facilities and programs.

He also called to the Commission's attention, his suggestion regarding research of the percentage of the Recreation budget reflected directly to the over-all available budget of the City of Newton.

- J. COMMUNITY COUNCIL DELEGATES: A request to Commissioner Penney for the appointment of two delegates to this Council. Commissioner Penney is willing to be one delegate, second person open at present.
- K. ROCKET LAUNCH REQUEST: This day, Commissioner Penney received a request to launch a solid fuel rocket on some Recreation Department land. This person informed Commissioner Penney that a new State regulation is now in effect but that Fire Chief Perkins would not issue a permit unless Recreation Commission gave permission to use a playground to launch.

The Commission recommended that the Commissioner check with Fire and Legal Department for further information and not issue permits until this information has been acquired and reported. It was suggested that a representative, wishing to launch rockets, from public recreation land, present their story at a future Commission meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 P.M. The next meeting of the Recreation Commission will be held on November 2, 1970.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of November 2, 1970 Meeting

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Dr. Burton L. Levine, Mr. Paul Burke, newly appointed member, Mr. Stephen Crosby, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:50 P.M.

1. Review of Pine/River Street Site:

- A. Seven representatives from the Pine-River Street area in Auburndale attended this meeting. Their object being a review of their earlier request for recreation space and equipment somewhere within this area. They are desirous of working with Recreation Commission, the Board of Aldermen or the Mayor, in whatever way they can to expedite this project.

In response to Commissioner Penney's letter to the Mayor, regarding the amount of land in the Pine Street area to be assigned to the Recreation Department, a reply was received from the Mayor indicating that until a recommendation comes to him, he is not prepared at this time, to make a assignment of a specification.

Due to the fact that there is no clear-cut deliniation of which department must specify what land is available for this project, a delay was inevitable. However, the Recreation Commissioner has sent to the Chairman of the City Planning Committee, Alderman David Jackson, a communication about this site location but has not, as yet, received a reply.

Mr. Paul Burke has volunteered to telephone Alderman Jackson, informally, regarding this. Commissioner Penney will notify him if he has not received a reply within approximately a week.

Delegation left at 8:35 P.M.

2. Introduction to Recreation Commission of new member: Mr. Stephen Crosby was introduced to the Recreation Commission members by Comm. Penney.
3. Minutes of October 5, 1970 meeting of the Newton Recreation Commission were reviewed and accepted as circulated.
4. Stanton Avenue:  
Commissioner Penney briefly reviewed the possibility of a playground in this area. So far the Recreation Commission has not received a report from the Assessors as to any increase of the \$30,000.00 land acquisition cost estimate of 1968. A \$20,000.00 estimate by the City Engineers was made in 1968, this to include leveling a certain portion of the area and erecting fences on a precipitous slope. An approximate cost will be available in about one more month, using current construction costs - plus some additional for smaller childrens play apparatus area.
5. Youth Representation from the High Schools: Although Commissioner Penney contacted all four Newton High Schools early in October, inviting their Student Council representative - or similar representativ - to come to the Recreation Commission meeting tonight and Newton South High responded saying they would bring three representatives, none came. Since this was

a cold, wet, fall night, perhaps they had difficulty in finding the Recreation Building. The Commission members recommend that the Commissioner again make an effort to contact yough representatives, repeating the invitation for the December Commission meeting and also contacting the Student Editors of the High School papers. Mr. Crosby agreed to make telephone calls to the schools also.

6. Representatives to Community Council:

A. Two representatives assigned from the Recreation Commission were:

- 1. John B. Penney
- 2. Dr. Burton D. Levine

7. Request for permission to launch rockets from suitable site in Newton:

A. The Recreation Commissioner has recently had requests from Newton citizens for permission to launch rockets in Newton. The Fire Department of Newton has refused to issue a permit without an okay from the Recreation Department. They have indicated to Commissioner Penney that they would consider this request favorably if a satisfactory launch site was available and safety regulations were enforced as well as the new State Law adherred to. Commissioner Penney invited Mr. MacAllister of the "Mr. Wizard Science Center" in Wellesley Hills to come before the Recreation Commission with information about rockets and launching and explain in detail just what procedure was indicated.

Mr. MacAllister (distributor) and Mr. Vash (manufacturer) gave a brief but thorough demonstration of the assembly of the basic rocket and the more sophisticated motor launching mechanism. This launching mechanism is fired by a solid propellant which is only ignited by an electrical system. It cannot be ignited by matches or other devices. The rockets take off at about 150 miles per hour with a 3 to 5 second burnout and no fire damage. There is no danger of explosion at any time - either at launch or later. A special launch pad is available from the distributor. The ballistics of trajectory allow these rockets, with large engines, to mount to approximately 2000 feet. Smaller versions rise to 200 ft. and over in altitude.

Mr. MacAllister noted that there are many science clubs and special rocket clubs in existence in and around New England. Wellesley has a school rocket club, there is one from Mass. Institute of Technology. Bridgewater, Mass. has provided a club area for launching. If Newton could be persuaded to consider a site, his Science Center would be willing to print and distribute literature describing the site, giving instructions and precautions according to the State Law now in effect.

