

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 18, 1982

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul Burke, Walter Bernheimer, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

1. Due to confusion on meeting room, the Commission was forced to improvise a meeting area in the Public Buildings Department. Meeting was called convened at 7:45 PM by Chairman Bamel.

Minutes of the December meeting were accepted as circulated.

2. Reports of attendance, programs, maintenance, and the report of the Commissioner's December meetings attended were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner Halloran told the group that Jane Pitt had been nominated by the Major to fill the vacant Commission seat in Ward 7. She will be interviewed by 2 Committees of the Board of Aldermen before a final confirmation is made. Although she could not vote, she was invited to attend this evenings Commission meeting, but was unable to do so, due to a previous commitment.

Skating has begun. Auburndale Cove was opened for skating on Tuesday and Wednesday and Crystal Lake on Thursday. However, it snowed and there is now an accumulation of 14 inches of snow on the surface. Unfortunately, with only 8 inches of ice, it is not safe to put equipment onto the ice to remove the snow. Additionally, the snow forms an insulation, effectively preventing additional ice buildup. As soon as it is possible snow will be cleared and skating reopened. Bullough's Pond is experiencing problems due to salt runoff which is preventing ice formation. It looks doubtful that there will be skating on this area for some time.

Surrounding towns, the Commission was informed, generally do not have supervised skating on natural ponds, nor do they have any maintenance of skating areas.

Not including any maintenance costs, supervision so far has cost \$209.58 and skating permits or day passes sold came up to a total of \$267.00. (This included a few season passes which bring the total up temporarily).

4. Recreation budget presentation and recommendations based upon the budget ceiling set forth by the Executive Department. Commissioner Halloran provided each Commission member with a complete, proposed budget in an enclosed report booklet form. This contained not only figures for the proposed budget but also full explanations of additions, changes or cuts.

Mr. Halloran carefully went over each step in this proposed budget, item by item, stopping as often as necessary to give response to any particular question asked by any member.

While cuts of \$73,286.00 plus \$7,922.00 which must also be absorbed for step raises due in the coming year to Department members, for a total of \$81,208.00 were made in this million dollar budget, Commissioner Halloran told the Commission members that it was conceivable that the Department would be called upon to make additional cuts. Additional cuts would have to include not only program and maintenance but personnel.

Of particular concern to Chairman Bamel - as well as the other members of the Commission is the lack of any Capital Improvement funds. This will be the third year without CIP due to zero based budgets. As Mr. Bamel reminded everyone, without funds to make major repairs or replace equipment, gradually facilities are bound to deteriorate. Commissioner Halloran said that he too was very concerned about this and also that the Department had been unable to purchase any new motorized equipment to replace some of the older and unreliable trucks. Mr. Halloran said that he would certainly bring this to the attention of the Executive Department when he met with them.

Commissioner Halloran also told the members that the planned Cold Spring improvements and plans, he had been informed, would likely begin this coming Spring depending upon action taken by the Board of Aldermen. Federal funding which is available matched by City funding must be implemented soon or lost.

One other consideration for a possible budget cut, but rejected, was the elimination of all tennis supervision, where during the Summer, courts at North and South High Schools lighted courts and clay courts at Newton Centre and Burr Park, are reserved and supervised through a paid pass permit. Commissioner Halloran did not advocate this cut since it is an income producing program. Mr. Bamel agreed that it didn't make sense to stop coverage when a good income from the program was being sustained, particularly when this was a very visible group on courts and shows a good use of a facility.

As discussion seemed to be complete at this time Paul Burke moved to accept the recommended budget as presented by Commissioner Halloran, seconded by Mr. Bernheimer and so voted unanimously.

Mr. Halloran again repeated that it was entirely possible that the Department may be called upon to make more cuts.

Jennie DeVito inquired about the possibility of the Recreation Department in these difficult budget times being asked to absorb some other Department's now operating in the City.

Commissioner Halloran responded that the Department is always willing to assume additional responsibility as long as the Department had sufficient funding to implement any additional duties. At this time he has not been approached on this subject, he reported.

Next meeting will be held on February 22 due to the celebration of George Washington's Birthday on the 3rd Monday of the month when the Commission usually meets.

Respectfully submitted,
Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 22, 1982

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Paul J. Burke, Francis Rice, Howard Ferguson and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary. The Commission also welcomed new member, Jane Pitt from Ward 7.

Also attending this meeting were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner from the Recreation Department and Chief Supervisor, Carol Stapleton. Members of the Mass. Bay Community College recreation class attended to observe this Commission Meeting.

1. Minutes of the January meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and Commissioner's reports of activities and events attended during the past month were distributed to all members.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported the following information:
 - A. Skating this season was pretty limited due to uncertain weather conditions.

Bullough's Pond did not open at all due to open water - probably due to salt runoff from nearby roads, Crystal Lake was open 1 day for skating and Ware's Cove in Auburndale managed 12 skating days.

While the depth of ice at Auburndale was sufficient, what occurred was snow, thaw, rain, etc., causing a situation where ice froze in a thin top layer with water below this for several inches and the firm ice below that. Skating was impossible since the 2 or 3 inches of top ice was insufficient to support skating and the water between never froze enough to make a total solid base. Income received from skating pass sales covered approximately 87% of the cost of opening the skating area for the 12 skating days available.

- B. The jointly sponsored by the Recreation Department and the Newton Youth Commission, 4th Annual Youth Awards program will be held on May 17th. At that time 4 citizens will be honored for their contribution to youth here in Newton. There will be an Adult Award, a Young Adult Award, a Senior Youth Award and a Junior Youth Award.

Commissioner Halloran distributed the information to all members and suggested that they think about possible worthy candidates. He also mentioned some of the recently passed Adult Awards which were given to the late Bobby Braceland for his tremendous contributions to the youth of the City and the award given to former Recreation Supervisor Jim Murphy for his work over the years with the young people of Newton.

- C. This year's Garden City Marathon, men's and women's open and masters - to help fund prevention of child abuse will be held on Sunday, March 7th. It begins at noon at North High, running 26.2 certified miles within the City of Newton, terminating again at North High.

Alderman Paul Daley, as usual, has been a prime devotee and backer of this popular event which is also a qualifying race for the Boston Marathon.

- D. Mr. Halloran mentioned that in addition to himself, three other members were involved in the Management Committee of the new Commonwealth Country Club. These include Mr. Bernheimer, Mr. Ferguson and Ms. Pitt.

Jane Pitt briefly reported that members had had a meeting with Ken Campbell, the prospective "Pro" with regard to his contract and this seems to be working out well.

She also reported that surprisingly, the Dore suit had been settled and that this will now mean that Barkin could possibly begin construction fairly soon. Tees and greens will have to be moved and there is some apprehension that construction may interfere with golf play this year.

Jane also mentioned that Ken Campbell seemed to have a good following as a golf pro but this may be a difficult year to play golf in this area. She also explained that she had been appointed to one of the sub-committees of the Management Committee as Chairperson, that will be responsible for "watch dogging" construction. The next regular meeting of the full Committee will be on March 9th at City Hall.

- E. Consideration is being given to a revised City of Newton Ordinance regarding the necessity of presenting certain requests for use of city lands, i.e., for Farmers' Market, St. Mary of Carmen Festival, Senior Citizen Picnic, PTA Fairs or Carnivals, etc. According to this revised Ordinance, it will be necessary to go through the Land use Committee of the Board of Aldermen.

Since it is unclear at this time just exactly what areas and what groups are to be licensed by this change, Commissioner Halloran has written to Dan Funk, City Solicitor, to ask for his interpretation and direction in this matter and also to inquire as to time frame necessary to complete this action. He has also asked if it might be possible to present a package request of all activities known to be conducted throughout the year. These would include those above - as well as Harvest Fair and SpringFest.

Commissioner Halloran spoke briefly with Dan Funk this week and he hopes to clarify this situation within a week or so.

4. Commissioner Halloran, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Newton Recreation Commission, announced that election of Chairman and Vice Chairman would be conducted at the March meeting.
5. Cold spring proposed development. Presently before Committees and before the Honorable Board meet next Monday, is the question as to whether the City of Newton should go ahead with matching funding of \$250,000.00 with the government to develop this Cold spring area - or forfeit those monies already expended for land taken on eminent domain and for plans drawn up for this development, (in the vicinity of \$53,000.00). Matching funds will be withdrawn if the City does not honor its previous commitment.

At this particular time, Mr. Halloran says this is a difficult decision to make due to Proposition 2½ and zero base budgets, plus lack of monies for Capital Improvements to Recreation facilities. While the Commissioner is willing to assume the additional

responsibility for the maintenance of this area if it becomes a reality, he neither advocates nor opposes this project. He has provided the Board with probable cost that would be necessary to maintain the area. Members of the Commission inquired as to what would happen to the land at Cold spring if the project did not become a reality. Mr. Halloran responded that as far as he knew it would continue to be a passive recreation area. Currently there are some ball fields and it is occasionally used for picnics also. Mr. Halloran also mentioned to the group that this proposal will go before the Finance Committee sometime this same evening.

6. Update on Recreation Budget. No change as yet. Recreation has provided a budget reduced by 4½% as directed by the Executive Department. Nothing further at this time, but Commissioner will keep everyone informed.

Mr. Halloran reported that the Executive Department has requested by priority, 2 different Capital Improvement lists of needs to existing facilities - each for \$50,000.00. He has forwarded this to them but has no way of knowing at this time, if any CIP monies will be available. (Included in lists were mainly tennis courts which are in desperate need of repair and a basketball court).

By the last week in March or the first in April, it is anticipated that the Mayor will submit the new budgets to the Board of Aldermen.

7. Commissioner again reminded the members that the dedication of the Paul J. Burke Baseball Field at Albemarle will be dedicated at 6:30 PM on May 7th and that a baseball game will then be played at 7:00 PM between Newton and Brookline. It is anticipated that Paul's many friends will all be present at this event.

8. New Business:

- A. With regard to the Newton Youth Hockey Program, Francis Rice told the members that the organization will be hosting 21 teams and their parents in a special playoff, at the Fessenden School Rink.

Mr. Rice told the group that there are over 500 boys enrolled in the Youth Hockey Program and that they are doing very well. The elimination of the \$5,000.00 for ice time that Recreation has been able to provide in the past should not prove to be a serious problem Mr. Rice said. They will simply work harder in the money earning efforts.

At present, fees for teams are \$275.00 for those in the Travel Team and \$125.00 for those in Intramural Team. Cost for ice time presently is between \$55.00 and \$65.00 per hour. Mr. Rice also said that possible in April, Pat Lyons may come in and give a financial report, but actually the Commission members felt this was unnecessary since Recreation would not be involved with them in any financial matters.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

March 15, 1982

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Paul J. Burke, Walter Bernheimer, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Francis Rice, and Carol Stapleton, Acting Secretary as Marjorie Lesbirel was on vacation

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bamel at 7:40 PM

1. Minutes of the February meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Election for Chairman and Vice Chairman was conducted. Paul Burke nominated Herbert R. Bamel for Chairman. This was seconded by Walter Bernheimer and so voted unanimously.

Mr. Burke nominated Jennie DeVito for Vice Chairman, with Mr. Bernheimer seconding - Mr. Ferguson moved to close nominations and Mrs. Pepper seconded. Jennie DeVito was unanimously elected.
3. Reports by Commissioner Halloran: The maintenance men will soon start on fields. Commissioner Halloran again told the members that the skating season this past Winter had yielded only 12 days at Auburndale Cove, 1 day at Crystal Lake and none at Bullough's Pond. During that period however, skating fees recovered 87% of the Department's cost.
4. Tennis Rules and Regulations: Commissioner Halloran went over the rules and regulations and recommended only were some verbiage changes, with the fees for 1982 to remain the same as the 1981 season, which are: Student \$10.00, Adult \$15.00, Family \$25.00, and opening date for supervised courts will be on May 1st instead of April 15th which will save both lighting and supervision costs.

Mr. Rice moved that the recommended rules, regulations and fees be implemented for the 1982 season. This was seconded by Mr. Ferguson and so moved unanimously.
5. Cold spring report: Mr. Halloran reported that the Board of Aldermen voted with a full board on the Cold Spring Project on March 8, 1982. The vote was 16 to 5 in favor of this project which is a \$500,000.00 project (with \$250,000.00 in matching from the "Heritage Foundation" which is the old Bureau of Outdoor Recreation). The park could become a reality in the Spring of 1983.
6. Recreation Budget: Mayor Mann will present the City budget to the full Board of Aldermen on March 31st. Meeting will begin shortly afterward with the Departments.

Mr. Halloran explained to the Commission members that he had received a request for Newton Youth Hockey for \$2,500.00 via Mrs. Pat Lyons.

Jennie DeVito moved that this allocation of funds be adopted with the stipulation that this funding is presently possible, providing that no further budget cuts for the Fiscal 1983 Recreation budget are made. This allocation of funds must be reviewed on an annual

- basis. This was seconded by Mr. Ferguson and so voted unanimously.
7. Report on Garden City Marathon: A cold wet day. 465 runners participated. It began at 2:30 PM at North High, returning to North High. Proceeds were given to the Child Abuse Foundation. Mr. Halloran expressed his special thanks to the recreation staff that helped out with this very large city event.
 8. Report on revised ordinance regarding permits on special lands in Newton. At this time Mr. Halloran has not received an answer from the Law Department as yet in response to his letter of January 27th which sought clarification and direction with regard to this new Ordinance. However, it has been his understanding that they are still working on this project. Mr. Halloran said that he will inform the Commission members just as soon as he receives a reply from the Legal Department.

New Business:

Howard Ferguson inquired about the problem on the condition of the track at Newton South High School which is sinking.

Mr. Halloran said that he had been informed by the City Engineer, Paul Guinta, that they are awaiting an estimate of repairs, from a firm by the name of Haley and Aldrich currently studying this difficulty. The engineering Department will inform Commissioner Halloran when they have additional information and the Commissioner will keep members posted.

It is a concern that if this continues to sink, it may be unusable in years to come.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM. The next meeting will be week later than the usual 3rd Monday due to April holiday. Next meeting, Monday, April 26th.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Stapleton
Acting Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 26, 1982

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Josephine Pepper, Francis J. Rice, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Deputy Commissioner Fran Towle and Chief Supervisor, Carol Stapleton also attended this meeting as usual.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bamel at 7:35 PM.

1. Minutes of the March Meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance were distributed to all members.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that:
 - A. Invitations had been sent out and publicity in local and Boston papers had been distributed with regard to the dedication of the Paul J. Burke Baseball Field on May 7th at Albemarle Athletic Facility. Everyone is really looking forward to this special and important event.
 - B. reminder to all Commission members that the Recreation budget would be reviewed by the two Committees of the Board of Aldermen, Human Services and Finance. The first hearing will be with Human Services on April 29th at 7:15 PM, and the second with Finance on May 4th at 9:45 PM.

The presence of the Commission members would be very supportive, Mr. Halloran said.
 - C. Continuing negotiations on the illegal use of Novitiate land for an access road. Originally was caused by a misunderstanding when a supposed caretaker gave permission for access but had no authority. since that time City Solicitor's office and Recreation have been meeting with the contractor, Wexler. No final solution has been arrived at as yet.
4. Annual request for permit for carnival at Hawthorn by the St. Mary of Carmen Society. A letter has been received from Nunzio F. Leone, Chairman of the Festival Committee asking for permission to again hold the annual event the 3rd week of July. Set up would be on Monday, July 12th with the carnival continuing during the week and culminating on Sunday the 18th with the annual procession through the streets of Nonantum at 2:00 PM, and candlelight procession back to the church at 10:00 PM. Take down on Monday. Rules and regulations with carnival operator to be the same as in the past and under the control and direction of the Recreation Department Letter, including all rules and regulations will be sent by the Commissioner. Also in accordance with rules the Building Commissioner will inspect all rides - with no "thrill" rides to be allowed, insurance certification in the amount of two million dollars to be provided.

Since there have been no problems in the past, Commissioner Halloran recommended that approval be given.

Jennie DiVito moved and Paul Burke seconded that permission be granted for this carnival with the same stipulation on rides, safety and liability insurance. (They must also be made aware that there may be additional action necessary due to new City Ordinances governing carnivals, etc. which the Recreation Department is awaiting information and direction on, from the City Solicitor's office). The vote was unanimously in favor.

5. SpringFest: This annual event sponsored by the Newton Cultural Affairs - the Recreation Department provides much assistance for programs, etc. at this event. It will be held at the Newton City Hall on May 16th from 10 AM to 4 PM, (with a rain date of May 22nd). This is an excellent event and we are closely associated through our Cultural Arts programs. On a fine day there may be from 7 to 10 thousand people attending.
6. Tennis Court Supervision begins May 1st. This will include those courts at North and South High which are lighted and the clay courts at Newton Centre and Burr Park. Permits went on sale today at the Recreation Department and North High. The cost this year is: \$10.00 Student, \$15.00 Adult, and \$25.00 for a Family.
7. Spring Field Preparation: Little League fields, soccer fields, school fields, etc. have been groomed and marked by Recreation maintenance.

Chairman Herbert R. Bamel said that he has been most impressed and that the men have done - what he termed "a fabulous job" on the fields. Mr. Ferguson also suggested that on behalf of the Commission members that Commissioner Halloran send them a complimentary note in appreciation of the work and care which they have given to the fields this year. Mr. Halloran assured the members that in addition to the note he had already sent to the men commending them on their field work, he would be happy to send another note from the Commission members.

BAYS SOCCER: represented by Mr. Noonan has talked to both the Commissioner and Herb Bamel. It's very difficult to cooperate with Mr. Noonan as he demands more than is available for soccer during the Spring athletic season which is devoted to baseball, softball, lacrosse, etc. - rather than to soccer which is generally considered to be a Fall sport. Recreation has made every effort to provide fields but it cannot be at the expense of Spring sports at the schools and Recreation Leagues.

8. Consideration of proposal by the Planning Department for parking at the Emerson School currently converting to condominiums - but which will also include Community Center and Library. A letter received from Barry Canner, Purchasing Director was sent to Commissioner Halloran requesting that the Recreation Commission take a position on the request to approve the change of land use at the Emerson School development site, from Recreation to public parking. This will enable the developer to utilize approximately 9,300 square feet of land for 30 parking spaces for the use of the general public to park while using the Community Center and Library. (These areas will continue to be included on this site). This will also require an act of the Massachusetts Legislature. The Recreation Commission should also request that the land in question be transferred by the City to the developer.

B

After discussion, Mr. Ferguson moved, with Mr. Burke seconding, that the Recreation Commission approve the change of the use of land in the designated area at the Emerson School development, from recreation use to public parking, in order to enable the developer to utilize a portion of land currently part of the recreation field, for parking purposes for the general public using the Community Center or the Library at the site on Pettee Street in Newton Upper Falls. The Commission also approved of the City's transfer of said land to the developer. The Commission voted unanimously to allow this.

10. Revised Ordinances - carried ahead on agenda but there is no further information at this time. Mr. Halloran said that he is awaiting direction from the Legal Department in response to his January letter and will continue to keep this on the agenda each month until such time as we have definite information.
11. Mayor's Annual Prayer Breakfast at Boston College May 27th (Mc Elroy Commons) at 7:45 A.M. Tickets are \$7.00 each. Dr. David H. Hubel, 1981 Nobel Prize winner in medicine will be the honored guest. The Swedish Ambassador at Large, Jean-Christopher Oberg, will extend greetings from King Karl Gustav to those present. (Marge has tickets). Mr. Halloran suggested that commission members make reservations as soon as possible to this popular yearly event.
12. New Business:

- A. Presentation of awards by combined Youth Commission/Recreation Commission to recipients at the Aldermanic Chambers on May 17th at 7:30 PM.

Commissioner Halloran explained that the Recreation candidate, he presented and approved for this year's presentation, is the well known Auburndale resident, Jean Cole. Jean has been known for many, many years for all her work with the youth of Newton and will be honored at this special annual event. The Mayor, President of the Board of Aldermen and the Chairman of the Recreation Commission will be making presentations to candidates on that evening. Since these ceremonies will begin at 7:30 PM, the same evening and the same time that the Recreation Commission normally meets - and therefore suggests that the Commission plan to meet at 8:15 PM instead of 7:30 PM. This way, all members can attend the presentation of the awards.

- B. Chairman Bamel called to the attention of the group that a special needs camp located on Plum Island near Newburyport had been seriously vandalized recently and that they were in dire need of equipment, etc. to replace that which had been damaged. he wasn't sure of the name but it had been mentioned several times in the newspapers and on the radio, The Dave Maynard Show.

Mr. Halloran said he would check out any equipment that Recreation might have that wasn't being used. Meanwhile we should try and find out more about the name and where they are located.

Jane Pitt thought it would be a good idea for a combination Youth Commission/Recreation Commission joint volunteer project to help out on this. (It was later determined that the name of the camp is "Camp Seahaven" located in Newburyport.

Director of this polio camp is Frank Fuller and the amount of damage amounted to between six and eight thousand dollars).

- C. The new Commonwealth Country Club at Chestnut Hill (now owned by the City of Newton and under the direction of a 17 member management) - Jane Pitt, a member of the Committee as well as a close neighbor reported that the facility is now open - with a good sized clientele taking advantage of the golf facilities.

Jane also urged that people make a special effort to be supportive of Ken Campbell, the man who has acted as "Pro" for the last 5 years and is currently managing the facility. She feels that he is doing a good job under difficult circumstances, is an experienced and involved individual, well liked by past and present patrons and trying very hard to cooperate in making this facility a viable venture. He understands the operation of a golf course as few people do and she feels it would be certainly a plus if he and the 17 member Golf Course Management Committee can skillfully work together to make this project a success.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Next Meeting, May 17th - please take special note that the Youth Commission/Recreation Commission awards will be taking place in the Aldermanic Chambers at 7:30 PM.

Recreation Commission meeting to begin immediately afterward on or about 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 17, 1982

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Francis J. Rice, Walter S. Bernheimer, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting began at 8:35 PM as all Commission members and Commissioner Halloran attended the joint presentation by the Youth Commission/Recreation Commission of the annual Youth Awards. Of particular interest was the presentation of the Adult Award to Jean Cole, long time member of the Recreation Department and Auburndale resident.

1. Minutes of the April meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of attendance, programs and Commissioner's activities were distributed to everyone.
3. Commissioner Halloran again reiterated his pride in Jean Cole and her selection for the Adult Award this evening and invited all members present to join Jean and her family and friends at a little get together tonight at the Troubadour Restaurant in West Newton. Chairman Bamel made the presentation.

Commissioner reported that there was a special needs weekend camping trip to Camp Sargent this weekend which is looked forward to with great enthusiasm by the special needs participants.

Mr. Halloran reported that the results of the hearings by the Board of Aldermen, Committees on Recreation budget (Human Services and Finance Committee), were good. He met with them on April 29th and May 4th. They have also voted to replace some of the Youth Hockey monies needed for this group after Pat Lyons gave an excellent presentation. (Commission members present also called to the attention of all members - that the Board of Aldermen had commended Commissioner Russell J. Halloran for his excellent leadership and administration of the Newton Recreation Department).

4. Information on the St. Mary of Carmen Society Festival in July, it will require a special permit from Land Use Committee of the Board of Aldermen in accordance with the new City Ordinances.
5. Reserved courts for tennis play are either already open or will be shortly.
6. Repairs currently being conducted at Gath Pool and will continue with an estimated opening date at the pool continuing as June 19th. The pool is to be painted, filters overhauled and building painted. The June date appears to be valid unless some unforeseen emergency arises.
7. SpringFest was a big success - the largest ever. Over 292 booths, over 10,000 people present.
8. Mayor's Annual Prayer Breakfast to be held at Boston College. Again, Commissioner Halloran invited the Commission members to attend, but time of day and press of business out of Newton makes it difficult for members to come.

9. Consideration of swim rules and regulations for Gath Pool and Crystal Lake outdoor areas. Copies of last years rules and regulations with any possible changes were distributed to all members. The Commission carefully reviewed all rules, costs of permits, use by Newton or non-Newton resident, etc.

After careful consideration and after Jane Pitt had asked about what the situation was as far as access to the handicapped in all of these areas, (Gath Pool is accessible). Last year a special handicapped ramp was installed but a small section of beach must still be dealt with at Crystal Lake.

It was moved by Jennie DeVito that the rules and regulations as presented be approved for the Summer 1982 season. Seconded by Mr. Rice and unanimously voted to approve.

10. Report on any new information regarding the Revised Ordinances. Nothing more at this time - will continue to hole on agenda until something productive is presented.
11. New Business: Proposed legislation abolishing the Park Commission and establishing a Park and Recreation Commission.

Commissioner Halloran brought this proposed legislation to the attention of the members. As in the past the concensus of the group was that this would be an excellent idea.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Unofficially Paul Burke thanked all the Commission members and Commissioner Halloran for the recent function at Albemarle where the regulation baseball field was named in his honor and for the reception that followed at the Newton Catholic Club. Mr. Burke explained that this affair - as he pout it - "was one of the main highlights of his life", and he also took this opportunity to thank personally for their special part in getting ready for, and helping to run this event, Russ Halloran, Carol Stapleton and Marge Lesbirel.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 21, 1982

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Paul J. Burke, Francis J. Rice and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary and Walter Bernheimer

Also attending from the Recreation Department staff were: Fran Towle, Carol Stepleton and Joe Connors.

Chairman Bamel called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

1. Minutes of the May meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance, programs and Commissioner's report of his meetings and events which he attended were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported on his communications with the Law Department that both the Farmers' Market and the St. Mary of Carmen Carnival requests must be processed through the Land Use Committee of the Board of Aldermen. It is anticipated that both requests will come before this Committee tonight and no problems are anticipated.
4. The Commissioner told members that the merger of the Park Commission with the Recreation Commission came before the Public Facilities Committee and there did not appear to be any problems, particularly since the Park Commission has only met about 5 times since 1954. Mr. Halloran said that it was likely that this would come up for the full Board's approval very shortly. Once this is completed, legislation will then be filed.
5. Joe Connors, newest member of the Recreation Department was introduced to the present membership by Commissioner Halloran. The Commissioner explained that Joe is replacing Mike Butts who left the Department recently to accept a position in the private sector.
6. The Commission members were reminded that a farewell reception would shortly be tended to retiring Superintendent of Schools, Aaron Fink. All Commission members are urged to attend. See Mrs. DeVito about time and place at Mt. Ida Junior College.
7. Albemarle Acres, the new summer program initiated this year for children in grades 1 through 6 and which will run the 4 weeks of July is promising to be a tremendous success. Much interest from the community has been shown and registrations are coming in rapidly. Originally planned to accommodate 200 children, already 186 have subscribed. The Director of the program will be Pat Savage. The Commissioner said that he feels this is the trend of the future.
8. Mr. Halloran also told the Commission members that Lyons field had been closed earlier and would remain closed until the Health Department notifies the Department that it is safe to open again.

The problem was caused by heavy rains and the subsequent overflow of the sewer on this field which caused contamination and unsafe conditions. Recreation promptly posted "closed" signs. Once the Health Department indicates it is safe again, Recreation will remove the signs.

9. Consideration of naming the "Cove" area at Crystal Lake in honor of Louise Livingston. This lady, who has lived and loved the Lake and who has devoted a good deal of her leisure time in her daily life to keeping the area along the shore of the Lake, particularly along the area known as the "Cove" clean and clear of accumulated debris. For the last 33 years she has assumed the responsibility of cleaning up glass, papers, trash and accumulated junk, even going into the water to pick up material. This has, of course all been volunteer work. Both Carol and the Commissioner have thought that it would be very nice to name this cove area in her honor during this summer swimming season. The Commissioner recommended this to the members present.

Paul Burke moved that this cove area be named in honor of this fine lady and that it be known as the "Louise Livingston Cove". Mrs. DeVito seconded this and it was so voted unanimously.

Plans will be made for an appropriate sign with her name on it, to be erected in the cove along with special ceremonies, and she will be invited to attend along with her family and friends.

10. Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairman of the Recreation Commission asked that she be allowed to take time from this meeting to publically extend her thanks to Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, for her special help and effort in helping to start a trial program with the concerned parents of the Lincoln-Eliot area.
11. Walter Bernheimer, Recreation Commission member who has been also a member of the Golf Course Management Committee, said he found it necessary to resign at this time. He feels that he is not able to give the time that is required to competently serve on this Management Committee, due to other business and family commitments.

Commissioner Halloran extended his thanks for his past help and said that another member of the Commission would be appointed to this Committee in the near future, since it was the wish of Mayor Mann to have a member of the Commission sit on this Management Committee.

12. An excellent presentation of senior adult activities was presented through oral and visual summary by Judy Dore, Senior Adult Coordinator. Judy gave the members a very thorough explanation, season by season, of all of the programs and events that are available to the many Newton senior adults.

As the Commissioner stated before the presentation, it was a pleasure to have a person like Judy working with the senior adults. She has provided many new activities, is willing to work hard to make things planned for the seniors successful, and has tremendous enthusiasm, which she has continually displayed since taking over last March in this position.

13. There will be no meetings during the months of July and August unless there is some presently unknown problem. Meetings will resume in September on the 3rd Monday which will be September 20th.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 20, 1982

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Walter Bernheimer, Jane Pitt, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Francis J. Rice and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor, also came to this meeting.

1. Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved with the addition of Walter Bernheimer's name and the deletion of Jane Pitts.
2. Commissioner Halloran reported the sad news that Park Maintenance Man, Dominic Scrooc, who has worked at Burr Park for many years, was stricken on a day off on the golf course and died. He was only 51 years of age.

Cold Spring Development is almost complete and at some point it will be inspected and approved (or disapproved) by the City. Dedication of this area will probably not take place until next Spring. Present development includes about 10 acres leaving the balance of 67 acres in the natural state. Entrance is on Beacon Street now and the former Dunklee Street entrance will be sealed off.

The Commissioner commented on summer playground activities briefly. It is his feeling that the day of the full and active playground is past and it will be necessary to consolidate into the main areas, such as Burr, Newton Centre, Auburndale and Hawthorn. He feels that due to a number of factors including working parents, a suitable substitute with an all day program must be considered. The Albemarle Acres program was extremely successful this past summer and included an all day program.

Mr. Halloran mentioned the continuing problem at the South High track. It evidently is still sinking but continues to be used. At some time in the future it will require serious repair.

Report on continuing Farmers' market for the 3rd year were glowing. This is a highly successful program presently with about 33 farmers participating. Sue King continues as Market Master.

Commissioner Halloran reported that the subject of consolidation of Recreation/Forestry has gone before the Public Facilities Committee where it was unanimously approved. Human Services will be coming up next. It may go to the full Board sometime in late October. Mr. Halloran said that work would include all city grounds, municipal trees, shrubs, snow removal around schools and municipal parking lots, etc. (Formerly Public Works). Mr. Halloran also mentioned that a 24 to 0 vote had agreed to abolish the Park Commission. The Mayor has now petitioned the State Legislative body to implement this legislation.

3. Summer swimming, playground and tennis reports. Report of attendance were included for each Commission member present. Playground attendance was down and the Commissioner indicated that it just might be possible that the day of the regular playground was past. Something new and innovative - such as Albemarle Acres - may be the coming thing.

4. Report on Albemarle Acres Summer Program - This was a super successful program. About capacity, excellent Director, leaders, and this certainly filled a definite need for both children and parents who both work. It was a vigorous and innovative program with lots of activity, swimming and interesting trips.
5. Report on accident at Mini-Bike Track - At the regular Saturday morning program on August 14th a participant 14 years old, Frank Petichelli fell and sustained a serious head injury. he was taken to Newton-Wellesley Hospital by ambulance and was in the intensive care unit for 8 days. He appears to be improving at this time. Present at the time of the accident was leader/volunteer Dick Corbett. Since he does this on a non-paid basis, we have checked with the City Legal Department on the question of liability. G. Michael Peirce of the Law Department is checking on this.
6. Consideration of letter and request received from Community School Commission: In a letter from the Director of the Community Schools, Joey Barron, it was recommended "that a request be made that Department of Human Services and Recreation Department delegate the responsibilities of Commission representatives to a Newton citizen (not a municipal employee)".

Commissioner Halloran said he preferred that it remain the way it is at present as far as the representative from Recreation goes. The commission saw no problems with this but did recommend that if Community Schools felt there was inadequate representation from the Community they might like to vote to have the Commission membership increased to 9 members, and in this way they could include a member from the community.

It was agreed by all members that the request of the Community Schools Director be denied.

7. Novitiate property and planned function October 17th. This 45 acre tract of land which abuts Nahanton Street will be introduced jointly to the community by both Recreation and Conservators at a special affair on that Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Nature walks, picnic, children's games, kite flying and canoeing will be featured on that day. Free cider and doughnuts will be served. Flyers will be distributed throughout the city and everyone is invited.
8. Kennard property: Later on on October 31st, a special Sunday afternoon walk will be planned. Providing some interesting information on the ecology of the area will be a Wellesley geologist. More information on plans will be available later. Vice Chairman Bamel reported that he had been invited by the Conservators to lead this special trip to the area, and speak on the general flora and fauna of this site.
9. New Business:
 - A. Jane Pitt briefly reported on the continuing work at the new Commonwealth Country Club. She feels that the present "pro", Ken Campbell, is doing an excellent job and has a loyal following. The area is well maintained. There are problems at night but basically, Campbell does a good job.

It was also reported that on the area they have determined that there is an archeological "find" possibly the original site of the Waban Wigwams and those interested say tht the site should not be touched.

- B. New docks for Crystal lake. Serious consideration to replacing the old docks must be given for the next year's summer season. Present docks are deteriorating.
- C. Senior cookout recently held at Hawthorn - Editorial in local newspaper claims that certain political people were not allowed in. In response to this, Commissioner Halloran said that he was present during the afternoon and saw absolutely no denial by anyone, of anyone wanting to enter the area. Captain Drew of the Newton Police Department was also present at the Hawthorn area and he saw no one denied entrance. Both Republicans and Democrats were present - including the present Governor King, and his opposition, former Govenor Dukakis. If, by chance, this incident did occur, it was not brought to anyone's attention at the area.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 18, 1982

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Howard Ferguson, Walter Bernheimer, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Also present were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Helen Heyn from Conservation. Meeting began at 7:50 PM due to demonstrations indoors and outdoors by all City Unions.

1. Minutes of the September meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Copies of maintenance reports, program reports and reports of those meetings and events attended during the month by the commissioner were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner's report - If, in Recreation, there is a slow month probably September is it. Summer work is complete, too soon for winter, many people in both program and maintenance take advantage of vacation at this time.
4. Indoor programs have begun at Newton North High. This facility is open Monday through Friday on a pre-season schedule. Already taken in this Fall is \$10,000.00 which is about \$1,600.00 ahead of last year at this same time.
5. Update on consolidation of Forestry/Recreation. This has been before several of the Aldermanic Committees so far including Public Facilities, Human Services and Legislation and Rules. It is anticipated that since all of these committees approved this merger that tonight when it goes before the full Board where it is docketed, it will go through smoothly. Both Commissioner Halloran and Richard Metro, Forestry Superintendent, have appeared before these groups. Mr. Halloran introduced Richard Metro who was present at this meeting to all the members of the Commission. Mr. Halloran explained that Mr. Metro is a very knowledgeable person with not only a degree as an Arborist, but a Masters degree in Business Administration.
6. Harvest Fair report included the information that there were over 200 booths permitted to the various crafts people and 9,000 or more people travelling through this popular activity on Sunday, October 3rd from Noon to 5:00 PM. The weather was ideal.
7. Chairman Bamel will lead a special planned walk at the Kennard Estate on Dudley Road in Chestnut Hill. This walk will be held on the Sunday afternoon of October 31st and both Mr. Bamel and an archeologist from Wellesley will speak knowledgeably about this very interesting area and the rock formations in the area.
8. Special Needs presentation originally planned for this evening has been postponed until November due to the illness of the Director.
9. Novitiate land and planned celebration Sunday, October 17th was coordinated by the Deputy Commissioner, Fran Towle. All kinds of activities took place including canoeing, kite flying, picnics, etc.

It was a windy day, good for kites, but a little rough on the river. A good time was had by all however through the efforts of the Conservation group and in cooperation with Recreation.

- 10. Farmers' Market - special event held last week - loads of people present, demonstrations were conducted on preserving and canning and a special musical presentation was made by Silver Fox. The Market will continue until October 26th and then close for the year. It was very successful with lots of citizen participation throughout the entire season.

Mr. Bernheimer suggested that next year it might be a good idea to charge the farmers who supply the fresh produce a higher fee. Currently the fees are \$4.00 for a truck, \$3.00 for a van, and \$2.00 for a car.

- 11. Question on a possible recommendation that the Recreation Commission support the so-called "Bottle Bill". After discussing this issue, it was noted that the Recreation Commission has traditionally never involved itself in any real political issue and most members opposed taking any position as a "Commission" on this subject.

Commissioner Halloran will respond to Betsy Lunenberg who had called him regarding the Bottle Bill and explain the position of the Commission members. Many may support this bill, due to a concern for vandalism and safety, on a personal basis.

12, New Business:

- A. Mrs. Pepper inquired about the pond at Cold Spring and asked if the pond would be cleaned out. She says that it is full of debris and old tires.

Mr. Halloran assured her that it would be cleaned before it is accepted by the city - from the contractor.

- B. Mrs. Pepper also inquired as to what procedure would be suggested to name a recreation field after Luman Barry, long time coach and manager at Newton Centre in the International Baseball League.

Mr. Halloran suggested that the group interested in this send a letter to the Recreation Department or Recreation Commission explaining what area, describing the person they are interested in and why - giving his connection with that particular area, etc.

Once he receives this it can be included in the Commission agenda - possibly November.

Mr. Ferguson further suggested that the letter be presented and spell out the merits of Mr. Barry.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 20, 1982

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Walter S. Bernheimer, Howard Ferguson, Paul J. Burke, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Francis Rice, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

John Stewart, representing Youth Hockey and Linda Plaut from the Recreation Department were present. As usual, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor was also present.

1. Meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:40 PM. Minutes of the November meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program and Commissioner's activities were distributed but the monthly maintenance report was not available.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported briefly that maintenance was busy at this time top dressing fields and re-seeding. An unusual opportunity to work on outdoor projects due to the lack of snow. No ice in any of the skating areas as yet due to mild conditions.

He also reported to the Commission members that the new 4 x 6 foot sign installed this Fall dedicating the Crystal Lake Cove Area in honor of Louise Livingston had been vandalized on Halloween. Since that time a petition has been received from Newton Highlands residents near the area, protesting that their view of the lake is impaired by the sign. No further action has been taken to re-install the sign this winter. In the spring, an equitable arrangement with the neighborhood will be considered.

4. Presentation by Linda Plaut of the Recreation's Arts in the Parks Program: Planned for April 23 to May 8, 1983 is an Arts Festival which will be cooperatively sponsored by many Newton organizations, including the Recreation Department. The Festival, Linda Plaut told the members, is to celebrate the famous artists, musicians, crafts people and dancers who live in Newton. It will highlight the special quality of Newton life that nurtures its children to be appreciative audiences and accomplished participants in the arts. It will also launch a united "Fund for the Arts" in Newton which will help ensure the vitality of the cultural community for the next generation.

Linda presented each Commission member with a tentative program for the Festival. This included a Beaux Arts Ball at Bloomingdales, several art exhibits, dance programs, music program, art and literature celebration, drama, an Olde House Fair, a commemorative quilt of Newton, designed and fashioned by Newton women. Included in these functions will be a Brahms's 150th Birthday Concert featuring Joseph Silverstein of the Boston Symphony.

This Festival of the Arts will be sponsored by the City of Newton through the Arts in the Parks program of the Recreation Department and with the assistance of - Fund for the Arts in Newton, the Newton Arts Lottery Council, Massachusetts Council on Arts and Humanities, New England Foundation for the Arts and the Newton Chamber of Commerce.

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Invited to be Chairpersons are Governor Elect Michael Dukakis and Mrs. Dukakis. This includes Chairmanship of both the Festival itself and the Grand Ball.

5. Financial report and annual presentation by Newton Youth Hockey Association with John Stewart substituting for Pat Lyons, President. Mr. Stewart prefaced his financial report with some background information that there had been some drop in enrollment this past year. Youth Hockey Association had indicated to the MDC that they would be willing to purchase the MDC "Monsignor Daly" Rink, but they apparently were not interested in selling. He also noted that many more women were involved in the organization portion over the past 5 or 6 years. They have been appreciative of the monies which the Recreation Department has provided to them for ice time, and hope that this subsidy will continue. He also said that they had been heavy into efforts to obtain outside funding but that sources were drying up. They are trying to hold the line on fees.

Since people have indicated that they are upset about the high cost of the program, Paul Burke inquired about scholarships. He reminded Mr. Stewart that when the Youth Hockey originally formed, Bob MacLaughlin, and later Ken Hagerstrom always made sure that people were aware that scholarships were available. These had been made available to families with several children where it would have been a burden to pay for several, although one could have been handled.

Mr. Stewart said that scholarships are still available and when asked what the criteria was to make a family eligible, he responded, "public assistance". Only a few were awarded last season and the general feeling from the Commission certainly seem to indicate that not only should scholarships be available, but that this should be done by a confidential committee who would set up rules which would determine eligibility and cause no embarrassment to either the parents or the child involved.

Further questions were asked of Mr. Stewart regarding the distribution of scholarships and regarding a surplus of year end funds.

After considerable discussion as to actual balance on hand, the Commission directed that a new financial report be presented in more detail. This was to contain a report on their budget, and include the offer of scholarships, a balance sheet and a recommendation for scholarship procedures and projected costs for the new year, and to be made available to Commissioner Halloran for the February Commission meeting.

6. Consideration of naming the Newton Centre regulation baseball field in honor of long time and dedicated coach and manager of the International League's Newton Centre team, Luman Barry. Mr. and Mrs. Connors were present at this meeting and reported that not only were they interested but would work on the Committee responsible for this. A petition had been prepared and a letter was sent to all Commission members recommending this dedication to Luman Barry.

Commissioner Halloran had communicated with retired Senior Recreation Supervisor, James Murphy, who gave him most of the background information on Luman Barry's work over the years with the youth of Newton Centre.

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The Commission was msot enthusiastic and Mr. Ferguson moved, with Mrs. Pepper seconding, that plans be formulated for the Spring dedication of the regulation baseball field at Newton Centre in honor of Luman Barry. This was so voted unanimously.

The committee, chaired by Mrs. Pepper will go ahead with plans for this event to take place on the opening day of the International League opening and will assume any cost involved in this dedication. Commissioner Halloran will send a letter from himself and Mrs. Pepper to officially notify Luman that this event will be taking place.

7. Skating plans for Winter 1982/83 - at this time no suitable ice has been formed at any of the skating areas. The Commissioner, in responding to questions on ice, said that 7 or 8 days of zero nights and cold days would bring ice but didn't look too hopeful at this time. Maybe January would be more conducive to ice. In reviewing last year's ice skating schedules and costs it was generally agreed, with Mr. Bernheimer expressing the idea that daily fees should be higher, \$1.00 rather than 50¢, that fees remain the same as last year, same hours of operation and same schedule providing ice skating became available at any of the outdoor recreation skating areas.

The Commissioner said that each area would support itself and before closing an area he would meet with members of the Commission and they might consider raising the fees in order to keep the area open.

8. Information regarding next year's Fixcal 83/84 budget - Mr. Halloran reported that he hoped to bring the new Recreation budget to the Commission at the January 17th meeting. This will be based upon the guidelines set by the Executive Department and which he understood would be a level funding budget with any inflationary items absorbed in the budget.
9. Update on Cold Spring development - at this time it has not been accepted by the City but work is generally complete. In response to an earlier question about a bridge into the area from the Zervas School area, the contractor has no plan or fund to cut through the area and install a bridge as rumor had been circulated. Of possibility however, may be a clearing of brush to the further side away from the brook by Recreation/Forestry to enable them to gain access to the area without the need for a bridge. This will have to be investigated later on.
10. Request by Youth Commission that the Recreation Commission this year Chair the Annual Youth Awards - Commissioner Halloran reported to the members that Bill Seidman had written a letter to him requesting that this year and alternate years, the Recreation Commission Chair this event. Commissioner Halloran and the Commission agreed to do it this year and Paul Burke will be the Chairman of the committee. This event will take place on the 3rd Monday in May, the 19th.

11. New Business:

The Commissioner wished all members a Happy Holiday Season!

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 17, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Acting Chairman this evening due to late arrival of Chairman Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairman, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Francis J. Rice, Walter S. Bernheimer, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Visitors this evening included Mrs. Pat Lyons, President of Newton Youth Hockey and Marilyn Kleiger, Treasurer of Newton Youth Hockey Association. Also present as usual were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor

Meeting called to order by Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito at 7:50 PM.

1. Minutes of the December meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's report of activities were distributed to all members.
3. Commissioner's report covered generally the lack of ice skating due to an unusually warm winter season this year. No safe ice, in fact, very little ice at all has been formed due to warm weather. Safety precautions are continuous to prevent people from going onto any thin ice that may form overnight. News releases contain warnings and on the site leadership coverage has been going on at all three areas. Commissioner Halloran felt increasing concern now after the recent snow since one half inch of ice formed, which supports the snow. While it looks safe, it is not!

Commissioner Halloran reported that Forestry and Recreation are now working together to get City Hall, Education Center, schools and libraries plowed out, fallen trees and branches removed. Heavy snow brought a lot of trees and wires down.

4. Update on Newton Youth Hockey - Pat Lyons, President, described the present Youth Hockey program in detail noting that the travel team had 105 participants and and intra-mural teams had 375 members. This hockey program reaches ages 5 through 16, begins early in the Fall and does not end until mid-March. When asked why the program ran so late into the Spring, Mrs. Lyons explained that once their regular hockey program was over many of the teams then went on to play in late Spring Tournaments, by playing late on a regular schedule, they not only fulfill their regular competition but also are able to practice and be sharp for the tournaments which are above and beyond the Youth Hockey program. They play both at Fessenden and the MDC and Burlington Rinks..

Since she was aware that the Commission was concerned about an apparent lack of not only available scholarships, but about how scholarship need was determined, she described in detail how people were made aware at yearly registration that scholarships were available. She also assured Commission members that in this upcoming years newsletter it would be carefully noted that there were available scholarships. She was slo concerned that parents realize that expenses to take part in the program IN ADDITION TO

REGISTRATION, could be expensive and asks on the application: "Are you able to pay 20% of the cost of the program?" She also explained that there is a family discount available where three or more hockey hopefuls are in a family, which is 10%.

Marilyn Kleiger, Treasurer, explained that 6 families received scholarships last year and this was done totally confidentially for all families involved and that all applications on this subject are confidential and each is carefully considered by their Executive Board.

Mr. Bernheimer is skeptical of awarding any funding to this group and feels this money could be better spent for special needs or senior citizen programs. he felt that based upon their financial statement presented, they were in good financial condition and should not need money from the City of Newton. Mrs. Lyons said she could understand but that they had been particularly fortunate and last couple of years in having a really terrific fund raiser working with them which they no longer have. Their Executive Board was unable to cut back on programs without harming the program.

Mrs. Pitt spoke up to congratulate them on raising \$72,000.00 and said they must have had a good fund raiser and she felt they were doing a good job and had given any information required. She did encourage them to further publicize scholarships and recommended that no further questions be asked of them this evening as they seemed to cover everything. Mr. Burke also told them that the Commission's only concern was the availability of scholarships. He agreed with Mrs. Pitt and thanked them for information.

Mr. Bernheimer again said he felt they did not need the money and at this time, acting Chairman DeVito objected to further questions and brought the discussion to a halt.

Again Mrs. Lyons assured the members that there would be a strong outreach in their new August pre-season newsletter on availability of scholarships.

Commissioner Halloran thanked Mrs. Lyons for her always willing cooperation and congratulated her for her years of work with Youth Hockey program.