The Commission members agreed to talk it over at the meeting and notify him as to their decision.

After the gentlemen left and after discussion, Mr. Paul Burke made the following motion: "That the Recreation Commission recommend to the Fire Chief, that rocket launching permits be granted to Newton residents qualified by State Law, to use the Newton Infirmary land on Winchester Street, Newton, for a launching site. This recommendation is to be granted for a trial period until June 1, 1971

Rockets

from this date (11/2/70)". Motion seconded by Dr. Levine and voted unanimously to accept. Commissioner Penney will notify Fire Chief to this effect.

8. Slides of Recreation Programs in Action: At 10:15, Miss Fran Towle, Recreation Supervisor, presented a colored slide program of this years Recreation Department in action. This interesting presentation started with an early season Hula Hoop contest and a Frisbee contest, on through the summer season of Junior Olympics, drama and ballet programs outdoors at Auburndale Playground, the summer playground boys and girls baseball and softball, plus the adult womens softball program and subsequent presentation of trophies at a banquet and even the Senior Citizen's Spring Luncheon and fall foliage trips, climaxing in dinner at the Green Ridge Turkey Farm. So much participation, enthusiasm and enjoyment was evident in these slides!
9. Halloween Report: All Commission members with the exception of Mr. Asaff and Mr. Selden, who were unable to attend, traveled around to all of the Newton Halloween parties at the various schools throughout the city. The general report was of many excellent programs, much enthusiasm, good parental response, well co-ordinated party. The only possible suggestion of criticism was that they generally agreed that more police should be in attendance at the Warren Jr. High, where a very large teen-age party was held. (4 were on duty.)
10. Report on "Walks" being held at various area by the Newton Conservators: Commissioner Penney reported that three walks have been held by the Conservators in recent weeks, one on the Webster Land, one at Edmands Park and this last Sunday one was held at Cold Spring. Two weeks hence a final walk will be held at what is left of the Norumbega area. Mr. Penney and Mrs. West have been able to attend the majority of the walks and report them very interesting and well attended.
11. Legal opinions from legal department regarding the possibility of changing status of certain parcels of "park" land to "park and playground" land.
  - A. Commissioner Penney reviewed his original correspondence to Mayor Basbas regarding these changes and the two legal opinions received from Mr. Melvin Dangel, City Solicitor, on July 29, 1970, and on August 10, 1970.

Mr. Burke pointed out that if legislative changes are to be requested of the State Legislature, it would have to be done soon, as the bill would have to be on file by December 31st. His suggestion being that Commissioner Penney work out contents, details, etc., with the Mayor in order that this could go on the docket to the Board of Aldermen as soon as possible.

A motion was made by Mr. Burke that Commissioner Penney be authorized to contact Mayor Basbas and work out details of the request to change the status of certain parcels of land (Edmands Park, Cold Spring and Auburndale) from "Park" to "Park and Playgrounds" purpose. Seconded by Dr. Levine and voted unanimously. Mrs. West suggested that Commissioner Penney and Mayor also consider the "Park" portion of Newton Centre Playground.

Adjourned at 11:20 P.M.

Next meeting of Commission to be held December 7th.

Respectfully submitted  
Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

MINUTES OF NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 7, 1970

Present: Commissioner Penney, Chairman, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Messers. Joseph Selden, Paul Burke, Joseph Capalbo, G. Nicholas Dawson & Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:55 P.M.

The Commission took this opportunity to welcome the two new members to this meeting, Mr. Joseph Capalbo and Mr. G. Nicholas Dawson.

- A. Report of elementary principals meeting. Commissioner Penney and Mrs. Toher, General Halloween Chairman, attended this meeting held at the Hyde School. Since Halloween will be on Sunday next year, the principals agreed that it might be wise to consider omitting the parties this year.

A motion was made by Mr. Welch of Emerson School and was voted 12 to 8, that the Recreation Department pursue, with appropriate groups, a trial of no Halloween Parties in 1971.

However, before making any decision, Mr. Penney and Mrs. Toher suggested contacting interested groups such as PTA, etc. and seek an opinion regarding the Halloween celebrations. One factor that has to be considered is the unpredictability of parental participation.

The Commission members did feel that the principals should not make the policy for the Recreation Department. Mr. Burke suggests that we ask the children in grades 4, 5, and 6 what their ideas were and what they feel would make a good Halloween party.

- B. Youth Representatives from High Schools: Since the Commission received no representative in response to a previous letter, Commissioner Penney repeated his invitation this month. The only response was from our Lady's High School; Miss Rosemarie Capalbo. She said that others had planned to attend but due to an unfortunate automobile accident, they were unable to do so. Her opinion was solicited regarding programs of recreation that the students in that age group might find desirable.

Basically she felt that the Recreation Department supplied many good programs. Her suggestions for additional services are as follows:

1. Facilities for hockey - a great interest and demand currently for this sport.
2. Summer program - similar to Boston's Summerthing. A "Rock" concert, and a Folk Concert, a general concert. Something that could really be looked forward to every week or so.
3. Another swimming pool or facility similar to the old Riverside area, with canoes, etc. for recreation.