5. 1983/84 Fiscal year budget review - Each Commission member was provided with a detailed account of all Recreation accounts and budget requests. Commissioner Halloran explained that this accounting was just the Recreation portion and that he is currently working with the Executive Department on Forestry budget. The reason for this, of course was that in the past, Forestry budget was included within the Public Works prior to transfer of Forestry to Recreation. At this time, accurate figures are being determined to complete the Forestry portion of this FY 83, FY 84 Recreation budget.

Mr. Halloran explained the general budget to members present and was willing to go through the entire budget, item by item, with Commission members. However, Paul Burke spoke up and said he felt it was unnecessary, all information was there and clear. he therefore moved that the Recreation budget as recommended by Commissioner Halloran be approved as presented. Mr. Rice seconded and after a very brief discussion, it was so voted unanimously.

Again Mr. Bernheimer requested that he go on record that he does not support any money being allocated to Youth Hockey this year. He feels they do not need it.

6. The next meeting will be on the 4th Monday of February, rather than the regular 3rd Monday, due to the Washington's Birthday holiday, UNLESS there is ice skating and it is necessary for the Commission to meet on determining if an area should continue open or closed, or unless there is any further questions on the budget.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 28, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Francis J. Rice, Howard Ferguson, Walter S. Bernheimer, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Mrs. Worthing L. West, Member Emeritus and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

1. Minutes of January meeting were accepted with the elimination of one sentence by Mr. Bernheimer.
2. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's reports of activities during January were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner reported that for the first time in the presently known history of the Recreation Department, there was no skating at any of the outdoor skating areas this year. An unfortunate combination of weather circumstances frustrated the Department in providing any safe skating this year. Lack of accumulation of ice early in the season and then severe snow storms with intermittent warm weather made it impossible to provide safe skating for the entire winter season.

Mr. Bernheimer, in relation to skating, suggested that next year the same conditions that governed this year's skating, including fees, etc. be continued for next season. This would automatically go into effect without further consideration once safe skating was established next winter.

The general concensus of everyone present was that if there is no skating ice by mid-January, there will not be any for that particular year. This is based on long experience in relation to weather conditions.

4. A maintenance work stoppage by members of Local 800 occurred in early February. The Union problems of the Local throughout the city have now gone back to collective bargaining and they are trying to resolve the differences in contracts.
5. Notice that the annual election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for the Parks and Recreation Commission will be taking place in March in accordance with the Commission's Rules and Regulations.
6. Update on budget information - Commissioner Halloran reported that the Executive Department had directed the Department to a Level Funding budget, plus a 5% consideration in anticipation of new contracts with the Forestry Division separate. Originally Forestry was to have been funded at \$640,000.00 which was considerably underfunded. After meeting with the Executive Department, they agreed that it be upgraded to \$866,000.00. Of course, as Mr. Halloran says any of these budget figures could be changed or amended up to the time that the final budget is approved in late March or early April by the full Board of Aldermen.
7. 5th Annual Youth Awards - Chaired by Parks and Recreation Commission this year, Paul Burke Chairperson. Posters and applications were provided to the Commission and have been distributed to organizations,

schools, churches, etc. throughout the city, asking for appropriate candidates. This has been coordinated by Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner. Awards will be scheduled for presentation on May 16th at the beginning of the Board of Aldermen's meeting and prior to the Commission meeting that evening. It is hoped that many worthwhile candidates will be provided in all categories this year.

8. Annual Garden City Marathon will be run on Sunday, March 6th. This Boston Marathon qualifying race is not sponsored by Recreation, but we do help them with leadership at North High where they originate and return to. The general overall management of the Marathon is handled by Alderman Paul Daley and helps prevent child abuse. The School Department issues a permit for them to use the North High facilities and Public Works Department issues them a permit for the Marathon on the streets.
9. Report on storm damage as a result of snow storm on January 15th. Forestry Division worked long and hard hours clearing up fallen limbs from sidewalks and streets after this severe winter storm, in order to facilitate both street and sidewalk plowing. They also removed many fallen limbs on various city areas and provided much assistance in snow removal throughout the city.
10. A letter was sent to all Commission members recently in regard to a tree memorial to commemorate Maurice Towle, the Father of Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, who recently passed away. The tree will be planted in Perry, Iowa, his home town. Everyone was invited to participate in this memorial if they would like to. There will be more information later. All members extended their condolences to Fran Towle.
11. Since there was no new business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

March 21, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Francis Rice, Howard Ferguson, Walter S. Bernheimer, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:40 PM by Vice Chairperson Jennie DeVito since Chairman Bamel was delayed. (He arrived at this time).

1. Minutes of February meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports on maintenance and program were distributed to all members. The Commissioner's report of his activities and meetings will be available at the April meeting.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that he was very concerned about the wet condition at Lyons Playground in Auburndale due to heavy rain. The Commissioner of the Health Department has closed the playground as of now as she was concerned about a possible sewer condition which, in the past, has bubbled up on this area. Since there has been consistently rainy conditions since March 6th, this could be a problem. Mr. Halloran will be in touch with Alderperson Carol Ann Shea and Richard McGrath on this situation. He is also concerned that this is one of the main fields for Little League (West) which begins on April 23rd, and is hoping that by then field conditions will dry and be suitable for play.

Mr. Halloran reported that the plans for the dedication of the Newton Centre regulation baseball field in honor of long time boys' baseball Coach and interested citizen, Luman Barry will take place on Tuesday, June 21st at the opening of the first League game. The Commissioner has been working with Mrs. Pepper of the Commission in formulating plans, speakers, etc. for this event.

Continuing concern regarding the yellow sod conditions at the new Cold Spring Development by the Commissioner have prompted him to invite a special consultant to look at the condition. For some reason, this sod is not greening properly and Mr. Halloran stated that it is most important to ascertain if this condition could be expected to become normal before the City of Newton formally accepts the project. Once accepted, the City would have to recourse to correct any unsatisfactory condition, as this might prove to be. If this sod does not improve there is also the concern that soccer will have to be relocated in another area. Due to heavy Spring soccer use of fields, it was anticipated that these fields would be available to help accommodate some of the over 600 participants in the program. Everyone present agreed that this was a wise concern, including Mr. Bernheimer who is very active in the Spring Soccer Program.

Also in relation to this soccer program. Mr. Bernheimer said that the actual games are played on Saturdays and Sundays - with practice during the week. He agreed with Mr. Halloran that it might be advisable to call the soccer people in again to see what fields might be alternatives.

They will begin play on April 10th. He also said that he felt it might be conceivable for the younger soccer players in the 3rd and 4th grades to play on a smaller field. Both Butch Noonan and Don Satter will be contacted as many of the fields are far from dry. Mr. Halloran told Mr. Bernheimer that he would be contacted if it was decided to hold another soccer meeting.

Tremendous growth in soccer in the last couple of years, Mr. Halloran says, puts a strain on providing fields. Fall soccer now has over 2,000 participants and over 600 in Spring soccer. Recreation Mr. Halloran says, will do their very best to satisfy everyone.

A member inquired as to whether anyone had ever approached Fessenden School to see if their soccer field at Albemarle might be available. This might alleviate some of the pressure on regular soccer fields during the soccer and Little League season. This will be checked into.

4. Annual election of Chairman and Vice Chairman: Nominated for a second term by Jennie DeVito and seconded by Ms. Pitt, Herbert R. Bamel was unanimously elected as Chairman. Jennie DeVito was nominated for a second term by Francis Rice, seconded by Herbert Bamel and unanimously elected as Vice Chairperson.
5. Consideration of request to name the new jogging path at Cold Spring Development in memorial to Leonard Adelman: In response to a memo received from Mayor Mann, a letter written by Leonard Adelman's parents to the Mayor, was ready to the Commission members. It described this young mans life as he grew up and was involved in school, sports and community life in Newton and his overwhelmingly interest in police work, and his desire to be a member of the Newton Police Department. Unfortunately, there were no openings here in Newton and in the meantime he worked in Bath, Maine and then Savannah, Georgia, where on February 24, 1980, he, along with his partner, were killed in the line of his police work. He was then 25 years old. In his short career as a police officer, Leonard was cited more than 30 times for extraordinary bravery, excellence and heroism.

His parents would be very happy to see the new jogging path which has been constructed at Cold Spring (The "Life Course") named in memorial to their son. The course actually runs adjacent to their back yard which, to them, seemed doubly fitting, since this is the area where he ran himself during his athletic training and played ball during the Little League program as a child and later when he worked with kids as he grew older.

The two groups to whom the Mayor was referred were: South High Athletic Director, George Winkler, who knew him well as a student and athlete and Lt. Charles Feeley of the Newton Police Department, who also knew him well as did many of the other Newton Police officers. Both provided endorsement of this outstanding young man.

A motion was initiated by Howard Ferguson, seconded by Paul Burke, that plans be made to name the jogging path in memory of Leonard Adelman. Appropriate sign in a standard size as compared with other similar signs throughout the city, (family will be glad to fund cost of sign and installation), to be planned and appropriate dedication after the Cold spring project is accepted by the City. Approval was unanimous by the Commission members.

Commissioner Halloran said that he would be in touch with the family and work with them on this Memorial to their young son.

6. Consideration of Tennis Rules and Regulations for the upcoming 1983 tennis season: Very few changes were recommended in this year's tennis rules. Mr. Halloran requested that Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, explain the details of the changes which were all within #4 and the handling of reservations. Each member had a copy of the proposed Rules and Regulations. The season would begin April 30th.

Paul Burke moved to accept the Rules and Regulations as recommended by the Recreation staff, and it was so voted unanimously.

7. Garden City Marathon report: Commissioner Halloran reported briefly on this race, although it is not run by the Department. We do provide some help to Paul Daley who runs the Marathon to provide funding to alleviate child abuse. It is also a Boston Marathon qualifying race. It is run entirely within the City of Newton, finishing at Newton North High School, and hosted about 300 runners this year.
8. Parks and Recreation budget hearings: The Commissioner informed the members that presently scheduled (and always subject to a possible later change) is the first hearing on Tuesday, April 5th at 9:15 PM with the Human Services Committee of the Board of Aldermen, and the second on Thursday, April 7th at 8:30 PM with the Finance Committee. He said that the Commission members support at these hearings would certainly be most appreciated. He also told them that he would arrange to send them a special reminder note within the next week or so to reaffirm that the hearings would be taking place on the dates as shown, or would tell them of any changes that may be made. Commissioner Halloran again briefly reviewed the Parks and Recreation budget figures and explained that he has been directed to further cut the budget by \$25,000.00, and he had done this through cutting back on some playground leadership funds.
9. Youth Awards: These award winners will be selected from those presented to the Commission on or before April 1st. Paul Burke is the Chairman of the Awards Committee.

Once these award winners are selected, a presentation will be made in all three categories. Awards will be presented in the Aldermanic Chambers prior to their meeting on May 16th.

Mr. Halloran again urged members present to provide candidates. Fran Towle had extra copies of the application for candidates with her and these were again distributed to members.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 25, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Howard Ferguson, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Herbert R. Bamel, Walter Bernheimer and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Also present, as usual at Commission meetings, were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor).

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 PM. The reason for the later than usual start was the earlier Aldermanic hearing on the Parks and Recreation budget with the Finance Committee.

1. The minutes of the March meeting were accepted as distributed.
2. Reports of programs, maintenance and Commissioner's reports were of both February and March, were distributed to all members present.
3. A. Commissioner's reports included the information that Alderman Elaine Gentile was present and wished to speak in opposition of an anticipated petition to be presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission. This petition will request permission to privately build a small structure on the Albemarle field, by the North Little League, for their use to sell refreshments. She has been contacted, she said, by people of this area and they are vehemently opposed to this idea and she wants to go on record as being opposed to the idea.

Mr. Halloran said that he had spoken with Mrs. Frail of North Little League last Fall and explained to her that before even bringing this request to the Recreation Commission, she should first of all obtain the approval of the abutters in the area. Eventually, a permit would have to be approved officially by the City Building Department. The Commissioner also said that already he has received objection from an abutter in the area, Shirley Zabcheck. She brought in a signed petition from several of the citizens in the area strongly opposed to this.

If an official request is received by the Commissioner from North Little League, it will be included on the May Agenda.

- B. Commissioner reported that Little League will open this coming Saturday. Fields are ready after considerable difficulty due to the rainiest Spring in 40 years. This made it very difficult to prepare fields.
- C. Cold spring fields are looking better after considerable concern on sodded areas that did not appear to be developing properly. They now look better and there is hope that they will be ready for use this year. Plans for the dedication of the park are going ahead and it will likely be scheduled for late May or early June. In addition to the park dedication, plans are continuing for a very special dedication in memorial to a young man who died in the line of duty as a Police Officer, who was a long time resident of Newton. He was killed in an automobile accident in Georgia and his partner, whose property abutts the Cold Spring Park, have proposed that the jogging path be named the Leonard Adelman Path. This dedication is planned for June 17th.

- D. Dedication of the Luman Barry Newton Centre Baseball Field will take place on June 21st at the area.
- E. Special needs campers, led by Director Lou MacDonald, spent a wonderful camping week at Sargent Camp in Peterborough, New Hampshire from April 15th on. 23 children attended. Another camp experience is scheduled shortly and will provide some camping weekends for participants in the Special Needs programs.
- F. The Annual Youth Awards will be presented prior to the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. This year these awards have been very ably coordinated by Parks and Recreation's Fran Towle, Deputy commissioner, who made a special effort to contact as many youth organizations, schools, churches and groups as possible in order to obtain as many good candidates as possible. The ceremonies will take place in the Aldermanic Chambers at 7:30 PM.
- G. Budget update at this point - Commissioner Halloran has appeared before Human Services, Public Facilities and the Finance Committee of the Board of Aldermen. It now goes to the full Board very shortly.

(Chairman Herbert Bamel, congratulated the Commissioner on his manner of presenting the budget to the Aldermanic Committees).

The Commissioner himself personally thanked those members of the Commission who were able to attend the various hearings on the budget.

- H. Walter Bernheimer was very pleased about soccer this Spring. Over 400 kids were involved and they had good fields to practice and play on, he felt. He was commended by the Commissioner with regard to his work with the soccer group this Spring. It was felt that he was the catalyst in working out amicably plans and fields for the Spring program of soccer.

There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 16, 1983

Minutes

Tonight, prior to the Commission meeting, the 5th Annual Youth Awards were presented to the chosen candidates in the Aldermanic Chambers at 7:30 PM. Parents, husbands, wives and families were present and a musical program was presented by the Senior Adult Chorus, known as the NewTones.

Due to these ceremonies, co-sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Youth Commission, the Commission meeting did not begin until 8:30 PM.

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairperson Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Jane Pitt, Walter Bernheimer, Francis Rice, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Also present were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor.

1. Minutes of the April meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Copies of reports on maintenance for both Recreation and Forestry, program reports and the report of those meetings and events attended by the Commissioner were distributed to all members.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported on the following items:
 - A. Cold Spring official opening and dedication will be June 22nd. (Opened unofficially in May).
 - B. Dedication of the Newton Centre Regulation Baseball Field in honor of Luman Barry, long time League team manager and coach for boys will take place at Newton Centre on June 21st.
 - C. Dedication of the Cold Spring jogging path in memory of Police Officer and former resident Leonard Adelman, whose family home abuts the Cold Spring Park will be on June 17th, the holiday, at 6:00 PM.
 - D. Clay tennis courts are not open as yet due to continuing wet weather. Most of the other tennis courts are open and operating. This has been the wettest Spring in 40 years and has played havoc in keeping fields and courts wet and unfit for play.
 - E. Arts Festival activities are now complete. This was a terrific program and encompassed very many artistic programs and events. Times magazine wrote it up and people came from all over the State to see, or participate in the many events which included a Ball at Bloomingdale's Department Store, several wonderful concerts with well known artists, art exhibits, open studios for all types of arts, several theatre productions, poetry readings and dance performances. Linda Plaut, Recreation's Arts in the Parks Director, coordinated this Festival. Commissioner Halloran congratulated and commended Linda for her diligence and creative effort in presenting this very well received event.

Mr. Bamel, Chairman of the Commission, said that he wanted to go on record as being particularly impressed. He said he felt the entire Festival was simply fantastic and that he had attended and enjoyed most of the events and had received many great comments. He felt that the publicity was excellent and that Linda must have had a great committee working with her. (Cultural Affairs Commission).

- G. The Parks and Recreation budget was approved as submitted by the full Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Ferguson complimented Commissioner Halloran on his excellent job of presenting the Parks and Recreation Department's budget to the various Committees of the Board of Aldermen. (Commissioner thanked him for these nice comments).

- 4. Presentation to the Commission of the Rules and Regulations of both swimming areas of Gath Pool and Crystal Lake. Commissioner Halloran made available to each member present the full schedule, including rules and regulations, cost of permits and daily swim fees for both facilities.

After looking these over carefully, Jane Pitt moved to have the rules and regulations accepted as presented. It was seconded and so moved unanimously.

- 5. Consideration of request by St. Mary of Carmen Society of Annual Carnival to be held in the Nonantum neighborhood from July 13th through July 17th. Mr. Halloran said that he had received a letter from Mr. Leone, Mr. Gentile and Mr. Messina, the Committee members of this annual event requesting approval. The Commissioner explained that as usual, the proper insurance, police coverage and agreement with the operator, as well as the adequate clean-up afterward and agreement to rules and regulations set forth by the Commission would have to be adhered to. Since there has been no problem in the past, the Commission raised no objections to this annual event.

Paul Burke moved, with Mr. Rice reconing, that approval be given for this annual Carnival. It was so moved unanimously.

- 6. Summer playground plans: Summer plans, not only for playgrounds, but for the Farmers' Market and the Senior programs for the Summer will be presented at the June meeting of the Commission. Exciting plans are in the offing with new themes and ideas for this summer's playground season.
- 7. Farmers' market opens July 12th. Every Tuesday from July 12th to the last week in october, from 2:30 to 6:30 PM.
- 8. Petition received: Although we have not received a request from Little League to erect a small building at Albemarle, we have already received a petition from the abutters of the park objecting to the concept. The abutters have been told that it would not be recommended at this time. The Commission also endorsed this and felt no action was appropriate at this time.
- 9. New Business:

Mrs. West, Member Emeritus of the Recreation Commission, visited on this evening. As Commissioner Halloran said, she has been known and respected for her interest in the Department and Recreation for many years.

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Mrs. West said that she had come this evening to compliment the Department on the current development of Cold Spring. It is really lovely she said. The other thing that she wanted to comment on was the fact that she felt that the young man currently a leader at Newton Centre was excellent and was to be commended for his work with the children. He is known as "Pesky" and his name is Stephen Pescosolido. She says he is "super"!

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 20, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Francis J. Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Walter Bernheimer and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

As usual, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor were present. The meeting began at 7:45 PM.

1. Minutes of May 16th meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of programs, maintenance and Commissioner's reports of meetings and events which he has attended were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner's report included the reminder that no Summer meetings during the months of July and August were planned since so many people are on vacation during that period. However, if something particular comes up that needs the Commission members attention, there will be a special meeting called, otherwise the next regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will take place on September 19th.

Mr. Halloran reported that the dedication of the Newton Centre Baseball diamond will take place at that area tomorrow night at 6:00 PM. The person honored will be Luman Barry, long time mentor and coach of boys baseball league team.

Commissioner also reported that he had been invited to speak on the subject of Parks and Recreation activities in the City of Newton before the Waban Improvement Association. He presented a variety of slides in conjunction with this talk and enjoyed himself greatly. He commented that Mrs. Bernheimer, the wife of the Commission member from Ward 5, Walter Bernheimer, was the President of the group and a very gracious hostess that evening.

4. Report on Albemarle Acres - plans and registration: At this time, registration is very nearly filled, although there are still a limited few openings during the last 2 weeks of August from the 1st through the 12th. The enrollment each week is limited to about 75. Cost of the program, which begins at 9:00 AM and continues until 3:00 PM, is \$35.00 per week. Children bring their own lunch. Available at a small additional charge of \$5.00 per week is an extended day, beginning at 8:00 AM and ending at 4:00 PM for the benefit of working parents.
5. New senior trips and activities for the Summer and the new Arts in the Parks brochure - Senior adults have several trips planned for the Summer season, 2 trips to Rye, new Hampshire with lunch and a visit to the famous Fuller Gardens in Hampton are planned for June. In July, there will be 2 trips to Sandwich, MA and the Horizons Beach Club, Westport, MA, and lunch at White's will be the destination for the August trips. In addition, other trips are currently booking for the Summer productions at th Melody Tent in Hyannis. Arts in the Parks is planning Summer concerts, extremely popular the last few years, at Jackson Homestead and on the Green in Newton Centre. This is in addition to

their popular craft and cultural arts programs offered year round. Brochures are available at the Parks and Recreation Department.

6. Summer Playground plans - New and upbeat programs are planned for this year by the staff. A special "Theme" will be planned for each week, and this year children will be encouraged to come and bring their lunch and stay all day. While supervision is available during the lunch hour, there is no obligation to remain if they wish to leave, since there is no way to enforce attendance. Fewer playgrounds will be supervised this year and a strong program will take place in the supervised areas. New and innovative programs will be available. All of the other playgrounds will continue to be open and maintained. There is no charge in the total number of playgrounds available to the general public.

Those playgrounds which will be supervised are: Charlesbank, Stearns, Hawthorn, Cabot, Franklin, Hyde, Newton Centre, Auburndale, Burr Park, Memorial and Hamilton - presently River Street Playground is included if attendance warrants.

7. New Business:

- A. Mr. Bernheimer said that he had received a letter from a citizen of his Ward, Mr. Tom Elrose requested a field for Rugby this coming Fall. He says that there is a group of about 45 men in a Rugby League interested in playing this Fall.

A Rugby field is about twice as wide as a regulation football field (75 feet) and also about 10 feet longer beyond each goal. Not too many fields in the City will accommodate this size playfield. There is also the additional question of adequately supplying fields for football and soccer fields for schools and regular programs. This request will be considered in more detail in the future and every effort will be made to accommodate. However, on the face of the size and type of field needed - it doesn't look too hopeful.

- B. Report by Commissioner Halloran was made concerning a mishap which occurred at the Gath Pool this past Saturday evening. He reported that inadvertently an error was made in which a hose intended for chlorine for the pool was inserted instead into the hydrochloric acid tank causing a fume problem. Two members of the staff present, quickly corrected the problem but experienced some difficulty breathing. They were quickly transported to Newton-Wellesley Hospital under the direction of the Chief Supervisor, Carol Stapleton, who responded to this emergency within 5 minutes and called the ambulance. Luckily, no serious injury resulted and both returned home that same evening.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 19, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Francis Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Walter Bernheimer and Carol Stapleton who filled in for vacationing Secretary Marjorie Lesbirel.

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairman at 7:45 PM.
2. Minutes of the June 20th meeting were accepted as circulated.
3. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's report of meetings and events which he attended during the Summer were distributed to all present.
4. The formal dedication of the new Cold Spring Park is planned for October 5th. Invitations have been sent out to dignitaries, representatives from the State, local residents who have been involved in the development of the area, and Newton Departments, other than Recreation, such as Planning and Community Development. Mayor Mann has been invited to attend and will be the principal speaker.
5. Commissioner Halloran reported on this summer's very successful programs, including the 2nd year of Albemarle Acres. This has been a particularly successful program which has met the needs of working parents here in the city. So successful, in fact, that additional weeks were added to the program in response to parental requests.

A particularly hot summer brought throngs of swimmers to both the Gath Pool and Crystal Lake. In spite of heavy use, a good staff and good management at both areas, prevented any problems and an excellent season terminated on Labor Day.

Special Needs summer program continued successfully again this year at the Mason-Rice School. At the close of the season special week-end experiences in camping took place in New Hampshire under the direction of Special Needs Director, Lou MacDonald. On a very sad note, one of the well known and popular Special Needs participants over the years, Hillary Sherman was taken ill, hospitalized and died recently. Hillary was well liked by all and will be missed. Tentative plans are being made for a living memorial to her.

Arts in the Parks continued their popular range of a variety of programs and activities and enjoyed another successful summer. There was no summer show this year for the first time due to lack of funds.

Mr. Halloran reported that former Senior Supervisor, James Murphy, was ill and in the hospital.

Farmers' Market continues successfully at City Hall. The tennis tournament begins September 21st and will continue to the 25th and all members joined in wishing Mike and Sheila Butts congratulations on the birth of their little son Brendan.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Stapleton
Acting Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 17, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Francis J. Rice, Howard Ferguson, Walter Bernheimer and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Bamel at 7:40 PM.

1. Minutes of September meeting accepted as distributed.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and Commissioner's report of his meetings and events attended during the past month were distributed to all members.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported on the following:
 - A. Jim Murphy, Recreation's retired former Senior Supervisor has been hospitalized again with yet another amputation to his other leg. During the five years since he retired due to poor health his personal courage has been pushed to the limit again and again. He is at Lahey Clinic in Burlington and cards would certainly be welcome although for a while, visitors will be restricted. We will keep everyone posted as he progresses.
 - B. Bernard Mathaisel, another Recreation employee, died last week after a brief illness, a heart condition. Many of the Recreation Department members attended his funeral at St. Ignatius Church in Chestnut Hill.
 - C. The tennis court repairs for Newton Centre, North and South Highs, Hawthorn, Warren and the Basketball Court at Cabot, in the amount of \$92,000.00 will likely have to be postponed until Spring as the materials used cannot be worked below 65 degrees and the weather is now getting too cold. It is hoped that the contractor can hold the line on this price for Spring.
 - D. Bleachers at South High have never been constructed, although the football field has been there for 5 years. Bids were presented in 1978 for both bleachers and a score board but they were too high and could not be implemented.

Since Recreation had some portable bleachers that are moved around here and there in the city as needed, they were installed temporarily at South High. These are only about 4 feet high and do not have a back rail. In order to see, people stand up on them.

Mr. Halloran met with George Winkler, the South High Athletic Director about Labor Day to see if they felt they wanted to use them this year. Although nothing was recommended by Mr. Winkler at that time, since then and 3 weeks later, he and Mr. Roy Cornelius feel concern about safety and now would like to have them removed. Recreation immediately removed them. Now the problem seems to be that there is no seating for spectators for the October 29th game and the big Thanksgiving Day game.

still retained in a budget that could be used for bleachers is an amount of \$6,500.00, and according to Mr. Bamel, who is an active member of the South High Boosters Club, this group will

be active in raising additional funds to be put together with the \$6,500.00 and with the entire amount, construct the needed bleachers at South High field. Meanwhile, the Mayor has suggested that players' benches be placed on the field behind the crowd control cable.

4. Cold Spring Playground dedication: This impressive dedication took place on October 5th. Many State and City officials were present as well as teachers and pupils from the nearby Zervas School. Joining the group was the mother of Leonard Adelman, for whom the Exertrail at Cold Spring was named in memorial. A mounted motorcycle group from the Newton Police Department were present and after a brief speech by his Honor, Mayor Mann, a ribbon cutting ceremony took place and a barrage of balloons were cut loose to bound off into the sky - flying free into the horizon. (TV and media coverage).
5. Proposal by Alderman Richard Bullwinkle to rename a triangle at the intersection of Waltham and Crafts Streets, now known as Carpenter Park, would be in honor of long time Newton resident, Anthony Bonica, a professional landscape gardener. Alderman Bullwinkle, Alderman Bruce Carmichael and Alderman Richard McGrath were all present and interested.

In addition to the letter received on this subject from Alderman Bullwinkle directed to Commissioner Halloran, all three men spoke on the subject of naming this park in honor of Mr. Bonica - still active and practicing professional gardener at age 80.

After discussion, and at the recommendation of Commissioner Halloran, Howard Ferguson moved to rename this triangle the Anthony Bonica Park. seconded by Mrs. DeVito and it was so voted by the Commission members.

6. Report on opening of North High Indoor Athletic Facility: This area will officially open on October 3rd on a pre-season schedule until after swim lesson registration. After that, lessons and regular schedule will continue throughout the Winter season.
7. Report on the annual Harvest Fair: This annual event took place at Newton Centre on the Green on October 9th. Originally scheduled for October 2nd, it was postponed due to rain. As usual, it was well attended with lots of craftspeople on hand, some excellent entertainment and a good time was had by all. This ran all day from noon to 5:00 PM.

Next meeting will be November 21st.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 19, 1983

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Walter Bernheimer, Francis Rice, Howard Ferguson, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Also present was the Honorable Matthew Jefferson, President of the Board of Aldermen and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner.

1. Since Alderman Jefferson was present at the opening of the meeting, Commissioner Halloran invited him to present his request, which Paul Burke had earlier suggested be included on the monthly agenda. This was a request for consideration of naming the Crescent Street Playground in memory of the Reverend Louis Ford.

Mr. Jefferson described in loving detail the many things that the good Reverend had done for the community through his many years of service and dedication at the Black Church there in West Newton, before, during and after the construction of the Massachusetts Turnpike and the many land takings involved which split and changed the entire West Newton area. Not only as a churchman, but as a businessman and concerned resident. He took part in community activities and touched many lives in a very positive way.

Since it was originally through his intervention that a playground was constructed between Mrytle Baptist Church and the Parks and Recreation Department, it seemed particularly appropriate, Alderman Jefferson said, to name the playground in his memory. Mr. Paul Burke who was not present this evening due to a severe cold had earlier sincerely endorsed this action and had called it to the Commissioner's attention. Without hesitation, Commissioner Halloran highly recommended this to the Commission members. Mr. Rice so moved that the playground be named in honor of the Reverend Louis Ford and it was so voted unanimously by all members present.

Dedication of this playground will take place in the Spring. Prior to that, Alderman Jefferson will plan to meet with Commissioner Halloran to go over plans and details for this dedication.

2. Minutes of the November meeting were accepted as circulated.
3. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's reports of activities were distributed to all present.
4. Commissioner Halloran reported that Jim Murphy was expected home today from his hospital stay and while he was probably not quite ready for company, he would certainly enjoy cards or notes.

Mr. Halloran also extended holiday greetings to all from the staff of the Parks and Recreation Department.

5. Information presently available in relation to the new Fiscal Year's budget process: The Commissioner told everyone that the Executive Department had just given the Department the basic information as to the preparation of the new budget which will include approximately \$15,000.00 reduction in the overall budget, but with the hope that there may be an opportunity to include a CIP budget for automotive vehicles which are in dire need after so many years unreplaced. He

will be working on the budget during early January and will bring the budget to them in January.

6. Consideration of changing the regular January 16th Commission Meeting date to a different date due to the Martin Luther King holiday on the regular 3rd Monday of the month meeting date: Due to budget, Mr. Halloran suggested that the Commission Meeting be delayed to the 4th Monday of January so that the basic budget will be available for Commission consideration at that time.
7. Consideration of a possible request for permission to use the Infirmary Land for a skimobile program was not considered as no citizen input or petition was provided for this meeting. If a solid request is presented to the Commissioner, it will be brought up on the next agenda.
8. New Business:
 - A. Mr. Ferguson called the members attention to the fact that the Commissioner's son, rusty, was carrying on in the family athletic tradition this year and had done extremely well on the high school football team in a quarterback position.
 - B. Mr. Bamel is concerned about bleachers for South High football field. Although the football field was built in the 70's, no permanent or satisfactory seating has ever been provided for spectators and parents.

The South High Booster's Club is really interested and involved and is very willing to raise money to help out with this project. They have contacted M.E. O'Brien who has told them that they could provide 500 seats at \$30.00 a seat. It is understood that there is still a \$6,500.00 contingency fund still available in the Public Works budget for the South High football field. If this could be used along with a matching funding from the Booster's Club, sufficient funding would be available to get these bleachers for next year.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to his Honor the Mayor from Mr. Bamel - member of both the Commission and Booster's Club - asking the Mayor to write a letter to the Public Works Committee of the Board of Aldermen endorsing the use of the use of the \$6,500.00 for the bleachers.

Members of the Commission agreed to approve this recommendation and Mr. Bamel will subsequently write to the Mayor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 23, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Jane Pitt, Francis Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Walter Bernheimer and Margorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Also present from the Parks and Recreation Department, as usual, were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor.

1. Minutes of the December meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance and meetings and events attended by Commissioner Halloran during December were distributed to all members present.
- 3A. Commissioner Halloran reported that Luman Barry, well known boys' basketball coach in Newton Centre and well respected citizen of the area, died during the Christmas season and Mr. Halloran attended the funeral. Just this last summer, the Newton Centre baseball field was dedicated to this well known man. This honor was a high point in his life. As Mr. Halloran said, "this man was a real asset to the City of Newton and will be sorely missed".
- 3B. The Commissioner also said that former Recreation Supervisor, Jim Murphy, after recent surgery again, has now gone home to convalesce. Everyone present wished him a good recovery.
- 3C. New brochures are available and were brought to this evenings meeting for everyone Mr. Halloran said.
- 3D. Unfortunately, so far this year, Commissioner Halloran reported the weather has not been conducive to ice skating. While the original ice was coming along nicely, but not of sufficient depth to put skaters on, meanwhile a snow storm developed. This, in effect, created an insulated barrier above the ice. Water formed under the snow, further complicating things. There is not the sufficient depth of ice to put snow removal equipment out on the ice, and as it stands now, the insulation is preventing any further appreciable buildup of ice. A 24 hour telephone service is now operating at 965-5253 and available to the general public to keep them informed of ice conditions. Mr. Halloran also noted that equipment in both Marlboro and Hudson, in attempting to clear ice skating areas, had gone through the ice. Luckily no person was injured in these accidents.
- 3E. In relation to the bleachers at Newton South High School, Mr. Halloran has agreed to work closely with herb Bamel, (Chairman of the Commission and also a member of the fund-raising Newton South High Booster's Club). If the \$6,500.00 presently in the Public Works funds, for work to the fields, can be used as a portion of the cost to construct these needed bleachers, the Boosters will have a check available to go with this, to fund

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the necessary bleacher cost. Mr. Bamel, Commissioner Halloran and Mr. Winkler will be meeting shortly. Hopefully, these bleachers will be completed and installed by the summer season. More details on this later.

4. Consideration of a new Fiscal Year 1984/85 Parks and Recreation Budget: each member of the Commission present were given a copy of the new proposed budget. Commissioner Halloran carefully went over each section of this budget and invited member's questions. He also explained the instructions given to the Department by the Executive Department, and that he has complied with these instructions in his budget preparations.

As Mr. Halloran said, cuts required have been made in the overall budget. An appointment for Thursday, February 2nd has been set up with the Executive Department to go over this budget and then the budget will be presented to the Honorable Board of Aldermen to be reviewed by both the Public Works Committee and the Human Services Committee, before finally going to the full Board.

Paul Burke motioned to approve the budget as presented and recommended by Commissioner Halloran and this was seconded by Jennie DeVito.

Discussion followed and some concern was expressed by members about possible further cuts and how best to handle these concerns.

After this discussion, a vote was taken on the motion as presented by Mr. Burke, and was unanimously approved.

5. The Beaux Arts Ball for 1984 will be held at Bloomingdales again and the date for this event to earn money for the Fund for the Arts or "FAN" is April 7, 1984.
6. The combined Jewish Philanthropies at the so-called Novitiate Park area where field facilities are somewhat jointly used by both parties, plans to meet on a regular basis at their recently renovated and plush facility, with members of the Recreation Department. Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Herb Bamel, along with Commissioner Halloran will plan to attend these scheduled meetings. Funds are currently being expended on building, grounds and parking areas. Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Commissioner Halloran have been working closely with this group for some time and will continue to coordinate the two groups.

The next Commission meeting, due to holiday and school vacation the week of February 20th (Washington's Birthday), will be held on the following Monday, February 27th. Notices will be sent prior to the meeting as usual.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 27, 1984

Meeting

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman, Jennie Devito, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Paul J. Burke, Walter S. Bernheimer, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Also present, as usual, were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor. Mr. Bob Edwards was also present representing the Newton Youth Hockey Association.

1. Minutes of the January meeting were accepted as read, but include Mr. Pepper in roster.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and events attended by Commissioner Halloran were distributed to all members present.
- 3A. Commissioner Halloran called the attention of the group to the variety of new brochures available to the citizens of Newton, such as the new Senior Adult trip and activities brochure and the new, all encompassing "Many Worlds of the Newton Parks and Recreation Department 1984". (Mr. Ferguson's picture is on the cover of the Senior Adult brochure).
- 3B. Mr. Halloran told the group that he had just returned from vacation in Florida with his wife and, at present, he was involved in mediating a dispute within the Men's Basketball League. This was in relation to an incident which occurred recently at a game in which, during a hotly contested play, racial comments were made. The Commissioner has met with the principles involved, plus Joe Connors, League Coordinator. Current plans, in accordance with League rules, recommend suspension of the 3 men involved and barring them from attending games to the end of the season.
- 3C. Mr. Halloran again called to the attention of the group that in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Newton Parks and Recreation Commission an election for Chairman and Vice-Chairman must take place at the March meeting.
- 3D. The Commissioner reported that the proposed Parks and Recreation budget has now gone to the Mayor, but it has not been docketed as yet. It will probably be the end of March before it goes to committees of the Board of Aldermen. Once the Commissioner knows the dates that it will come before Committees of Public Works and Finance, he will be sure that each member is notified.
- 3E. Bleachers which have been requested for Newton South High School appear to now be within reach due to fund raising by the Booster's club and city funding, combined. Once approved by the Board of Aldermen, in a support vote in Committees, it will go to the full Board mid-March and if approved, should be implemented and ready at least for the Fall season - and possibly even as soon as June graduation.
4. Presentation of Treasurer's Report of the Newton Youth Hockey Association by Mr. Bob Edwards. A prepared financial statement was presented to the members of the Commission showing budget

and actual expenses. Mr. Edwards also reported that there were 350 skaters in the Intramural program and 105 in the Travel Team for a total of 455 participants in the organization. The Intramural Team skate 4 months and the Travel Teams sakte from September to April. He also strongly recommended that the Parks and Recreation Department seriously consider a larger funding amount to the Youth Hockey organization than they presently do. He felt this was advisable since their expenses had risen.

Mr. Bernheimer questioned the figures as presented, pointing out that they did not add up and that there appeared to be a discrepancy of approximately \$15,000.00. He also objected to city funds being used to subsidize this Youth Hockey program.

Mr. Edwards said that he would certainly check on these figures and that Youth Hockey Association would return to the next meeting with accurate figures. This item was tabled for the time being.

5. Mr. Halloran congratulated Mr. Ferguson, Mrs. DeVito, and Ms. Pitt on their reappointment to the Newton Parks and Recreation Commission which he was presently notified concerning.
6. There will be an annual National Parks and Recreation Convention (this year to be known as the new England Institute), and will be held at the Newton Marriott on May 3rd, 4th and 5th. People and professionals in the recreation field from all over New England will be attending. This year the Newton Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting this event. Mayor Mann has consented to selcome the members to Newton at the banquet on the first evening. Approximately 400 recreators will be in attendance at this yearly convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM and both Mr. Bamel and the Commissioner went to the Finance Committee meeting that was taking up the proposed funding and acceptance of the Booster Club money for South High School bleachers.

The next meeting will take place on March 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

March 19, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Francis J. Rice, Howard Ferbuson, Walter S. Bernheimer and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Also present were Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor.

1. Minutes of the February meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports on maintenance, program and Commissioner's report of activities were distributed to all members.
3. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman - Mr. Rice nominated Jennie DeVito for the position of Chairman of the Commission with Mr. Ferguson seconding. Unanimously voted by the members present.

Mrs. DeVito nominated Walter Bernheimer as Vice Chairman, seconded by Mr. Burke and so voted unanimously.

Pictures were taken of the new Chairperson accepting the gavel from the former Chairman. Mr. Bamel, retiring Chairman thanked the entire membership for their cooperation and support and said it had been a pleasure to work with this group. Their ability to work together during the last few years while he was Chairman had permitted them with the direction of Commissioner Halloran, to accomplish many important projects, he said.

Mrs. DeVito accepted the gavel graciously from Mr. Bamel and told the members that she was looking forward to working with the group and hoped to bring the Nonantum area to the fore during her tenure as Chairperson.

4. Commissioner's Report - Mr. Halloran congratulated Mrs. DeVito and also thanked Herbert Bamel who took over from Nelson Baker over two years ago when he moved outside the city. The Commissioner said that Mr. Bamel had worked long and hard and had certainly provided excellent service, not only to his community and to the members of the Commission, but to the entire City of Newton.
 1. Mr. Halloran reported on some unusual "sink holes" which have shown up at the North High field during the last year and particularly this Spring. They are 3 or 4 feet deep and about 12 feet long. They are located near the Elm Street parking lot and have been filled several times but show up again. Currently this phenomenon is being investigated by the City Engineering Department. He will keep the members informed.
 2. Parks and Recreation Budget - budget first goes before the Executive Department then to the Aldermanic Committees. These include - Public Facilities, Human Services and the Finance Committee. It then goes to the full Board of Aldermen. There are 45 days in which the Board can act on the budget. As soon as dates are firm, the Commissioner will notify all members in order for them to be present at these Committee meetings in support of the budget.

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3. Annual Youth Awards - these are currently being presented to the Committee, this year under the guidance of Human Services Department's Suzanne Schuller. The Award Ceremonies will be held prior to the May Commission meeting on the 21st at 7:30 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers.
4. Mr. Halloran reported that the bleachers for South High are now all in the process. He has worked with Mr. Bamel, the Booster's Club and the Athletic Director at South High in getting these bleachers into the bidding process and hopefully ready for the athletic season in 1984, possibly by July.
5. Tennis Rules and Regulations for the 1984 Summer Season - other than a change of date of the opening time and closing Labor Day, there are very few changes. Each member received a proposed tennis brochure to study. After going over the brochure, Mr. Bernheimer moved, with Mr. Burke seconding, to approve these proposed Rules and Regulations and it was so moved.
6. Youth Hockey update on financial report - since Pat Lyons, President, was not available, Dr. Alan Arsher attended this meeting on their behalf. he corrected some of the misconceptions of the past meeting regarding skaters versus income and explained that there are 12 different rates. They hope to have Recreation continue to help with funding and reported that at present, Parks and Recreation funds 4% of the total operation.

One of the main concerns of the Commission members continues to be the amount of scholarship funding done by the youth Hockey Association. It has been in the past and continues to be, the most important issue of the Commission members. They have always wanted to be assured that no child who was unable to pay for this skating program be deprived through lack of financial aid through the organization.

The Commission thanked Dr. Arsher for his excellent presentation and assured him that once the Parks and Recreation Department budget had been fully processed by the Board of Aldermen, Pat Lyons would be notified.

7. Beaux Arts Ball in April - this second annual affair will be held at Bloomingdales at Chestnut Hill and the Commission was notified that 2 free tickets would be available to each member if they would leave their name with Marge. They can pick these tickets in their name up at the door the evening of the Ball, April 7th.

The next Commission meeting will be held on the 4th Monday in April due to the holiday - which is April 23rd.

Since there was no new business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 23, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice, Paul J. Burke, Herbert R. Bamel and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Also present from the Parks and Recreation Department were Deputy Commissioner, Fran Towle and Chief Supervisor, Carol Stapleton.

1. Minutes of the March meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's various meetings attended during the past month were distributed to all present.
3. A. Commissioner's report included the report of one of the worst late winter storms on March 29th that have ever hit Newton. Damage to trees throughout the entire city was very extensive, knocking down or breaking off branches to an estimated 1,000 or more trees. Recreation and Forestry have been working very hard to clear up the damage and pick up limbs and brush throughout the city.
- B. In addition to this the yearly Marathon was run. 120 barrels were put out for debris along the Commonwealth Avenue route and were picked up the day after the race. As of today, 800 loads of brush have been picked up - not including the Marathon debris.
- C. Richard Metro, Forestry Superintendent has done a superb job in getting this tree work done. Additional funding for overtime will be needed through the Board of Aldermen and the Mayor's office.
- D. Mr. Halloran also reported on the recent Beaux Arts Ball, held for the second year at Bloomingdales. He attended this Ball and found it very interesting. He also informed the group that \$13,000. had been collected for the Fund for the Arts in Newton.
- E. Commissioner Halloran also reported that bids had now been made for the bleachers (480 seat) for South High School football field.
- F. As to the current budget, Mr. Halloran will be attending the Finance Committee meeting Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM.
4. Presentation of plaque to past Chairman, Herbert R. Bamel - Commissioner Halloran made the presentation and pictures were taken of outgoing and incoming Chairman with the Commissioner. Mr. Bamel graciously thanked everyone for their help and cooperation during his tenure as Chairman and wished the new Chairman every success.
5. Presentation of CJP, represented by Mr. Geizentaner and Mr. Sidman: CJP has built a beautiful facility adjacent to the so-called Novitiate land, and in cooperation with the City of Newton and the Newton Conservators, they would like to go ahead with some long range planning. These gentlemen presented a detailed plan prepared by Mr. Geizentaner, a professional planner.

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Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, and Commissioner Halloran have been meeting with the CJP and the Newton Conservators and this group was familiar with this plan presented to the Commission members this evening upgrading parking and changing some access areas. It was also made clear that Parks and Recreation did not have any money to help implement this plan and matching funding would have to be obtained in some other way than through the City of Newton.

After listening to the presentation and looking over the plan as presented, the Commission members voted to accept the concept of the plan with the clear understanding that the plan was subject to other than any City of Newton financial funding for the future. they should explore some private grants or State funding, the Commissioner recommended.

The CJP would like to make plans with Parks and Recreation and the Newton Conservators to co-sponsor a public hearing with regard to the proposed plan on June 3rd. Possibly a walking tour could be arranged at this same time to acquaint residents and abutters with this plan. Mr. Bamel said he would very much like to represent the Commissioner with CJP.

The next step will be for plans for the June hearing and contacting abutters.

6. Presentation of Special Needs Programs by Lou MacDonald, Director. An excellent presentation was made including slides of last year's summer program and of current programs. Lou noted that he was very pleased and proud of his many volunteers. He has had 5 or 6 very committed and qualified people who work in many of his programs and certainly augment the regular paid staff. He also mentioned that his Senior Travel group that continues at this time is very dependent upon volunteerism.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM. Next meeting will be held on Monday evening, May 21st. Prior to the Commission meeting, the Youth Awards, which are co-sponsored by Parks and Recreation and the Youth Commission, will be presented at 7:30 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers with the Commission meeting following, at approximately 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 21, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairman Walter Bernheimer, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Prior to this meeting which began at 8:20 PM, members of the Commission attended the special ceremonies of the Youth Awards presentation in the Aldermanic Chambers co-hosted by the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Human Services Commission.

1. Minutes of the April meeting were accepted as presented.
2. Reports on maintenance and program were distributed to all members.
3. Commissioner's report included the information that the popular Farmers' Market would be opening in July each Tuesday, continuing through October and that the Forestry Division has now arranged to continue pickup of brush left over from the devastating March 29th storm that damaged so many trees, that plans are continuing for the necessary cleanups for the Memorial Day activities.
4. Consideration of this Summer's Swim Rules and Regulations - Proposed swim Rules and Regulations with schedule, for both Crystal Lake and Gath Pool were distributed to all present. After consideration, Mr. Ferguson moved - with Mr. Rice seconding, that Rules and Regulations as presented be accepted as presented. So voted unanimously.
5. Consideration of St. Mary of Carmen's annual request for a carnival at Hawthorn. For its 49th year, the request includes the dates of July 9th to 15th (9th and 10th as set up days), with the carnival actually running from the 11th to the 15th.

This is the only carnival allowed on city land here in Newton and is permissible because of ethnic and religious background of the carnival.

With the understanding that on the same basis as in the past, with very specific rules and regulations to be carefully followed by the carnival committee and operator, with inspection and access to all areas for Police, Building Department and any other pertinent City Department, and that the carnival close-down each night at 11:00 PM, Mr. Ferguson moved that it be allowed. Mr. Rice seconded and it was so voted unanimously.