- C. Cold Spring development and transfer of land use designation: Commissioner Penney reported to the Mayor, the news item in the local paper regarding the take-over of Cold Spring by the MDC for an ice-skating rink and pool, proposed by Senator elect Irving Fishman and Newton Representatives.

Commissioner Penney received permission from the Mayor to release the Allen Report to the Board of Aldermen, but must include the notation that no firm commitment is made to fund any of the proposals in it.

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A formal request that the Cold Spring parcels be transferred from Park - to Park and Recreation and from City land, undesignated, to Park and Recreation has been approved by Mayor Basbas and sent to the Board of Aldermen by Commissioner Penney.

- D. Youth Hockey Meeting at Horace Mann: A group of concerned citizens, led by Mr. Robert McLaughlin, director of the Youth Hockey Association, held a meeting to see what can be done to get an ice-skating rink built in Newton. Invitations were sent to the Mayor and City officials. Although the Mayor was unable to attend, many of the Aldermen did go.

Commissioner Penney reported on this meeting to Mayor Basbas and again suggested a meeting with Mr. McLaughlin.

The Recreation Commission members hope to be able to approach the Mayor regarding the possibility of Newton building a facility for this popular sport.

- E. Joint Meeting with the City Planning Committee of the Board of Aldermen is set for Thursday, December 10th to discuss the Open Space Plan.

It is hoped that possibly through better communication with the Board of Aldermen, the Recreation can exchange their thoughts and vice-versa, and work more closely with the Board of Aldermen.

- F. School Board contact: Mr. Joseph Selden feels that the Recreation Commission should meet jointly, at least once a year, with the School Committee.

Commissioner Penney suggests that at that meeting, they should formalize a use of the facilities in the New High School (pool and gym) by the Recreation Department.

Mr. Selden motioned that Recreation Commission meet with the School Committee in some mutual, agreeable near future date. Seconded by Mr. Capalbo and voted unanimously.

The date for this meeting is to be arranged through conversation between Commissioner Penney and Superintendent Fink - and later a formal request by the Chairman of the Recreation Commission, Mrs. West to Mr. Beckwith, their chairman.

- G. There will be a budget meeting for the Recreation Commission members on Monday, December 11th, to discuss budget items for next year. Most members will be able to attend.
- H. A Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Pillar House on the 11th of December. Recreation Commission, retired members of the Recreation Department and the office staff plan to attend. The Mayor will be unable to attend this year.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 P.M. The next meeting will be on January 4th.

Respectfully submitted

Marjorie Lesbirel  
Secretary

(Stephen Crosby in Military Service)

Basbas recently suggested to Mr. Penney that rather, certain park lands should be designated recreation. 422

4. Paul Burke motioned that the Recreation Commission go on record as being in favor of the concept of the land at Cold Spring, Edmands Park and Auburndale, be legally designated from Park Land to Recreation Land and to investigate the ramifications to achieve this. Seconded by Mr. Asaff. Voted unanimously by Mr. Selden, Mr. Burke, Mr. Penney, Mrs. West and Mr. Asaff.

5. It was also recommended that Commissioner Penney communicate this vote to the Mayor and request his suggestions as to what procedure should be taken.

6. Mrs. West reported that she had attended the dedication and ceremony for PFC Richard Forte Memorial at the Allison Playground. She was greatly impressed by the dignity of the memorial arrangements.

7. Paul Burke, as he mentioned previously, is very interested in citizen participation and especially youth participation in Recreation. In the fall, he would like to see the High Schools contacted (Principals) representatives from all Public and Parochial Schools encouraged to attend and participate in Recreation Meetings.

He would also suggest the publishing in the local papers of upcoming meetings, at least a week in advance, with date, time and agenda to be discussed.

His feeling is that the more participation that people can become involved in, the better is their understanding of problems before the Recreation Commission.

The above was put as a motion, seconded by Mr. Asaff and voted unanimously in favor.

8. Pool Covering: Commissioner Penney reported that he had been in contact with the Bloomington, Indiana Recreation and had received their report on an air supported pool structure that they have had in service for 3 years. It is a T shape approximately 165x56 feet, manufactured by Byrd Air of Buffalo, N.Y. It is heated and has cost \$8,000.00 from May to October. They have experienced no vandalism.

A. Air-tech also manufactures a pool cover of this type. Representative in this area would be Will Towle in Newton, Connecticut.

B. Paddock Pool has various types of cover, permanent and temporary structures.

C. Commissioner Penney will require plans from the engineers of present pool structure (to be Photostated) in order that a set of plans may be sent to various companies for their cost estimates. Evidently at the very minimum, the cost would be \$75,000.00.

9. Tennis court fees: A new system of tennis fees was recently presented to Commissioner Penney and it is a coin operated system which raises and lowers the nets according to deposits made by players - upon deposit, net raises to playing height, expiration of time allows net to drop. The company interested in installing this system would do it on a concession basis for the first period.