6. Petition to name Hawthorn Tot Lot in memory of Lillian Swartz, long time supervisor in the Newton Recreation Department - unanimously approved by members present on a motion by Howard Ferguson, seconded by Francis Rice, dedication ceremonies will be planned to take place at the Annual Senior Citizen picnic to be held on September 9th at Hawthorn.
7. Report on Spring Fest held at City Hall, May 20th - the Cultural Affairs Commission held this event with some maintenance and leadership assistance from the Parks and Recreation Department.

Ordinarily a successful and well attended event, poor publicity and high cost of booths unfortunately brought low attendance this year.

8. Report on new England Training Institute at Marriott Hotel where Newton and the Parks and Recreation Department acted as hosts to the New England members. Beginning on Thursday, May 3, both Fran Towle and Marge Lesbirel worked at the convention as members of the Executive Committee, helping in registrations and providing volunteer personnel for the training sessions held in conjunction with the Training Institute. Senior adults and other members of the Parks and Recreation staff were present and assisted during the convention which continued until the 5th. At the annual banquet held during this period, the Newton Parks and Recreation Department was very gratified to receive the Arts and Humanities Award for their "Arts in the Parks" programs.
9. Final budget approval was received about a week ago with no additional cuts. Additional \$10,000. was given to the Department to improve the looks of the maintenance yard behind the Department. This area abuts the Mrytle Baptist Church. The Department will work closely with the Pastor of that church and will make these improvements in conjunction with the plans for the Memorial with Reverend Lowis Dedication which is planned for the coming Fall.
10. Recreation's participation in the city wide Beautification and Village Pride week May 14 to 20, which was coordinated throughout the city by Carol Stapleton. Six or 7 weeks ago plans were begun with Jim Hickey of the Mayor's office. Originally assigned to this Committee with Carol was Jim Bergantino. Unfortunately, Jim was taken ill and Carol continued on alone until Murdock Fraser joined her on this Committee. He too was taken sick and unable to continue. Nothing daunted Carol, she continued on her own, including the actual physical work where she went out to the different areas and planned and implemented the plantings and improvements to islands, City Hall grounds, Commonwealth Avenue, the Parks and Recreation Department building area and various areas all over the city. She arranged for flowers (and actually did a lot of the planting herself). Carol was commended by the Commissioner who has received many fine comments about this beautification work from many sources.

The meeting was adjourned and the next meeting will be June 25th, a week later than usual due to the June 18th (Bunker Hill Day) holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 24, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairperson Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Paul Burke and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

1. Minutes of the May meeting accepted as read.
2. Reports on program, maintenance were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that Gath Pool opened on the 9th with Crystal Lake opening on the 16th. Both areas had to be opened without the current permits which had been ordered early in the Spring but still not delivered. Only recently delivered they are now at both sites. Jean Cole and Carol Stapleton, Managers of the areas reported that between the 19th and 24th, they had sold over \$10,000. worth of swim passes. These swim pass sales will continue during the entire summer.

For the 3rd Summer, Albemarle Acres will be opening with between 70 to 100 children attending per week.

Special Needs staff is working and enjoying a weekend seminar training session at Sargent Camp in preparation for the Summer Camp experience at "Echo Bridge".

Arts in the Parks is in full swing with many programs for all ages and again this year will present one of their popular summer musical shows, through a special Grant funding made available to them.

Senior Adult programs under the direction of Judy Dore is planning several day trips and has a new Summer brochure available.

Playgrounds planned for this year will include 12 supervised.

Mr. Halloran told the group that the Community Schools Director, Joey Baron was resigning and a new person would be taking over. Carol Stapleton has been the Department's liason and Commission member on the Community School Commission for 7 years and said she was sorry to see this able and dedicated person leave, but looked forward to working with the new Director.

The Commissioner said that the new budget will go into effect starting Monday, July 1st. This has been a very busy year.

Mr. Halloran complimented Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, on the excellent work she has done over the year and also commented that both Fran and Marge had been honored by the National Parks and Recreation Association for the work that they did this Spring in conjunction with the planning and implementing of the annual Spring NRPA Conference held here in Newton at the Marriott Hotel.

The Commission will not plan to meet during the Summer months of July and August due to vacations, unless there is some special need.

While there was no new business, Carol Stapleton called to the attention of the members that Commissioner Halloran had been

Commissioner for 10 years, as of July 1st. He accepted congratulations from everyone present - for a job well done!

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel,
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 17, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairperson Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Paul J. Burke, Walter Bernheimer, Jane Pitt, Francis Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Carol Stapleton, Acting Secretary

1. Minutes of the June meeting accepted, but noted to add Mr. Rice's name as in attendance.
2. Reports on program, maintenance were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported on a very busy, but safe Summer.

Arts in the Parks programs were extremely well attended. Courses were filled all Summer and the concerts at Newton Centre Green, as well as the Jackson Homestead Tuesday evening concerts were a great success.

The swimming areas were very successful once again. Mr. Halloran also reported that a proposal had been submitted to the Mayor's office for funding for a new set of docks and some work to be done on the beach area. The docks at Crystal Lake are in need of replacement as they are some 20 years old and the lumber needed to replace slats, which is teak wood, is very expensive and very scarce. We have been fixing and repairing for the past 3-4 years. The extended season at Crystal Lake experienced some weather problems and we really did not get a large attendance, but on days that were "beach" days, the attendance was sparse.

Albemarle Acres experienced another very successful season and each week's sessions were filled. The program offered many different and interesting program themes and we have received many thank you letters from parents of children who attended the program, complimenting the staff as well as the program.

Summer playground attendance was, as expected, low once again. Unfortunately, it seems that the day of the playground in the neighborhood is over and day camp centers and programs such as Albemarle Acres is on the rise.

Men's and women's outdoor leagues, such as basketball and softball were once again very popular and well received.

Senior Adult activities flourished and many seniors are looking forward to the Fall program and trips to sweater factories, and lunch at Lake Pearl in Wrentham, MA.

Tennis lessons for adults and children were held at Newton North High School and were well attended. The City-wide Tennis Tournament was held September 5th through the 9th and was a great success.

4. A report was made on the plans by the CJP for the Novitiate and Infirmary areas. It was noted that we have made it very clear that no funding will come from our operating budget and that a request has been made for Federal funding.

5. All the Fall programs have been set and Newton North Indoor Program is scheduled to open on Monday, October 1st to the public. Plans for skating lessons, indoor leagues, Senior Adult activities and Arts in the Parks programs are being formulated. Both Parks and Recreation and Forestry maintenance crews had a very busy summer and are continuing to carry on into the Fall.
6. Farmers' Market, located at the War Memorial at Newton City Hall continues to be a very popular program. Farmers continue to arrive from all over Massachusetts and the attendance figures continue to soar.
7. Plans are being finalized for the up-coming Harvest Fair to be held on Sunday, October 7th at the Newton Centre Green with a rain date of Sunday, October 14th. At this time the Mayor will present the first Annual Volunteer Awards. Mr. Halloran noted that Mr. Paul Burke will be receiving an award for his outstanding lifetime work within the city.
8. On Sunday, September 16th, the Reverend Louis E. Ford Playground was dedicated in the memory of the former Pastor of the Myrtle Baptist Church.

While there was no new business the meeting was adjourned in order that all could attend the Annual Mayor's State of the City Address in Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Stapleton
Acting Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 15, 1984

Minutes

Present: Paul Burke, (Acting Chairman in the absence of Jennie DeVito, Chairperson at her request, also in the absence of Vice-Chairman), Francis Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Herbert R. Bamel and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order by Mr. Burke at 7:26 PM.

1. Minutes of September meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's report of meetings and events he attended during the past month.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported to the members present the following information:
 - a. At the old Carr School on Nevada Street, now known as the League School of Boston, problems over the summer which involved neighborhood and police are being worked out. (Hope to work indoor use out this Winter).
 - b. Copies of the Novitiate Park State Grant application were distributed to all members present. Again, it was emphasized that Parks and Recreation did not, not anticipate any funding for either maintenance of the area nor staffing.
 - c. Crystal Lake docks and beach erosion problems have been addressed and funding has been approved in the CIP for \$90,000. The old docks are seriously deteriorated as they are 22 or 23 years old. It is anticipated that both the erosion problem on the left beach area and the docks will be ready for the 1985 Summer season.
 - d. Bullough's Pond - In a cooperative effort the neighborhood of the area, the Engineering Department, Public Works Department, and the State Water Quality Department are studying the effect and solution to the problem of salt, junk, run-off, etc., and general deterioration of the pond. An application for State monies to correct these problems is being made.
 - e. North High Indoor Athletic Complex opened October 1st. This is a very popular and active program with an excellent response from the citizens of Newton.
 - f. Harvest Fair, October 6th at Newton Centre Green. This popular annual affair was a success as usual, with several thousand people attending on a lovely Fall day.
 - g. The "Peace Pole" dedication is to be held at 3:00 PM tomorrow, October 16th at Newton City Hall adjacent to the War Memorial Circle. This is a gesture of friendship from Japan. These poles are being erected throughout the United States. The Mayor and clergy will be present at these ceremonies.

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- g. A special fund is being collected by Jean Dietz, widow of well known Alderman Ernest Dietz, to memorialize him at the Newton Centre Green through the presentation of a park bench to be located at Newton Centre, the area of the City of Newton that he served so well for many years. This dedication will probably be held in the Spring.

Next meeting will be November 19th, December meeting on Tuesday, December 18th, Room 222.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

November 19, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Walter Bernheimer, Francis J. Rice and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

1. Minutes of October meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Commissioner's report of meetings and events, maintenance reports and program activities reports were distributed to all present.
3. Chairman DeVito thanked Mr. Burke for acting as Chairperson at the last meeting in her absence.
4. CIP meeting on the 18th was attended by the Commissioner. Several important items were discussed, including the consideration of working with the State on a cleanup of accumulated silt and vegetation. It was hoped that the State would come up with the funding for a "Diagnostic Feasibility Study". If this could be partially funded by them the city would likely provide some additional funding but could not bear the entire cost of \$80,000. Carol Stapleton has been coordinating this project with the neighborhood who is very concerned about conditions gradually getting worse each year.

The second item was for a new dock system at Crystal Lake and concern about serious erosion of the beach area. The old dock system is deteriorated and is over 20 years old and constitutes a safety hazard if use is continued. The anticipated cost of this project is in the vicinity of \$90,000.

The third item was the improvement of the so-called Novitiate property and the cooperation with the CJP who is working toward the goal of a Grant to fund these improvements along with the Newton Conservators without any additional funds provided by the City of Newton.

the subject of an access to Hunnewell Park other than through the current inappropriate and difficult access through Brighton was discussed and it was decided that an emergency access should be constructed from Simpson Street. This would enable both the Parks and Recreation Department to have access for maintenance as well as the Conservation Commission for their maintenance.

5. Reminder that December meeting will be on Tuesday rather than Monday and will be Room 222 instead of in the Executive Suite where it is usually held.
6. Skating Rules and Regulations and recommended hours of operation were considered by the members. Paul Burke motioned and it was so moved unanimously that these Rules and Regulations, as well as recommended hours of operation, with a review to take place after two weeks, to determine if attendance warranted each area remaining open. (This would include the 3 skating areas of Bullough's Pond, Crystal Lake and Ware's Cove).
7. Consideration of the proposed Rules and Regulations for Kennard Park was postponed pending review of these proposed rules by the City Legal Department, as suggested by Mr. Burke.

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8. Commissioner Hallored reported that on the November 11th holiday at Albemarle a man 28 years old was stricken with a heart attack while playing football and died. This is a point of information only, and was not related to any sponsored Parks and Recreation League or program at this area. The group playing touch football did not have a permit for the use of the field. EMT's and Police responded.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 19, 1984

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Walter Bernheimer, Francis Rice, Howard Ferguson, Jane Pitt and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary.

Also present was the Honorable Matthew Jefferson, President of the Board of Aldermen and Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department.

1. Since Alderman Jefferson was present at the opening of the meeting, Commissioner Halloran invited him to present his request which Paul Burke had earlier suggested be included on the monthly agenda. This was a request for consideration of naming the Crescent Street Playground in memory of the Reverend Louis Ford.

Mr. Jefferson described in loving detail the many things that the good Reverend had done for the community through his many years of service and dedication at the Black church there in West Newton, before, during and after the construction of the Massachusetts Turnpike and the many land takings involved which split and changed the entire West Newton area. Not only as a churchman, but as a businessman and concerned resident, he took part in community activities and touched many lives in a very positive way.

Since it was originally through his intervention that a playground was constructed between the Myrtle Baptist Church and the Parks and Recreation Department, it seemed particularly appropriate, Alderman Jefferson said, to name the playground in his memory. Mr. Paul Burke, who was not present this evening due to a severe cold, had earlier sincerely endorsed this action and had called it to the Commission's attention. Without hesitation, Commissioner Halloran highly recommended this to the commission members. Mr. Rice so moved that the playground be named in honor of the Rev. Louis Ford, and it was so voted unanimously by all members present.

Dedication of this playground will take place in the Spring. Prior to that, Alderman Jefferson will plan to meet with Commissioner Halloran to go over plans and details for this dedication.

2. Minutes of the November meeting were accepted as circulated.
3. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's report of activities were distributed to all present.
4. Commissioner Halloran reported that Jim Murphy was expected home today from his hospital stay and while he was probably not quite ready for company, he would certainly enjoy cards or notes.

Mr. Halloran also extended holiday greetings to all from the staff of the Parks and Recreation Department.

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5. Information presently available in relation to the new fiscal year's budget process: The Commissioner told everyone that the Executive Department had just given the Department the basic information as to the preparation of the new budget which will include an approximate \$15,000.00 reduction in the overall budget, but with the hope that there may be an opportunity to include a CIP budget for automotive vehicles which are in dire need after so many years unreplaced. He will be working on the budget during early January and will bring the budget to them in January.
6. Consideration of changing the regular January 16th Commission meeting date to a different date due to the Martin Luther King holiday on the regular 3rd Monday of the month meeting date. Due to budget, Mr. Halloran suggested that the Commission meeting be delayed to the 4th Monday of January so that the basic budget will be available for Commission consideration at that time.
7. Consideration of a possible request for permission to use the Infirmary land for a skimobile program was not considered as no citizen input or petition was provided for this meeting. If a solid request is presented to the Commissioner, it will be brought up on the next agenda.
8. New Business:
 - A. Mr. Ferguson called the members attention to the fact that the Commissioner's son, Rusty, was carrying on in the family athletic tradition this year and had done extremely well on the high school footballs team in a quarterback position.
 - B. Mr. Bamel is concerned about bleachers for South High football field. Although the football field was built in the 70's, no permanent or satisfactory seating has ever been provided for spectators and parents.

The South High Booster's Club is really interested and involved and is very willing to raise money to help out with this project. They have contacted M. E. O'Brien, who has told them that they could provide 500 seats, \$30.00 a seat. It is understood that there is still a \$6,500.00 contingency fund available in the Public Works budget for the South High football field. If this could be used along with a matching funding from the Booster's Club, sufficient funding would be available to get these bleachers for next year.

It was suggested that a letter be sent to his Honor the Mayor from Mr. Bamel, member of both the Commission and Booster's Club, asking the Mayor to write a letter to the Public Works committee of the Board of Aldermen endorsing the use of the \$6,500.00 for the bleachers.

Members of the Commission agreed to approving this recommendation and Mr. Bamel will subsequently write to the Mayor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 21, 1985

Meeting

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Herbert R. Bamel, Francis J. Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order by Chairman at 7:35 PM.

1. Minutes of the December meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance and program were distributed to members present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that Professor Frank Robinson of Northeastern University had recently completed his special professional tome on Special Needs. It contains a special chapter about Special Needs in Newton, so was of particular interest to the Newton Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Halloran reported that December, this past year, was particularly warm and had not been conducive to making ice, so there was no skating as yet. However, in spite of this, it was a busy month with Arts in the Parks holding many interesting programs and performances during the holidays.

4. Skating at Auburndale opened on the 18th and the Department will make this available as long as it continues good. At present there is about 8 inches of ice at Auburndale, but neither Crystal lake or Bullough's Pond are open for skating. Salt run-off continues to be a problem at these areas.
5. Re-use consideration of Oak Hill School - a special meeting of the Re-use Committee was held at City Hall this past Thursday and the Commissioner and Herb Bamel of the Commission both attended this important meeting. Consideration had been given to not only selling the building of this school which will be closed, but also the lands now used for athletic fields. The neighborhood objected to this as well as several other Departments, all who felt that heavy use of this land by the neighborhood was more important. These objections included Planning Department, Conservation and the Parks and Recreation Commission members.

The Aldermen considering this use now realize that this land now receives - and will continue to receive - heavy use for leisure services even though the building becomes a private school. The Aldermen went on record that they would like to see this land continue as recreation land and the Land Re-use Committee proposed that this land be used and maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department, in perpetuity.

Upon consideration, the members of the Commission voted unanimously on a motion made by Herbert Bamel "that the athletic fields and open land adjacent to what is now known as the Oak Hill School on Wheeler Road in Newton Centre, remain in perpetuity, under the ownership and administrative jurisdiction of the Newton

Parks and Recreation Department. They, in turn, will maintain and use this land for recreation and athletic purposes as they deem fit, as proposed by the members of the Real Property Reuse Committee of the Board of Aldermen".

6. Budget - the budget proposed by the Department for the new fiscal year will be for 2.7 million and will be a "0" based budget except for the approved salary raises of 5%.

In relation to the new proposed budget which Commissioner Halloran presented in written detail to the Commission members this evening, it was unanimously approved on a motion by Mr. Bamel, as proposed.

While the proposed budget has not gone either to the Executive Department nor the Committees of the Board of Aldermen and the Full Board, it is possible that there may be additional cuts before final approval. It is hoped, of course, that the Department will be funded as the budget currently stands. Follow up will be continued on the next agenda. Mr. Halloran reported that he expected to go to the Executive Department a week from Tuesday.

7. In a very nice compliment, Mr. Bamel congratulated the office staff at the Department in the manner to which they responded to the general public when they call in on the telephone to ask for information. In his experience and from various comments he has received from members of the public, he feels that the staff has been courteous, friendly and helpful.
8. Next meeting of the Commission will be held a week later than usual due to the Washington's Birthday holiday on the usual 3rd Monday. Next meeting will be February 25th.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 25, 1985

Minutes

Present: Deputy Commissioner Fran Towle, (Commissioner Halloran was on vacation in Florida), Chairman Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Paul J. Burke, Francis Rice, Walter Bernheimer III, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary - also Mrs. Charles Pepper

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mrs. DeVito at 7:30 PM.

1. Minutes of January meeting were accepted as presented.
2. Copies of maintenance, program, as well as copies of a recent news release headlining Rick Cass, Director of the Special Needs Program for Recreation and several of his program participants.
3. Fran Towle then reported on skating here in Newton during these past winter months. Auburndale, the only one of the three areas that froze sufficiently for safe skating, enjoyed 19 days. However, attendance was less than good, averaging only about 100 people during a day, a considerable drop from other years. Only about 47% of the cost for maintaining and staffing this area was covered through the sale of permits. The question arose as to whether it was really worth while, given attendance and cost to operate skating areas.

Fran also reported that Commissioner Halloran has received approval through the Board of Aldermen for funding of \$15,000.00 to effect park bench repairs throughout the city. The Commissioner plans to do this work "in house".

Seasonal leadership and swimming rates for the upcoming season, Ms. Towle said, have been upgraded and approved. The starting rate is now at \$3.45. (Effective 7/1/85).

Another plus that Fran reported to the Commission was that the Parks and Recreation budget had been presented to the Executive Department and no changes had been advocated. She also explained that CIP funds could be anticipated to effect tennis court repairs and some basketball court repairs. (Tennis courts at Burr, Cabot, Newton Highlands and Stearns, and basketball courts at Newton Centre, Stearns and Lincoln-Eliot).

4. Plans for the 7th Annual Youth Awards are set for May 20th in the Aldermanic Chambers. Posters and publicity as well as nomination forms will be distributed to be returned by April. This year, Parks and Recreation will be coordinating this function under the direction of Fran Towle.
5. Ms. Towle reminded the Commission members that the annual election, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Commission, would take place in March.

6. Update on Special Needs programs and newspaper articles, as mentioned earlier, were distributed to all present. The Newton Celtics, consisting of special needs young people and under the coaching of Rick Cass, Special Needs Director, played at the Boston Garden during the half time and had a wonderful time, and were heartily cheered on by not only Commissioner Halloran, who was present, but by the Boston Garden regulars who were present for the Celtics game. Rick Cass as Director, has done and continues to do, a superb job with his many special needs participants and programs. Fran reported that Rick has another basketball competition coming up at Fort Devens in another week or so - we'll report on this later.

No further new business was presented and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

March 18, 1985

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Mrs. Charles Pepper, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

1. Minutes of the February meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Election: Paul Burke nominated the present Chairman, Jennie DeVito for re-election. This was seconded by Mrs. Pepper. No other nominations were made and Mrjs. DeVito was unanimously re-elected.

Mrs. Pepper nominated Walter Bernheimer III for re-election as Vice Chairman. Mr. Burke seconded this motion and since no other nominations were made, it was unanimously voted to re-elect Mr. Bernheimer.

3. Reports of maintenance and program were distributed to all members present. A report of the meetings and events attended by Commissioner Halloran during the month of February was distributed.

Commissioner Halloran reported that Deputy Commissioner, Fran Towle, had been approved by the Personnel Department for a long awaited upgrading at his request. He was very pleased about this and it will become effective July 1st this coming fiscal year. As of this same date, upgrades have been approved for Joe Connors to Supervisor and for William Cleary to Working Foreman, Motor Equipment Repairman.

With regard to the needed new dock system for Crystal lake and the correction of the erosion problem at the Lake, Mr. Halloran said that the erosion has been taken care of and that the contract for the new dock system has been awarded to the same contractor that provided the previous dock system - now over 20 years old.

Mr. Halloran reported that the park benches were now in the process of repair and painting through a special fund and should be completed and ready by May 12th.

The annual Spring Clean-up, which Carol Stapleton coordinates, will begin at the Spring Fest on May 12th. This will be ongoing throughout the City for a week.

A \$50,000.00 Grant has been given to the City of Newton through the State and will be used for the study of problems experienced at the Bullough's Pond site to try and ascertain what needs to be done to revive this body of water in the heart of the city.

It was reported that the South High track repairs would be completed this summer. The question arose as to what would happen if this school was closed. Although nothing is planned on this issue at present, even if it were, the public would continue to use the track in the future.

Mr. Halloran said that the budget - with several small CIP's added and some additional monies for equipment and trucks - will be presented by the Mayor on April 1st. The Board of Aldermen must act on this within 45 days.

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Mr. Halloran will notify the members as to hearing dates before Human Services Committee, Public Works Committee and Finance Committee sometime after April 1st or as soon as he is advised of these dates.

4. Youth Hockey reports by Dr. Ashare - these reports were not received until this evening and without an opportunity to duplicate them for Commission members, it was agreed to take these up at the next meeting instead of tonight.
5. Youth Awards, under Fran Towle's coordination this year, will take place in the Aldermanic Chambers just before the May Commission meeting on May 20th. She is accepting nominations for the 4 main awards at this time.
6. Consideration of upcoming summer tennis rules and regulations - copies of the proposed rules and regulations were distributed to all present. Mr. Halloran said that fees and charges were the same. The only change will be the withdrawal of weekend afternoon tennis reservations due to poor attendance.

After consideration of these rules, Mr. Burke moved to approve the Commission's recommendation of these rules for tennis in this upcoming season. It was so voted unanimously.

7. Aldermanic Chairman of Human Services Committee, Rodney Barker, has invited the Chief of Police, the Chairman of the Youth Commission, Commissioner Halloran and the City Clerk to a special meeting on March 27th at 9:00 PM to discuss and help coordinate efforts to combat drug and alcohol abuse and other youth related problems at city parks and playgrounds.
8. Special Needs game at North High - this past Sunday, a special basketball game, through Rick Cass, our Special Needs Director, took place at North High. Carol Stapleton and Commissioner Halloran both attended and it was a super event - much enjoyed by the special needs kids. They played the Dorchester Dots.

The next meeting will be a week later than usual due to the holiday on the 3rd Monday. The date will be April 22nd.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 22, 1985

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Walter S. Bernheimer, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Herbert R. Bamel, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting this evening was held in the cafeteria of City Hall and began at 7:35 PM.

1. Minutes of the March meeting were approved as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance, Forestry, program, Commissioner's reports of meetings and events attended during the previous month were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported orally on the following items:
 - A. Budget preparation and hearings: Committee hearings before Public Facilities and Human Services and finally Finance. Will go to full Board by the beginning of May. (Mr. Mc Grath held up passage with Public Works until he received some clarification on some equipment needed).
 - B. Report on Youth Hockey's financial status - since no one was present this consideration of their financial report will be delayed until the next agenda in May.
 - C. Report on Grant received by Judy Dore, Senior Director, for Gardens for Seniors. Mr. Halloran reported that Judy had applied for, and received monies to plant a garden, along with equipment and supplies to accomplish this. This vegetable garden will be created at Hamilton Neighborhood Center in Newton Lower Falls. Monies are being supplied by the National Association for Gardening in Burlington, Vermont.
 - D. Cleanup week in cooperation with other city groups and coordinated by Carol Stapleton will take place during a week in May. Approximately \$7,000.00 will be used in providing beautification throughout the city and will include flowers and plantings at schools, around public buildings and along the public ways and buildings here in the city.
 - E. Commissioner Halloran reported that he and several members of the Department had attended the annual Beaux Arts Ball held at Bloomingdales last Saturday. Approximately 900 people came and had a wonderful time. Earnings from this popular event will provide some additional funding for Fund for the Arts in Newton.
 - F. Mr. Halloran called to everyone's attention that the "Spring Fest" this year will be held on City hall grounds and will take place on Sunday, May 12th.
 - G. Youth Awards will be presented next month, just prior to the regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Awards will be given in the Aldermanic Chambers beginning at 7:30 PM. This is coordinated this year by Deputy Commissioner Fran

Towle, and will be done jointly with the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Youth Commission. Candidates are now coming in and a selection will be made very shortly.

- H. Report on Crystal Lake: Crystal Lake work is being completed, plans for docks are currently "in the works", and will be in place before opening of the swim season on the 3rd Saturday of June. Erosion problems have been eliminated and things are going forward without any problems. Should be a good season at this popular swimming area.
 - I. Mr. Halloran reported that he and several other Department Heads had attended a very interesting seminar arranged by Richard Kelliher, the Chief Administrative Officer in the Mayor's office. This was a Management Training Session held in Dedham and through M.I.T. He felt this was a very good and useful seminar.
 - J. The Commissioner reported that at the end of April on the 29th, 30th and May 1st, several of the Department members would be active in the planned New England Training Institute and Conference to be held in Newport, Rhode Island. Those attending will be Fran Towle, Marge Lesbirel, Judy Dore, Jean Cole and Linda Plaut. They will be planning and implementing several of the lectures and training sessions which will be coordinated by Fran Towle.
 - K. Mr. Halloran reported on the Marathon and the cleanup done afterward which he said had been done very quickly and efficiently - having been completed before noon on the next day.
 - L. The Commissioner also told members of the Commission that we had been fortunate in having \$15,000.00 (from surplus funds), to repair and paint park benches throughout the city. This is currently going on and this CIP funding is also taking care of the \$45,000.00 for South High track and for the \$90,000.00 for Crystal Lake docks.
 - M. The "Ernie Dietz Memorial", privately funded, will be dedicated this coming Sunday. A lovely bench has been purchased and will be installed at the Newton Centre area right across the street from Hit or Miss, on the Newton Centre Green. An appropriate plaque will also be placed in front of it. Carol Stapleton is coordinating this, Mr. Halloran said.
4. Consideration of Summer Swim Rules and Regulations: Copies of the proposed Rules and Regulations were distributed to all present. The only change proposed this year was the implementation of a \$5.00 charge per swim for non-residents. After consideration, these Rules and Regulations proposed by Commissioner Halloran were unanimously accepted by the Commission members.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 20, 1985

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Francis J. Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Walter S. Bernheimer and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting began at 8:15 PM due to the earlier presentation of the 7th Annual Youth Award ceremonies in the Aldermanic Chambers at 7:30 PM. These were jointly sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Youth Commission, and coordinated by Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department.

1. Minutes of the April meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, Forestry and Commissioner's reports of meetings and events were distributed to all present.
3. Commissioner's oral report included the following:
 - A. April was a very busy month with Little League openings, softball leagues in preparation, soccer leagues operating and heavy use of fields and facilities by the School Department.
 - B. Spring Fest was held at City Hall on May 12th.
4. Request from St. Mary of Carmen Society for annual carnival from July 15th to 21st. Through a letter from the Society and representative Nunzio Leone, this request was presented to Commissioner Halloran. After consideration by the Commission members and with the understanding that all rules and regulations would be conformed with - as in the past - and upon Commissioner Halloran's recommendation, the approval for this 50th anniversary celebration was un-animously okayed.

Mrs. DeVito expressed her pleasure with this approval, inviting everyone present to attend this important traditional festival culminating in the Sunday evening candlelight procession back to the church by the entire community. She feels that this exemplifies such a wonderful community fervor and loyalty that it is an event that would be enjoyed by everyone in the City of Newton, and she hopes that all of the members will be able to attend.
5. Report on Dietz Memorial ceremonies held at Newton Centre Green. Coordinated by Carol Stapleton and working closely with Mrs. Dietz, this special event and memorial of a park bench (which was privately funded), was held at Newton Centre recently. This memorial bench was installed on Centre Street near the corner of Beacon, with flowers planted on each side by the Girl Scouts and a memorial plaque honoring former Alderman Ernie Dietz, directly in front of the bench.
6. Status of plans for summer programs - Albemarle Acres and Centre Acres. Both of these programs are the result of the need during the summer by working parents. Albemarle Acres already going into its 4th season, has resulted in another similar program to be held this year at Centre Acres. Very popular and successful, these programs are coordinated by Sheila Butts, Supervisor at the Parks and Recreation Department.

- 7. Beautification Week beginning May 12th and coordinated by Carol Stapleton will continue throughout the City of Newton with cooperation from neighborhood groups, Girl Scouts, PTA. Planters all over the city have been filled with wonderful flowers, City Hall grounds have been planted with blooming flowers and the many public buildings and islands have all been treated to florals. Over 1,000 geraniums and 800 marigolds have been purchased by the Parks and Recreation Department and planted all over the city. Special events, such as the neighborhood cleaning of Bullough's Pond in Newtonville on Sunday and a special media event at the Burr School in Auburndale on Saturday were held, all enforcing the beautification theme throughout the city.

Monies for flowers and the special citations will be funded through the Parks and Recreation Department each year in their budget.

At present, the next big event will be plans and cleanup and preparation for the upcoming Memorial Day plans Sunday and Monday, May 26th and 27th. The Vietnam Veteran's Park in Newtonville across the street from Jackson Homestead, currently being planted and prepared, will be the site of memorial exercises for those veterans of the Vietnam conflict on Monday, the 27th.

- 8. Consideration of a revised resolution requesting that the Board of Aldermen designate as "parkland", the wooded triangle bounded by Commonwealth Avenue and Lakeview Avenue and Walnut Street, and to formally assign this parcels control, care and maintenance to the Newton Parks and Recreation Department.

(This was based upon a 1971 resolution which was proposed to the Aldermen but was never acted upon. Helen Heyn of the Conservation Commission recently called this resolution to Commissioner Halloran's attention since she felt it would be an excellent idea if this small piece of land which Recreation already takes care of could be permanently assigned to the Department as parkland. It contains 2.3 acres of hilly, treed land.)

After consideration of this recommendation by Commissioner Halloran, it was so moved unanimously to request this resolution be proposed to the Aldermen for their approval.

Commissioner Halloran reminded the group that the June meeting would be held on the 24th rather than the 17th which is the usual 3rd Monday. This is due to the June 17th holiday on the usual meeting day. He also called to their attention that it was the usual procedure during the summer months of July and August to omit meetings due to vacations, unless there was some particular issue that required a special meeting to be called.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 24, 1985

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Paul J. Burke, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Francis J. Rice and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting opened at 7:40 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers as the regular room #209 was being used for Committee meetings.

1. Minutes of the May meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance, program, Forestry and Commissioner's reports of meetings and events which he attended during the past month were distributed to all members present.

Mr. Halloran reported that plans were well under way for the Summer programs including playgrounds, swimming and both Albemarle Acres and Centre Acres. This is one of the busiest periods of the year, both for program and maintenance, since fields are being cut, new brochures for Arts in the Parks and the Senior Adults are being prepared and Special Needs Camp and programs are in preparation.

3. Request for fireworks at Albemarle Playground in conjunction with St. Mary of Carmen Society Carnival and 50th anniversary. By letter, Tony Gentile, President of St. Mary of Carmen Society requested the use of Albemarle Playground on July 17th to kick off their 50th anniversary celebration with a fireworks display. It has been considered and approved by both the Fire Department through Chief Reilly and the Police Department, Chief Quinn. They will have adequate insurance to cover the display and have determined the actual site at the playground after going over their meeting with Commissioner Halloran, representatives of both the Police and Fire Departments, and the Newton Executive Department.

The program will be an aerial display lasting approximately 25 minutes and will take place in deep right field. On a motion by Paul Burke, the Commission voted unanimously to approve this fireworks display at Albemarle Playground on July 17th in conjunction with the St. Mary of Carmen celebration.

4. Report on Albemarle Acres and Centre Acres registration - Commissioner Halloran said, included a full registration for Albemarle Acres for the 7 weeks and very close to full for Centre Acres for their 5 week session. Programs will run from 9 AM to 4 PM, with extended days available if wanted.
5. New brochures for senior adults and brochures for Arts in the Parks were distributed to all present. Lots of interesting and informative trips and programs available to citizens here in Newton this summer.
6. Report on Crystal Lake dedication on June 19th - originally scheduled for Wednesday the 12th, it had to be postponed due to rain. This was a dedication of the new docks and the many

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improvements which took place this Spring at Crystal Lake and cost approximately \$90,000.00. In addition to this new dock system which replaced the obsolete and 10 year old system, benches were painted, sand was added to the beach, a new raft was made available and the building itself was painted inside and outside. Currently Mr. Halloran reported, the entire facility is very attractive and pleasant for swimming.

Present at this dedication were many swimmers since the facility was already open. Mayor Mann, several of the Aldermen, President and several members of the Newton Highlands Area Council were present. Flowers were presented to Carol Stapleton and Kay Barrett, President of the Council was not complimentary to Carol in relation to her work with the general public at Crystal lake.

7. Since the Parks and Recreation Commission does not meet during July and August unless a special meeting is called for some reason, the next time the group will meet will be September, 16, 1985.
8. Commission members particularly mentioned that they would like to go on record complimenting both Judy Dore for her senior adult brochures and to Linda Plaut for her Arts in the Parks brochure.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 23, 1985

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Jennie DeVito, Chairman, Paul J. Burke, Herbert R. Bamel, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Walter S. Bernheimer, Francis J. Rice and Howard Ferguson. (Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary was on vacation and Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner took minutes of the meeting).

1. Minutes of June meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance, program, Forestry and Commissioner reports of meetings attended were distributed to all members present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported on the following:
 - A. Summer programs including Albemarle Acres were "super" - however, the feeling is that playgrounds "are a thing of the past". We may keep 4 playgrounds open.
 - B. Swimming at Crystal Lake and Gath Pool are well attended. Crystal Lake had new docks installed this year and were dedicated in July. Question of arsenic treated wood came up, but there appeared to be no problem and they were okayed by the Newton Health Department.
 - C. Arts in the Parks - another excellent summer with many programs, including the annual summer show "Pinafore", many concerts, classes, etc.
 - D. Tennis program - problem with lights this year due to odd bulbs which were ordered, and a delay in receiving them. They should be okay by this week.
 - E. Beautification Committee of the Department Committee each week, reviewed areas throughout the city and Judy Dore and a senior leader interviewed and awarded 3 or 4 people each week, a special certificate.
 - F. Capital Improvement Program planned and presented this month. It includes drainage for Burr Park, improvements at Underwood School, improvements at South High practice football field, an access road for Hunnewell Park through Simpson Street and the rehabilitation of tennis courts at Auburndale, Ward, Cabot and Memorial, as well as the basketball courts at Stearns and Newton Centre.
4. Novitiate Land: A State Grant proposal has been submitted to develop this park. At this point no city funds are involved. However, the Newton Conservators would like to see money made available through the city surplus.

The breakdown at this point would include: State Urban Self Fund 88%, Federal Land and Water Conservation 10%, and private funding through CJP plus the Conservators of 10%. This would be \$53,800.00 being the total amount proposed.

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5. Lightman case of a few years ago in which a drowning at Lake Cochituate took place during a playground field trip, took place is currently "in the works". Legal interrogatories have recently been completed.
6. Fall Programs:
 - A. Golf Celebrity Tournament planned at Woodland Country Club - a plus for Arts in Newton.
 - B. Special Needs - Rick Cass, our excellent Special Needs Director, has decided to return to teaching at Kennedy Hospital, but will continue to help out in Special Needs Programs here in Newton. The new Director will be Karen Flannery.

Mr. Bernheimer had much praise for the Summer Special Needs Program and said that there has been a super summer camp, probably the finest in all of New England, and he also had praise for the new Director.
 - C. North High Indoor Complex will be opening Monday through Friday, starting October 7th.
 - D. Senior Adult Programs: will include the popular Walking Club, Aerobics, trips, etc.
 - E. Very shortly, on October 4th, there will be a special event at the Hillcrest Restaurant in Waltham honoring retiring Newton South Athletic Director, George Winkler. Commissioner Halloran plans to attend and take part in this program.
 - F. Summer again saw the annual St. Mary of Carmel Carnival. This was a very special 50th anniversary and everything went very well. This year the highlight for this special event was a fireworks display which took place before about 25,000 people for about 25 minutes. This was held at the Albemarle Playground and was a well done and excellent display enjoyed by everyone. There were no problems and no incidents.
7. Passing of Mrs. Worthing L. West, long time Commission member was sadly noted by all. A Memorial Resolution was presented by Ed English describing her many volunteer efforts here in the City of Newton during her lifetime. This will be included in the Parks and Recreation records.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Next meeting will be October 21, 1985.

Reported by:

Fran Towle
Deputy Commissioner

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 21, 1985

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Francis Rice, Howard Ferguson and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Since there was not a quorum present, it was suggested that the current agenda be held for the November meeting.

Reports of maintenance, programs and Commissioner's reports of meetings that he had attended during the month were distributed to those present.

Commissioner Halloran reported on Hurricane Gloria and her problems and the cleanup activities necessary due to the storm damage throughout the City of Newton. He explained that the city had over 600 trees down during and after the storm which both Recreation and Forestry worked cooperatively with Public Works Department to remove and take to the wood dump on Rumford Avenue. The Purchasing Department has hopes that a proposal will be made to the city for removal of this storm debris. It will likely be an expensive proposition.

Mr. Halloran also said that the North High School indoor complex was again open and operating under the able direction of Jean Cole. For the time being, the pool and gym are open weekdays. In November, the weekend schedule will be implemented.

The retirement of George Winkler, Athletic Director of the Newton South High School, was honored by a banquet with many notables attending. In cooperation with the South High Booster's Club, the parks and Recreation Department put up a flag pole and installed the Booster's Club sign at the field. Commissioner Halloran attended all of the festivities and Mr. Winkler was very pleased and grateful he said. For the football game, Parks and Recreation will provide a new flag.

The Harvest Fair took place on a beautiful Fall day on the Newton Centre Green. The Commissioner said that there were at least 250 booths and a volume of approximately 12,000 people attending. It was a great success with the exception of a small contretemps when extremely loud rock music over an amplifier was forced to eliminate their sound system by the Fair coordinator.

Meeting terminated at 7:55 PM. The next meeting will be held on November 18th. At that time, this October agenda will be combined with the November agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

November 18, 1985

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Walter Bernheimer, Acting Chairperson, Paul J. Burke, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice, Herbert R. Bamel, Mrs. Charles Pepper, and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Visitors included Deputy Commissioner, Fran Towle, and Chief Supervisor, Carol Stapleton. Karen Flannery, new Special Needs Director was introduced to the Commission members and presented an audio/visual program on Special Needs.

1. Meeting called to order by acting Chairman, Walter Bernheimer as Jennie DeVito was ill. Minutes of the September and October meeting were accepted as presented.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and Commissioner's report of meetings and events attended were distributed to all present.
- 3A. Commissioner Halloran introduced Karen Flannery, Special Needs Director who replaced Rick Cass, the former Director. Rick returned to teaching Special Needs children at the Kennedy Memorial Hospital and will be sorely missed as he did a super job and we hated to see him leave. Mr. Halloran said he felt that Karen Flannery will continue in the same vein and we are all looking forward to working with her. Later this evening, she will provide the members with, and update on current and summer programs, through an audio/visual presentation.
- 3B. As a point of information, Mr. Halloran reported that the George Winkler Testimonial Dinner which took place at the Hillcrest Restaurant in Waltham, was well attended and that Mr. Winkler was delighted. The South High Boosters Club had worked closely, particularly through Alan Hackel, with the Parks and Recreation Department and a Booster sign will be put up, with a Thanksgiving Day game dedication at the football field. A new flag pole will also be there. Mr. Winkler was very pleased. About 200 attended.
- 3C. With regard to the earlier request from Ed English regarding a suitable memorial to Mrs. Worthing L. West, former Commission member and Chairman for several years, Mr. Halloran had thought that Ed would be present. However, due to other commitments, he was unable to join the group. Mr. Rice felt that an ideal memorial to Mrs. West would be naming the Newton Centre Playground building in her honor. She lived directly across the street from this area and was deeply interested in this playground, as well as all areas of the Park Department.

It was moved unanimously on a motion by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Ferguson, that the Newton Centre Playground building, known as "the Hut" be named after Mrs. Worthing L. West, with a suitable dedication to take place in the Spring.

- 3D. Storm damage created by Hurricane Gloria cost the City of Newton approximately \$686,000.00, Commissioner Halloran reported. The bulk of the cleanup work was accomplished through the Parks and

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Recreation Department and the Public Works Department, with outside contractors providing assistance on the cleanup. Over 6,000 truckloads of brush, debris and trees were picked up from September 27th to October 19th. Debris originally scheduled to be temporarily stored at Cold Spring Park, due to neighborhood concerns, had to be relocated and was taken to the Rumford Avenue site. At one point the DEQE gave permission to burn this "slash" material but this was withdrawn after a day or so and the debris was then buried at this site.

Just recently the city and representatives from this Department and Public Works have been meeting with Federal and State authorities regarding the possibility of some reimbursement funding. It is hoped that if this is done, the Federal Government will provide 75% and the State agencies, 12½% reimbursement. Trees and stumps may have a consideration. As of today, 1,124 city trees are lost, 900 of these were on the street. Police poll of all trees here in the city that fell on public ways were computerized at 3,600.

- 3E. C.I.P. requests have come before the Public Facilities Committees and if approved will permit improvements on tennis courts, basketball courts and access to Hunnewell Playground.
- 3F. Regular budget this year has been requested for December 18th. Therefore, this will be brought to the Commission members at the December 16th meeting instead of the January meeting as we have done in the past.

Since there was no further business, Karen Flannery then presented her report on both current and proposed future special needs programs and Carol Stapleton gave an excellent and interesting slide presentation on the summer programs of camp here in Newton, and also the end of the season "week away" at Sargent Camp in New Hampshire.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, December 16th at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 16, 1985

Meeting

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairman Herbert R. Bamel, Walter Bernheimer, Howard Ferguson, Mrs. Charles Pepper and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Jennie DeVito at 7:35 PM.

1. Minutes of November meeting accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance and Commissioner's report of meetings and events attended were distributed to all present.
3. Mr. Halloran reported briefly regarding the Lightman case which will go to trial on February 6, 1986. This was in relation to a drowning which took place at Lake Cochituate, a State Park, on August 10, 1978. On a playground field trip with 2 recreation leaders, a 35 year old retarded adult drowned. The Lightman family is in the process of a legal suit which involves both the state of Massachusetts and the Newton Parks and Recreation Department. The City of Newton is being represented by a member of the Legal Department, Michael Peirce.
4. Question of possible reimbursement (State and Federal Agency), F.E.M.A. - paid out by the City of Newton during the hurricane emergency in September, salary and overtime costs were \$153,000.00. Equipment damaged in storm was the big bucket truck. Hired equipment cost \$227,000.00. Tree replacements would cost an average of \$75.00 each, according to present estimates.

The Parks and Recreation Department has submitted all of their expenses on the storm to the Executive Department and there seems to be a strong chance of 75% reimbursement to the city. Report will be made on this at a later date Mr. Halloran said.

5. Consideration of skating for this winter - copies of last years' skating reports, plus figures spent and possible permit costs for this year were distributed to members present.

Commissioner Halloran reported that ice had begun to form at Auburndale but is far from safe as yet. Both Crystal and Bulloughs are still open water.

After reviewing the reports, on a motion by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mrs. Pepper, it was unanimously approved that the skating regulations and fees remain the same for this winter season.

6. Consideration of Fiscal '87 Parks and Recreation budget - a copy of the proposed budget was distributed to each person present. Commissioner Halloran carefully went through the entire budget, responding to any questions or suggestions as they were presented to him. This budget was, on the instructions of the Executive Department, based on "0" base.

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Mr. Halloran also included a Supplemental Funding request of \$298,000.00. This included vehicle replacement, a new typewriter and some athletic court repairs. No included in this request are school ground improvements, but these are a part of a 6 year CIP of \$150,000.00 per year.

Mr. Ferguson moved to accept the budget as recommended by the Commissioner but recommended that instead of a typewriter, a word processor be purchased. This would provide more overall efficiency than the typewriter everyone agreed. Mr. Bernheimer seconded this and it was unanimously approved.

Commissioner Halloran explained also about the possibility of upgrading the lighting at Albemarle and replacing the old lighting system with a more efficient and up-to-date one. This would include new lights and an increase in pole height. The old light system is about 20 years old and since that time, many improvements have become available making for not only better lighting, but efficiency and economy of the electric service.

7. New Business: Mrs. Pepper suggested that it would be nice to include in the January agenda a recommendation to name a facility in honor of Gil Champagne. She pointed out that for many years he had worked for and been very interested in recreation - particularly swimming. It would be nice to do something for him while he was still alive and able to enjoy this honor. All present felt this to be a nice idea.

Mr. Halloran noted that the dedication of the Newton Centre fieldhouse, in memory of Jeannette West would be done in the spring.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 27, 1986

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Acting Chairman Walter Bernheimer, Francis J. Rice, Howard Ferguson, Josephine Pepper, Herbert R. Bamel and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

1. Minutes of the December meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance, program, skating, and a copy of the Commissioner's meetings were distributed to those present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that Paul Burke was presently incapacitated with a heart problem. He is looking into alternatives to a triple by-pass. Jennie DeVito is recovering from surgery and Jane Pitt, Ward 7, has resigned due to heavy professional commitments. There is now a Ward 7 vacancy. Mr. Halloran said he would send a note to Jane telling her that the members were sorry to see her leave.

Mr. Halloran said that there had been 13 days of skating at Auburndale Cove so far. The Department works cooperatively in providing safe skating with the Newton Safety Officer. Ice is checked every day.

4. Jo Pepper recommended that the Commission consider naming a facility in honor of Gil Champagne, long time Aquatic Instructor for the Department. As the Commissioner noted, Gil had always done a super job with aquatics at Crystal Lake and had worked a long time with the special needs swimming program formally held at the old Sydney Hill Country Club.

Mrs. Pepper moved that a portion of the Crystal Lake Bathhouse be named in Gil Champagne's honor. This was seconded by Mr. Ferguson and so moved unanimously. This should be planned for mid-June, possibly on Newton Highland's "Village Day". The Commissioner will write to Gil and tell him about this planned event. (Someone mentioned that Gil may be in Florida).

5. Commissioner Halloran reported that he had received a telephone call from C. Evan Johnson's daughter-in-law, Donna, inquiring as to whether it might be a nice idea to honor Mr. Johnson, former Commissioner from 1947 to 1962, who is now 83 years of age. She felt that this would mean a lot to him while he was still alive. Mr. Halloran explained to her in a letter of reply, that the usual way of doing something of this nature would be to have someone in the community suggest both the honor and the site. He also said that he thought this a wonderful idea and would plan to have it placed on the February agenda for consideration of the Commission once he had heard from someone interested in making the nomination.
6. Consideration of a proposed fee for processing field permits and also a proposed fee for picnic permits at the Auburndale Park area. The fee processing amount per field proposed was \$2.00, which could be used for stamps or postage, etc. The

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picnic fee would be charged to all users except schools. The schedule is as follows:

100 people (area 1)	\$10.00
100 people (area 2)	\$10.00
50 people (area 3)	\$ 5.00
50 people (area 4)	\$ 5.00
Entire area (500 people)	would cost \$30.00

While most of the members present thought this cost too low, Jo Pepper moved, with Herb Bamel seconding, that these fees be implemented immediately, and it was so voted unanimously in favor.

7. Report on fire at North High School Pool - on the Saturday of January 18th a fire occurred in the lockerroom at the pool during the swim meet held between Newton and Wayland. People were quickly evacuated by staff and no one was hurt although there was a great deal of smoke. The Police Department is now investigating this suspicious fire. The facility was quickly cleaned and renovated and programs returned to the pool the following week.
8. Mr. Halloran reported that the Mayor had suggested that costs be obtained for contracting out of grass care for the small islands throughout the City of Newton now cared for by our Forestry Division. He said that the man that currently contracts with the Town of Watertown was interested in making this evaluation and estimates it would probably be between \$750,000.00 and a million. (leaves and grass).
9. Budget update - no change at this time. There may be a problem with Community Development since this was cut back 62%. This would effectively cut out our programs at Emerson and Hamilton - all due to the Gramm/Rudman Bill. Budget goes to the Board of Aldermen by the end of March and they have 45 days to act on it.
10. New Business: There wasn't any new business, but Commissioner Halloran reminded those present that the February agenda would include the information that election would take place at the March meeting, in accordance with rules and regulations of the Commission.

Next meeting will be on the 4th - rather than the 3rd usual Monday, due to Washington's Birthday holiday, February 24th. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 24, 1986

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairman Walter S. Bernheimer, Francis J. Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Mrs. DeVito at 7:25 PM.

1. Minutes of January meeting accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of maintenance and Commissioner's reports of events and meetings attended were distributed to all present. (Program report will be presented at March meeting).
3. Reminder that election for Chairman and Vice Chairman will take place at the March meeting in accordance with rules and regulations. (Mr. Bernheimer, present Vice Chairman will not be able to attend as he will be on a business trip).
4. Consideration of a change of sport league eligibility rules and residency. Present on behalf of men and women's leagues were: Sue Ekezian, Joe Connors, Bob Wilcox (and later arrival Marty Lucente). They all endorsed these changes. Copies of the original rules and the proposed changes were distributed to all members of the Commission present. Rule #5 allowed those who had played in the league prior to 1985, to continue provided they paid a \$20.00 fee each year. Rule #9 recommended that those non-residents whose parents were property tax paying residents be allowed to play, provided they paid a \$20.00 fee each year.

After consideration, these recommended changes were voted unanimously in favor on a motion by Mr. Ferguson, seconded by Mrs. Pepper.

Jennie DeVito thought that some consideration should be given to the idea that a member of the immediate family not necessarily the parents, would be an alternative in the event that parents were no longer living. Everyone thought this idea had merit but suggested that the original change go into effect for this year, with another review next year.

5. Since the Commissioner and Mayor have been notified of the resignation of Jane Pitt, the Mayor has offered the possibility of appointing Jason Sacks to her Ward Commission position.
6. Information on Grant monies, the result of a Grant proposal for development of land at the Novitiate Park. Commissioner Halloran reported that while we have not been "officially notified" in writing, it is his understanding that there will be funding by the State of \$450,000.00 for the 31 acre site off Nahanton Street CJP and Novitiate property. An additional amount of \$45,000.00 must be raised by the Conservators and private business, to complete the obligation. Included in this development will be a canoe launch area, rest room facilities, additional parking throughout the park, picnic area, and Exer-trail and some up-

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grading of garden area.

7. Consideration of honoring C. Evan Johnson, former Recreation Commissioner from 1947 to 1962 - it was recommended that the Little League/Softball field at the New Cold Spring Park be named after Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson, now 83 years old, is still very active in civic and church affairs here in Newton. His honor was recommended through Mr. Gordon R. Garrow who was not able to attend this meeting, but sent a letter suggesting both the honor and the site.

Several members of the Commission remember C. Evan with affection and respect and everyone agreed this would certainly be a very appropriate honor. Mr. Rice moved, with Mr. Ferguson seconding the motion, that this field at the New Cold Spring Playground, (the Little League/Softball Field), be named in honor of C. Evan Johnson. This was unanimously voted. This dedication will be planned sometime during the summer.

Mr. Halloran said that he would notify C. Evan Johnson, his daughter-in-law, Donna Johnson, and Mr. Gordon R. Garrow, that the Commission had voted to dedicate this field in Mr. Johnson's honor.

8. Budget update - Mr. Halloran told the group that he had met again with the Executive Department on the Department budget and that an additional \$80,000.00 would be available to cover the cost of some new equipment. This will include a new van and 3 trucks. We will also obtain a word processor through the Data Processing budget, Richard Walsh. This is a \$3,500.00 amount and will be particularly useful in this Department.
9. Outcome of the Mark Lightman court case - Mr. Halloran, Fran Towle and Carol Stapleton attended this trial at the Cambridge Superior Court under the jurisdiction of Judge Zobel. Although they anticipated a lengthy trial with a former recreation worker, Michelle Chisolm Parsons being called as a witness, it was settled "out of court" after 3 days (only Fran Towle testified), and the City of Newton will pay \$25,000.00. (This action was taken as a result of an accident which occurred at Lake Cochituate in August of 1978).
10. Skating update - there were 13 days of skating at the Auburndale Cove this year. After that time, thaw and further snow eliminated skating after January 12th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM. next meeting will be March 17th.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

March 17, 1986

Meeting

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Mrjs. Charles Pepper, Francis J. Rice, and Carol Stapleton, Acting Secretary

1. Minutes of the February meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Commissioner Halloran introduced new member of the Commission from Ward 7, Jason Sacks. Mr. Sacks will be replacing Jane Pitt who recently resigned.
3. Reports of maintenance, program and a report on the Bullough's Pond Diagnostic/Feasibility Study were distributed to all members present.
4. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman in accordance with Rules and Regulations of Commission was held at this meeting. Walter S. Bernheimer II was nominated and duly elected unanimously by members present as Chairman.

Jennie DeVito was so nominated and duly elected unanimously by members present as Vice Chairman.

5. Consideration of naming the Newton Highlands Field in honor of former Recreation Commission member and Mayor, Howard Whitmore - Former Senior Recreation Supervisor, Jim Murphy, now retired, and John Nixon, businessman for many years in Newton, both wrote and spoke with Commissioner Halloran regarding their endorsement of a petition to Howard Ferguson, present member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Their original hope had been to name the entire playground in Howard Whitmore's honor, but according to old records, the playground had been named the Joseph E. Lee Playground in September of 1938 on a recommendation to the City Government. Due to this fact they voted unanimously to name the baseball field at the Newton Highlands Playground (Joseph Lee Playground) in honor of Howard Whitmore.

Prior to this vote, Mr. Ferguson read over Mr. Murphy's letter and Mr. Halloran also relayed his thoughts on Mr. Whitmore. Mr. Ferguson then moved, with Mr. Rice seconding the motion to name the baseball field at Newton Highlands in honor of Mr. Whitmore. Mr. Whitmore will be notified very shortly.

6. Outdoor tennis sites and supervision questions - proposed rules and regulations for the upcoming season. Planned opening of the tennis season proposed is May 2nd. It was recommended that tennis lighting be turned on manually each day. Since funds collected from tennis permits do not warrant an attendant being hired for duty at South High, it was recommended that beginning this season, this be eliminated.

After consideration of the printed rules and regulations fees, etc. which were recommended, supervision of tennis courts was eliminated at both the South High and Burr Park courts due to

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the fact that the sale of tennis permits simply did not warrant this expensive coverage. We plan to continue supervision at present, at the North High lighted courts and at Newton Centre clay courts. The motion to accept the rules and regulations for the upcoming tennis season, with the elimination of the supervision at South High and Burr Park, was made by Mr. Rice and seconded by Mrs. Pepper, and unanimously voted by those members present. These rules will go into effect upon the opening of the season's tennis program on Saturday, May 2nd.

7. Budget update - Commissioner Halloran reported that the Parks and Recreation budget is now in the process of being printed. This budget will then be presented to the Board of Aldermen. They will then go over the figures and must act upon it within 45 days.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM. The next meeting will be held on April 28th (due to the holiday on April 21st, the usual date).

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Stapleton
Acting Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 28, 1986

Minutes

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Walter S. Bernheimer, Vice Chairman Jennie DeVito, Francis J. Rice, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Herbert R. Bamel, Jason Sacks and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

1. Minutes of the March meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance and reports of Commissioner's activities and meetings and events attended were distributed to all members present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that the first hearing before the Aldermanic Committee had gone well on April 1st and they had approved the portion of the budget before them that evening on an 8 to 9 vote in favor. Coming up on Wednesday will be the final hearing before Public Facilities and Finance - on the maintenance portion of the proposed budget.

Mr. Halloran told the group that the Special Needs group had traveled to Camp Devens for a weekend during the April 6th weekend, and had a wonderful time. (The next big trip will be starting on Friday, May 9th and again this will be to the Sargent Camp). In relation to ghis group, he said that the Special Olympics Championships involving the same group that went to Fort Devens will be coming up in June. Hopefully, we will have a special champion in this enthusiastic group.

Commissioner Halloran reported on problems being experienced by the St. Mary of Carmen group in obtaining sufficient liability insurance. The usual amount has been five million and the Law Department is currently looking into the situation and will give an opinion shortly on whether a lesser amount will be adequate to protect the City of Newton.

In addition to the problem of liability, Nunzio Leone has been informed that the residents on Lothrop Street have petitioned the Newton Parks and Recreation Department to refuse the carnival. Mr. Leone has been invited to get support from those residents who favor the carnival and has also been invited to attend the May 19th Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Again Mr. Halloran reminded the members of upcoming important events, such as the YOUTH AWARD CEREMONIES on May 19th in the Aldermanic Chambers, THE MAYOR'S PRAYER BREAKFAST on May 22nd, SPRING FEST at City Hall on May 18th, and the ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZEN SPRING LUNCHEON at Post 440 on May 14th.

4. Report on Bullough's Pond reclamation - Carol Stapleton, who was present at this meeting, has been named coordinator of this important project for the Parks and Recreation Department. Carol said that she has been working closely with Dale Silen and with Camp, Dresser & McGee, the engineering firm currently involved in making "testings" of the pond and who will make recommendations. They have some suspicion at present

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Carol says, that there is a possible sewage leak which may require "smoke testing" to try and determine where the leakage is located. Information on this project will continue on the following agendas.

Funding for this project will be handled through Grant monies with a city split of 30/70. Once these plans are made, it will be necessary to complete plans for dredging. Mr. Sacks suggested that the 30% of the city responsibility be handled by providing labor from the city labor force.

Mr. Halloran told the group that there would be a public hearing on this project on May 21st.

5. Request for approval of an 8 foot easement at the Hyde School in order to provide pedestrian and emergency vehicles access to the field. Commission members were provided with detailed plans and charts of the area in question and a copy of the letter sent to the Department by Barry Canner, Director of Planning and Development, and Chairman of the Newton Community Development Authority in which he requests this approval. After careful consideration, the Commission voted unanimously to grant the request for an 8 foot easement as shown on the surveyed easement on recreation land as indicated on the plan, in order to make the proper utilization of the two buildings immediately adjacent to the Hyde School buildings playground. A letter will be forwarded to Mr. Canner tomorrow advising him of the action of the Commission.
6. Approval of Novitiate Grant and plans for development of area report - both Commissioner Halloran and Fran Towle have been working with this Committee and with the Grant proposed for \$350,000.00 for development of the area. The Committee now has the responsibility of raising matching funds. This item will continue on following agendas - with further information and details as the group meets and makes further plans.
7. Reminder that the Annual Youth Awards presentations will be taking place prior to next months Commission meeting. They will be held in the Aldermanic Chambers beginning at 7:30 PM. These annual presentations are sponsored jointly by the Newton Parks and Recreation Commission and by the Newton Youth Commission.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

jfd

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 16, 1986

Meeting

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Walter S. Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Jason Sacks, Francis Rice, Herbert Bamel and Marjorie Lesbirel, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM by Chairman.

1. Minutes of May meeting were accepted as circulated.
2. Reports of program, maintenance, etc. were distributed to all members present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that this would be the last meeting for Marge Lesbirel, Secretary to the Commission for the last 20 years, and expressed his and the Commission's regrets that she was leaving to retire. Mr. Halloran said that everyone wished her well and much happiness upon her retirement, and also told the members that a big retirement party would be tended her in October and hoped that all the Commission would be able to attend at that time.

At this same time, pictures were taken of all members as well as some pictures of the Chairman and the Commissioner presenting a lovely clock and plaque to Marge. In addition to the clock, another complete waterproof suit was given to her for her "travels in the wilds". She was deeply touched and most appreciative of their thoughtfulness. (After this meeting special refreshments were served).

4. Commissioner Halloran reminded the members that unless there was some unusual circumstance, that no meetings were planned during the months of jnuly and august since so many people were on vacation during that time.
5. Ongoing concerns about lack of liability insurance and a petition opposing the yearly St. Mary of Carmen Society Carnival at Hawthorn. Mr. Nunzio Leone, Chairman, has been repeatedly asked - both verbally and by letter - to attend either last month's Commission meeting or this present one. He has not responded and is not present this evening. At this time, the Department is awaiting a response from the Legal Department of the City of Newton, determining if the carnival operator has been able to provide adequate liability insurance naming the City of Newton in case of any accidents or incidents. So far, only a million dollars worth of liability insurance has been what he could come up with - which is insufficient it is believed - to name the City as additionally insured.

The other problem, the petition in opposition to the carnival, might easily be solved if someone could re-poll petitioners and get a favorable count. Jennie DeVito, the Commission member from that Ward and a strong believer in this religious and ethnic procession and celebration, is deeply concerned and hoped that all the problems could be worked out. She will now follow up on this and felt sure things could be "worked out".

With this in mind, she moved that "subject to approval by the Newton Law Department and subject to their satisfaction that sufficient liability insurance has been supplied, naming the city as additional insured during the carnival period, that the carnival be approved by the Commission". This was immediately seconded by Mr. Sacks and so moved unanimously.

6. Report on Beautification by Coordinator Carol Stapleton - Carol was present and reported that plantings had been done and completed in all of the 10 villages of Newton as well as at the schools and many of the public grounds - including City Hall. She reported that she had planted 1,200 geraniums throughout the city, plus innumerable marigolds and some other plants. Again this year, she had filled and planted the oak tubs which were so popular with everyone last year. There is one also in front of the Parks and Recreation Department office.
7. Bullough's Pond project, Carol Stapleton Coordinator - this project is slowly going forward. Recently Carol attended a hearing for the public on this reclamation project and 75 people attended. She said that one of the most repeated desires of the community seemed to be that they again be able to skate there again on the pond. This hearing was on May 21st and she will be reporting lots more information in the Fall.

Another item of interest was the artistic presentation right on the pond, of an anchored in mid-pond, artistic presentation called "Dreaming Seas of Wheat". This was done in conjunction with the annual Spring Fest at City Hall and received some interesting comments from citizens throughout the city that saw it.

8. Commissioner Halloran reported that the summer program was ready to go into full swing. Crystal Lake and Gath Pool are open on their pre-season schedule, (Crystal lake actually had to close down over the recent hot weekend due to overcrowding - so this should be an outstanding swimming season. Tennis, summer Special Needs Camps, Arts in the Parks programs, etc., plus both Albemarle Acres, and Centre Acres will be opening soon and the popular Farmers' Market. The popular Arts in the Parks Concerts will be heard again this year and the summer play this year, put on by students, will be "Jesus Christ Super Star". Plus all these programs, summer ball leagues have begun for adults, men and women, and children, boys and girls.

Mr. Halloran said that his staff and he are all looking forward to a busy, pleasant and productive summer season.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Lesbirel
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

SEPTEMBER 15, 1986

MEETING

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Walter S. Bernheimer, Vice Chair, Jennie DeVito, Mrs. Charles Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Jason Sacks, Francis Rice

Meeting called to order by the Chairman.

1. Minutes of the June meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of program, maintenance etc., were distributed to all members.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported on the update of the Testimonial Dinner on October 9, 1986 for Retiring Commission Secretary Marge Lesbirel to be held at the Holiday Inn in Lower Falls,
4. The Commissioner also reported on this past summer's very successful programs and events. Highlighted were the swim facilities at both Gath Pool and Crystal Lake; the entire Arts in the Parks summer programs, the Albermarle Acres and Centre Acres Day Camps, the entire Special Needs Programs and the Tennis Tournament held at Newton North High School. Also that St. Mary of Carmen Carnival and the Senior Citizen's Picnic held at Hawthorne Park were once again, very successful.
5. The Commissioner also reported on the status of the Novitiate Park Grant and that the City is working with the State to get an extension. The Commission would be updated monthly as to the status of the Grant.
6. The Commissioner then reported on the fall programming events. Harvest Fair is scheduled for Sunday, October 19, 1986 from Noon to 5:00 on the Newton Center Green with a rain date of the following Sunday. The Newton North High Indoor Program is scheduled to open on Monday October 6th with a full schedule of programs offered to residents Monday through Friday and weekends beginning in November.
7. The Commissioner also reported this past summer's series of Park dedications. We were blessed with good weather for each of them. On July 29th, the bathhouse at Crystal Lake was dedicated in honor of Former Mayor Howard Whitmore, Jr. and on August 12th, the ball field at the New Cold Springs was dedicated in honor of Former Recreation Commissioner, C. Evan Johnson.
8. The dedication of the Newton Center Hut, in memory of Mrs. W. West is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th at 5:30 PM. All members of the Commission are invited to attend.

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9. One of the highlites of the evening was when Mr. Halloran acknowledged Mr. Ferguson's High School Coaching Records. Through the kindness of Tom Williams, recently re-appointed Athletic Director at Newton North we were able to obtain a copy of the Graphic Design depicting Coach Ferguson and listing his wins and loss records from Newton High School. Mr. Halloran went on to pay special tribute to Coach Ferguson, not only for his winning seasons, but his ability as a Coach, to follow each and every athlete he coached through out their career. He also commented on how Coach Ferguson made it his business to help each athlete who so desired to apply for College admission. In Coach Ferguson's own quiet way, he simply smiled and said thank you!

10. Since the Mayor was scheduled to give his annual State of the City Address in the Aldermanic Chambers, and there was no new business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next scheduled meeting is: Monday, October 20, 1986

Respectfully submitted

Carol Stapleton

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

OCTOBER 20, 1986

Present: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Chairman Walter S. Bernheimer, Paul Burke, Francis Rice, Howard Ferguson, Jason Sacks

Meeting called to order by the Chairman:

1. Minutes of September meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program etc., were distributed to all members present.
3. Commissioner Halloran reported that Marge Lesbirel's Retirement Party was held on October 9, 1986 at the Holiday Inn in Newton Lower Falls. He thanked each Commission member for attending. He gave a special thanks to Jean Cole, Judy Dore, Mary Brown and Fran Towle for organizing such a successful and enjoyable event. Faye Hays will be replacing Marge Lesbirel on October 27, 1986 as Administrative Assistant.
4. The dedication for Mrs. W. West was held on October 7, 1986 at the Newton Center Field House. The Field House was dedicated by Commissioner Halloran, Edward English and Former Mayor Howard Whitmore. Mrs. West was a distinguished active member for 25 years to Recreation Commission, 15 years as Chairman. As an active member of Newton Recreation Commission she became involved with recreation Organizations on a City, State and National level, attending conferences and events which encouraged and promoted recreation endeavors. She also took very active interest in the activities at Crystal Lake. She will be remembered for her devoted time, efforts and energy to Recreation in Newton.
5. The Newton North Recreation Indoor Complex opened October 6, 1986 under the supervision of Jean Cole. The program is one of the most popular indoor programs the department has, servicing over 10,000 residents.
6. Harvest Fair was held October 19, 1986 under the direction of Linda Plaut. This was one of the best attended Fairs yet. Over 20,000 people attended with over 200 exhibitors and displays. Our compliments to Linda Plaut and her staff.
7. The Novitiate Park Grant is in progress. Commissioner Halloran and Deputy Commissioner Fran Towle requested an extension of time from the State. This extension was based on a revised time table that required specified time lags to present projects to the Aldermanic Committee and bid/contract publications procedures. Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, will be co-ordinating this project.
8. On September 27, 1986 Commissioner Halloran directed a Supplemental Capitol Budget site tour. This tour inspected those areas/items that were include on FY 87 Supplemental Capitol Budget for Parks and Recreation. This year Capitol Improvements includes the following areas to be upgraded:

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- a. Newton North High School - Boys Soccer
Girls Soccer field \$90,000.
- b. Franklin Field regrade, sod and irrigation for
3 acres \$81,000.
\$171,000.

Also included under the Capitol Improvement Budge will be the Novitiate Park Grant for \$500,000. of which 80% will be State funded by private donations.

Under Community Development CIP projects for FY87, there are:

- a. Boyd Park (Lincoln Eliot School) Improvements \$27,563.
- b. Upper Falls Playground Improvements \$33,075.
- c. Burr School Playground Improvements \$25,000.
\$85,638.

For FY88 the following will be projected under school grounds improvements:

- a. Albermarle/Day Jr; regrade, sod and Irrigation \$80,000.
- b. Albermarle/Day area at rear of school-regrade,
sod and irrigation \$50,000.
\$130,000.

The following courts will be repaired under the present Capital Improvement Plan:

Tennis Courts

- 1. Burr School (2 courts)
- 2. Cabot Park (2 courts)
- 3. Memorial School (2 courts)
- 4. Newton Highlands (2 courts)
- 5. Ward School (2 courts)

Basketball Courts

- 1. Newton Centre (1 court)
- 2. Stearns Playground (1 court)

Estimate Total Repairs \$85,000.

The new Athletic Director at Newton South High School is Robert Chrusz. The returning Athletic Director at Newton North High School is Tom Williams.

This department looks forward to working with both gentlemen and their staff.

Next scheduled meeting is: Monday, November 17, 1986

Respectfully submitted

Fran Towle, Acting Secretary

NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

NOVEMBER 15, 1986

PRESENT: COMMISSIONER RUSSELL J. HALLORAN, ACTING CHAIRPERSON MRS. JENNIE DEVITO, HOWARD FERGUSON, PAUL BURKE, FRANCIS RICE, MRS. CHARLES PEPPER, HERBERT BAMEL, FAYE HAYS, SECRETARY AND FRAN TOWLE, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE ACTING CHAIRPERSON, MRS. JENNIE DEVITO

1. Minutes of the October meeting were accepted.
2. Mr. Halloran then introduced Mrs. Faye Hays who will replace Marge Lesbirel as Administrative Assistant.
3. Reports of maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present. Mr. Halloran commented on the dedication of the Newton Centre Hut in honor of Mrs. W. West. The service went very well and everyone was extremely pleased with the turnout.
4. Mr. Halloran reported to the Commission on the Novitiate Park Grant. He noted that there was a meeting with the Trustees Association. Madeline Morris, Assistant City Solicitor, was present as well as Mr. Herbert Bamel, who was elected President of the Trustees Association and Mr. Walter Bernheimer II, was also appointed as a representative to the Association. The discussion centered on the avenues of raising matching funds and additional monies for maintenance costs.
Mr. Halloran commented that Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, who is overseeing the project, has done an exceptional job.
5. The Level Funded Request for the 1987-88 Budget for the Parks and Recreation Department is \$2,952,768.00. Included in these figures are the wage increases to cover the Union Contract for a two year period. Mr. Halloran noted that the P & R Budget is the fourth highest operating budget in the City at this time.
6. Tree Plantings: Mr. Halloran reported that the City has received \$65,000 from the Federal Government under the Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) for storm damage due to hurricane Gloria on September 7, 1985. The bid specs are being prepared by the Engineering Department. All work including planting of the trees will be done by the selected contractor. We should see between 225 and 250 trees planted by the spring. A mixture of maples, ash and honey locust will be used.

Next scheduled meeting will be December 15, 1986

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays
Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

DECEMBER 15, 1986

PRESENT: COMMISSIONER RUSSELL J. HALLORAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER,
CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE, MRS. JENNIE DEVITO, FRAN TOWLE,
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, CAROL STAPLETON, RECREATION
SUPERVISOR, FAYE HAYS, SECRETARY

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER

1. Minutes of the November Meeting were accepted. Mr. Halloran thanked Jennie DeVito for conducting the November Meeting.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present. Mr. Halloran commented on the Special Needs Olympic banquet which was held on December 4, 1986. Celebrity guests included: Danny Ainge, Fred Roberts and Greg Kite. It was an incredibly beautiful evening, and a special thanks to Rick Cass and Karen Flannery, Special Needs Director, for all their hardwork.
3. Mr. Halloran presented the 1987-88 Budget. Included in these figures are the wage increases to cover the union contract for the next two years. This is a 5 plus 5% increase on all contracts, clerical and labor. If we are given additional funds, we would hope to institute a recommended increase in seasonal leadership rates in order to begin to compete with private industries current pay scale, especially in the aquatic area. This would represent a 20% increase in the rates, or approximately \$47,000. Mrs. DeVito recommended and Mr. Rice seconded, that the Budget be accepted as presented and was unanimously voted on by all members present.
4. The recommended Ice Skating rules and regulations were presented. Mr. Halloran commented that the rules are basically the same as in past years. Hopefully, we will experience some skating this year. He reminded the Commission that a minimum of 12" of snow ice and 8" of solid black ice is required before we will skate. Mr. Rice made a motion to accept the rules and regulations as presented and Mrs. DeVito seconded. The 1987 rules and regulations for Skating were accepted.
5. Carol Stapleton reported on the Feasibility Study presently going on at Bullough's Pond. The last meeting, held in October, which was a Public Hearing was very well attended by residents. Some 110 were in attendance. Discussion that evening centered around some alternatives and recommendations from Camp, Dresser, McKee, the appointed firm conducting the study. One recommendation was to over flood the pond completely, thereby bringing the level of water up some 1-2 feet. C.D.M. has noted high bacterial and algae counts lately. The final results will be presented in May of 1987 at a Public Hearing.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Bernheimer asked Mr. Halloran to investigate some rumors of land taking on the Wilbur Street end of the New Cold Spring Park. Mr Halloran will report back to Mr. Bernheimer as soon as he has received some information.

Mr. Halloran also reported on a problem with a tree on Lake and Beacon Streets. The homeowner has presented a petition to have a tree removed and we have also received a petition from abutters not to have the tree removed. The tree in question is concerning an improvement to the homeowners property in the way of a new drive way. Mr. Halloran told the Commission that he would keep them updated on the situation. At this time, the tree is still standing.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 26th at 7:15PM

Respectfully submitted:

Faye Hays, Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 23, 1987

PRESENT: COMMISSIONER RUSSELL J. HALLORAN, WALTER J. BERNHEIMER, HERBERT BAMEL, PAUL BURKE, FRANCIS RICE, MRS. JO PEPPER, FRAN TOWLE, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, FAYE HAYS, SECRETARY

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER

1. Minutes of the February Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present. Mr. Halloran commented on the new brochure "The Many Worlds of the Newton Parks and Recreation Department: for 1987. Special attention was given to the last page which is dedicated to Marge Lesbirel who retired in October of 1986 after 20years of service to the City of Newton. Judy Dore is to be commended on a superb job of compiling this brochure.
3. Discussion of the request for declaration of surplus land for the MA Housing Partnership Homeownership Opportunity Program -City Surplus Lands. The commission reviewed the information the three sites. These three sites were: wiblur Street, 2 lots, Terrace Avenue, 1 lot, Washington Street, 2 lots. The vote was unanimous to oppose any development on these lots, and a letter would be sent to Barry Canner, Director of Planning and Development advising him of the Commission's vote.
4. Mr. Halloran commented that there has been no skating as yet this year. Hopefully, we will experience some skating next year.
5. The architectural firm of William Presley & Associates of Cambridge has been selected to design Novitiate Park. Commissioner Halloran states that plans have to be in by July and the specifications must be approved by the State. Construction should be completed by July of 1988.
6. The Parks & Recreation Budget has been submitted and will be presented by the Mayor on April 1st to the Board of Alderman.
7. Mr. Halloran reported that there was a work stoppage of the members of Local 800 Union, due to contract negotiations problems. He will advise the Commission as to the outcome of the negotiations.
8. Mr. Halloran reported that the Kennard Estate property has now been rented for \$1500 per month. The lease is for four years.

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The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 1987.

Respectfully submitted:

Faye Hays, Commission Secretary

MARCH 23, 1987

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Commissioner Russell J.Halloran, Walter Bernheimer, Chairman
Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Herbert Bamel, Fran Rice,
Jo Pepper, Jason Sacks, Fran Towle, Carol Stapleton and Faye
Hays, Commission Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the February Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present.
3. Mr. Halloran commented on the Special Olympics Basketball tournament. We wish to thank Karen Flannery, Rick Cass, Carol Stapleton, Joe Connors and 125 volunteers for their help and support. The first annual Yellow Cab Basketball Tournament was a huge success. Athletes from 13 teams throughout the State had the opportunity to present their skills and abilities. We also wish to thank Richard Johnson of Yellow Cab for his generous donation of \$1,000.00. The Commission voted unanimously to send a thank you letter to him.
4. Election: Mr. Halloran opened the meeting for election of officers for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Commission. Jennie DeVito nominated Walter Bernheimer for Chairman and Paul Burke seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Herbert Bamel nominated Jennie DeVito for Vice Chairperson and Fran Rice seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Congratulations to both.
5. Tennis Rules: Mr. Halloran commented on the Tennis Report from Diane Clary. The lights will be on at Newton North and South Tennis areas from dusk till 10:00PM. The gate at Newton North will be locked when there is a baseball game. Reservations will be taken at Newton Centre.
6. Youth Awards: May 18th is the date for Youth Awards Presentation at 7:30PM in the Board of Aldermanic Chambers just before the next Commission Meeting.

There will be 4 awards:

- Judge Franklin N. Flaschner Adult Award.....25 and over
- Judge Julian Yesley Youth Award.....18 to 25
- Officer Robert Braceland Senior Youth Award..grade 9-12
- Irene Bickelman Award.....Elementary to
8th grade

7. Strike: Mr. Halloran reported that Local 800, City Labor Force, was out on strike for 4 days, February 24th thru 27th. The dispute was on overtime pay.
8. Budget: Mr. Halloran commented that there is a different format this year. It will be presented 2 nights, April 22nd in a joint meeting with Programs and Planning, and on May 5th with a Full Board in attendance.
There were no add backs and a couple of upgrades this season. We are trying to raise seasonal rates for employees this summer. Mr. Halloran said he sees no difficulty in the Budget proposal.
9. Novitiate Park: We received a grant from the State, Urban Self Help Money. Fran Towle has done a tremendous job working with the conservators and architects during this process. The Law Department said there are no restrictions in changing the name of Novitiate Park to Nahanton Park. Fran Rice motioned to change the name to Nahanton Park. Jennie DeVito seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous. Mr. Bamel suggested we contact the Tribune and Graphic newspapers so that we can get some publicity on this. Nahanton Park will be a beautiful place to go when it is completed.
Dirt Bike: Fran Towle has set up a meeting with the gardners and representatives and it is in the planning stage. The architectural plans will be presented at a meeting on April 23rd by the Design Review Committee.
10. New Business: Mr. Bamel asked about status of Homer Street. As far as we know it was another water main break that is holding up the construction.

The next scheduled meeting will be on April 27, 1987.

Faye Hays
Commission Secretary

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APRIL 27, 1987

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Howard Ferguson, Frances Rice, Jo Pepper, Jason Sacks, Fran Towle, Carol Stapleton, Faye Hays, Commission Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the March Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present.
3. Mr. Halloran reported on the Marathon. With the help of the Public Works Department the entire area was cleaned by 10:30AM. Super job by our employees.

Tree Plantings: One hundred and six trees were planted on Commonwealth Avenue and sixty six on side streets throughout the City. No damage was done during the Marathon. All but three trees have been planted as of today. This represents \$65,000.00, the monies received as reimbursement from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) due to Hurricane Gloria.

Budget: On April 22nd we appeared before the joint Programs and Planning and Public Facilities Committies. They will file a resolution with the Mayor's Office for \$50,000.00 to be credited to the seasonal leadership rates to reflect a 20% increase. Our next meeting is with a Joint Finance and Full Board committee scheduled for May 5th.

4. Springfest will be on May 17th from 12 - 5 at City Hall, it is Newton's Springtime Crafts and Performing Arts Festival.
5. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be at Boston College on May 21st at 7:45AM. If you want tickets please let Faye know.
6. Youth Awards selection will be tomorrow evening. The ceremony will begin at 7:00PM in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall just before the Commission Meeting on May 18th.
7. St. Mary of Carmen Society will hold their 52nd Festival at Hawthorn Playground from July 13th to July 19th. Set-up will be on the 12th and take down on the 20th. Mr. Halloran's recommendation is to permit the Society to use the Hawthorn Playground. Vote was unanimous.

The next scheduled meeting will be June 15, 1987

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays,
Commission Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MAY 27, 1987

PRESENT: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Paul Burke, Jo Pepper, Fran Rice, Howard Ferguson, Jason Sacks, Carol Stapleton and Faye Hays, Commission Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the April meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present.
3. Mr. Halloran reminded everyone that this Thursday is the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast at 7:45AM at Boston College and that anyone needing tickets, please call Faye.
Mr. Halloran thanked all the Commission members for arriving at 7:00PM to attend the Youth Awards which are sponsored by the Newton Parks & Recreation Commission and Newton Youth Commission. The musical program featured Lee Capuzzo and her 2nd and 3rd grade class from the Lincoln-Eliot Elementary School. The children were a pleasure to listen to, they were very enthusiastic and enchanting. Diane Clary has done a beautiful job coordinating this memorable event.
4. Storm: On the evening of April 28th, we had a wind storm, that crippled the City. We had severe wind problems which caused tree limbs and branches to fall all over the City. Within nine days and the help of Public Works everything was picked up.
5. Nahanton Park: Fran Towle is doing a super job coordinating this project for Nahanton Park. She has been meeting with the State and various committees so that this project may be completed by July of 1988. On May 28th she met with the Design Review Committee, Law Department, Building Department and Friends of Nahanton Park.
6. Summer Programs: Gath Pool opens June 13th and Crystal Lake on June 20th. Evening leagues have started including softball for men and women, Basketball and Fillies. Trying to maintain all these fields is a horrendous job. Bob Crusz and Tom Williams are terrific to work with.
Special Needs Camp Echo Bridge filling up also Albermarle Acres and Centre Acres.
7. Beautification Week - Carol Stapleton reported that the plantings were being done in all of the 10 villages in Newton.
8. Arts in the Parks Springfest: Took place on the War Memorial side of City Hall. Linda Plaut did a super job as usual. It was a beautiful day, and they had a good size crowd. Many, families out for the day and enjoying themselves.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

JUNE 15, 1987

PRESENT: Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Jo Pepper, Fran Rice, Howard Ferguson, Jason Sacks, Herbert Bamei, Carol Stapleton, Fran Towle and Faye Hays, Commission Secretary.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the May meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present.
3. Mr. Halloran reported that in the folders were the monthly reports and updated picture of Commission members. Photo is to be sent to the News Tribune and Graphic Newspapers. Hamil Award announcement is Friday nite. Latest brochure for Gath and Crystal are enclosed. If anyone needs swimming or tennis passes please call Faye at the office. Maintenance reports, attendance reports are enclosed also.
4. Bullough's Pond feasibility study which held a meeting last Wednesday night at War Memorial Auditorium. Item was in the local newspaper regarding asthetics to improve site and have ice skating. Carol Stapleton reported that unless they improve the quality of the pond water, the State will have nothing to do with it. Application is being sent to the State by October 1st. What they want to do is reduce the flow from the Street. The bottom line is the City's need and desires to do projects. At this meeting was a very vocal group and they want Bullough's cleaned up. Carol has done a very good job in speaking to all the neighbors of Bullough's Pond. When application is submitted in October it will not be until January of 1988 till we hear whether or not the Grant is accepted. Carol reported that this is a one shot deal!
5. The City has received two \$20,000.00 gifts from the Boston Athletic Association for the construction of a Walk-A-Path on Commonwealth Avenue and maintenance up keep. The Walk-A-Path wuld be 6 ft. wide and similar to Cove and Cold Springs. No bikes or skate boards will be allowed.
6. Nahanton Park; Friends of Nahanton Park are working with the architects and the next scheduled meeting will be June 23rd. The plans will go to the State by July 1st to propose bond. They will be assigning fund raising projects in preparation for their next meeting.
7. Moving right ahead for summer, tennis, Albermarle and Center Acres, Special Needs, Concerts, Leagues information enclosed. Also the Newton Centre Court has been done over for Basketball. The Farmer's Market starts July 7th to October. Senior Citizen programs are going full tilt. Gath and Crystal will open June 20th.

(cont.)

8. St. Carmen Society Fiesta is set for July 13th. No problems obtaining permits, license committee, police detail.
9. REMINDER: There are no meeting in July and August.
10. Seasonal Rates: We are working with Personnel Department regarding summer rates. We sent a report last Friday for a 20% aquatic increase. A lifeguard would receive \$4.80 with 20% raise. It has been a struggle this summer, per Mr. Halloran, in hiring lifeguards this summer as we need 28. We need a resolution to add \$50,000.00 to the budget. Mr. Halloran said we are lucking out this summer in hiring of help. We are getting new inexperienced help and also some of our regular staff. Fran did a super job coordinating research report. Wally Bernheimer requested a resolution to recommend pay rates be increased - ask for budget to increase \$50,000.00 more to give a raise to summer help. This will be a resolution to the Mayor to request additional funding to satisfy the needs of summer help so that our rates may be in tune with other cities and towns. A resolution will be made up and sent to the Mayor within the week. The real concentration will be in the aquatic area.
11. Capitol Improvement Program - Enclosed for your perusal are the recommendations for equipment replacement.
12. Bullough's Pond - Is a high priority million dollar project. If we qualify for Clean Lake Improvement we can get DEQE funding. We have to improve the quality of the water. The depth is 2 - 4' deep. We need to increase the volume of the water to skate. The pond turns itself over every 2 1/2 days and the flushing rate is 155 times per year. Engineers claim it is not a pond but a stream. The lagoon was dredged a couple of years ago. Suggestion was to get the Library people behind Carol to get things rolling. Carol gave an excellent presentation this evening it was very impressive and the Commission members enjoyed it immensley.
13. Deer Park - There are 19 white tail deer with 3 new baby fawns. Names are Fawn Hall, Bambi and Scooter. All members of Commission are invited to the Deer Park in September. They no longer have a malnutrition problem since Carol took over and she sees that they are fed 3 times a week. Good job Carol!

Respectfully Submitted

Faye Hays
Secretary

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NEWTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 21, 1987

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Rice, Howard Ferguson, Paul Burke, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Faye Hays, Secretary

MINUTES CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the June Meeting accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program, brochures were distributed to all members present.
3. The Commissioner reported that Jo Pepper has been hospitalized with angina. They were waiting for a balloon test or by-pass surgery. Commission voted to send flowers and cards.
4. The Commissioner reported on this past summer's very successful programs and events. Highlighted were the swim facilities at Gath and Crystal, the Arts in the Parks summer programs, including the concerts on the Common, Albermarle Acres and Center Acres Day Damps, Special Needs Programs, Tennis Leagues, etc. From a total point of view we were very pleased in what took place this summer, We have an outstanding staff again this year, Carol did an excellent job at Crystal Lake and Jean Cole at Gath Pool.
5. Nahanton Park was put out to bid for \$450,000.00, \$50,000.00 to be re-bid in the next two weeks. Marion Pressley, Bill Cameron and Fran Towle are coordinating the project.
6. Fall programs are Harvest Fair on October 4th, raindate of October 11th, and Newton North High School pre-season opening October 5th, regular season November 7th.
7. In a letter to Newton Parks & Recreation, Dee Cosgrove, an Auburndale resident, has requested that the picnic area at the Auburndale Playground be dedicated in Chub Ryan's memory. Fran Rice motioned and Paul Burke seconded. There will be a 4' X 8' sign erected on that site on October 18th.
8. Carol Stapleton mentioned on a sad note that Andrea Josephson, a 38 year old Special Needs person, passed away. She had a seizure and died in her sleep in August. She was very active in the Parks & Recreation Programs. Carol suggested planting a tree in her memory at Hamilton School.
9. Meeting was adjourned to attend the Annual State of the City address by Mayor Mann in the Aldermanic Chambers which includes the presentation of the Beauticiation Awards.

Next scheduled meeting is October 19, 1987

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 19, 1987

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson.
Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Herbert Bamel, Howard
Ferguson, Fran Rice, Jason Sacks, Carol Stapleton and Faye
Hays, Secretary

MINUTES CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, Walter S. Bernheimer:

1. Minutes of the October Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program, brochures were distributed to all members present. The fall brings a busy time for staff as the indoor program begins.
3. Dedication of the Picnic Area at Ware's Cove for James "Chub" Ryan was on Subday, October 18th. The day was a complete success, including weather wise. About 250 people attended the event. Attending the ceremonies were State Auditor Joe DeNucci, Alderman Richard McGrath, Alderman Richard Bullwinkle, Alderman Polly Bryson and Ms. Dee Cosgrove who wrote the letter asking the area to be named in Chub's memory, and Joe Connors, representing our staff. In September a softball game was held to raise money for Chub's children's college education. They raised \$5,000 for the fund.
4. The Commissioner introduced two new members of our staff, Robert DeRubeis and Patricia Savage, both Newton born and educated in the Newton Schools. Bob, who replaced Chub Ryan, has been with the Department for 8 years. He holds a master of education degree from Boston University and is a 1973 graduate of Newton High School. He helped coordinate the sports event and the dedication for Chub Ryan. Pat, an honors graduate in Recreation Education from Northeastern university, Boston Bouve College and a candidate for a master of science degree in sports fitness management.
Mr. Bernheimer welcomed both Pat and Bob to the Recreation Department.
5. Nahanton Park: Bids were opened last week, Frost and Higgins have been hired as contractors for Nahanton Park to begin working in late November. We are working with the Building and Water Department for water and sewer hookups.
6. Bullough's Pond: On October 1st a grant was submitted in the amount of \$750,00 with DEQE. This indicates a phase II request for restoration of the pond. Mr. Halloran said it will be several months before we hear anything. Carol has been working with Camp Dresser and McKee and with the Bullough's Pond Association. Mr. Halloran stated that Carol is working very hard and doing a super job. We will keep you posted as we get the information ourselves.

7. Lighting at Albermarle Softball Field and South High Tennis Courts: We received an energy grant from the Building Department to install new lighting fixtures and poles. We have been working with David Tanazzini of the Building Department and hope for a Spring of 88 completion of the project.
8. Dedication of the new scoreboard at South High Football Field on September 26th was a success.
9. New Business:
 1. Mr. Bamel commended the letter that Karen Flannery sent out to thank people for their contribution to the Newton Special Olympics in memory of ANdrea Josephson. He said the letter was beautifully written and she deserved to be commended.
 2. Mr. Halloran said that Jo Pepper was not out of the hospital for the second time and that she is home resting comfortably.
 3. Jim Murphy is at Lahey Clinic and has been for 6 weeks.
 4. Mr. Halloran then recognized Mr. Cid Maxolla who represented Newton Youth Soccer who came to discuss the feasibility of a lighted soccer field for practice and games during the spring months.
A lengthy discussion followed and Mr. Halloran informed the Commission that he would appoint an "in house" staff committee to look into this request and report back to the Commission as soon as possible.
 5. Another discussion followed at the request of Mr. Anthony Pellegrini, Nunzio Leone and John Nigrotti.
This was in regards to some City of Newton charges that were sent to the St. Mary of Carmen Society for their Carnival held last July. Mr. Halloran commented that because these bills were sent by the Committee by the Newton Police Department, that the committee request a meeting with the Police Chief.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

November 16, 1987

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Howard Ferguson, Fran Rice, Herbert Bamel, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Faye Hays, Secretary

MINUTES CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the October Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and brochures were distributed to all members present.
3. The Commissioner reported that a thank you note was received from Jo Pepper for the fruit basket she received from the Commission members.
4. The Commissioner reported that the monthly reports are in the folders as well as numerous other items. Special Needs Banquet will be at Post 440 with Tony Eason of the Patriots as a guest. Tickets are \$9.00 per person. It will be a special evening for families and friends. If you need tickets let Carol or Faye know.
Tricentennial kick off will be New Years Eve, December 31st. Linda Plaut is Chairman coordinating this special event. Carol Stapleton is assisting Linda through the Recreation Department. Festivities start early afternoon and continue through the evening. Bo Winiker orchestra will be featured. Festivities for the coming year will include: parades fireworks, prayer breakfast, homecoming weekend at the Marriott, etc.
5. Soccer Studies: A committee was appointed to study a long range facility for lighted Soccer. The three page report is enclosed which determines the accessibility of a lighted soccer field for use in the Spring. Down the road Allison seems to be the best field for long range use.
6. Lighting at Albermarle: Modernistic lights will be put on wooden poles at Albermarle through an Energy Grant. The letter is being drafted by the Building Commissioner and hopefully will be approved by the Mayor.
7. Skating Rules and Regulations: Skating Rules and Regulations were accepted for this coming season.
8. Nahanton Park: Construction to start on Nahanton Park before Thanksgiving. Thanks to the efforts of Fran Towle who has worked on this project for the last six years and it has been no easy task.

(cont.)

The Friends of Nahanton Park brochure was done by a firm in Boston and they have done an excellent job.

Fran states that there is so much potential for the Park. One suggestion from Carol Stapleton is to have a Nature Study Group meet there. Groundbreaking ceremonies are coming up.

9. New Business: The Commissioner took the opportunity to thank the Maintenance and Forestry staff for the excellent job they did in preparing the field at Newton North High School for the Thanksgiving game. The men went above and beyond the call of duty in this instance. There was also a picture of one of our men in the Globe clearing the snow off the stands. Super job men!

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 21, 1987

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice, Herbert Bamel, Carol Stapleton, Faye Hays, Secretary

MINUTES CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

- 1. Minutes of the November Meeting were accepted.
- 2. Reports of maintenance, program ach brochures were distributed to all members present.
- 3. The Commissioner announced that he was delighted to see Jo Pepper back after a two month absence. The monthly reports are in the folders as well as flyers on our new programs which include ski lessons and basketball.
- 4. Status of 88/89 Budget: Budget has to be in the Mayor's Office by January 18, 1988. Changes in allocations for 88/89:

<u>FY 88</u>	<u>FY 89</u>	<u>Change</u>
\$3,011,707	\$3,161,110	\$149,403

Included is \$30,000 for upgrade of seasonal help.

- 5. The next Commission Meeting will be held on Monday, January 11th at Hamilton School, Lower Falls at 7:30PM. This date has been moved up so as to present the Commission with the budget before submitting it to the Mayor.
- 6. The Second Annual Special Olympics Banquet was held at Post 440 on November 24th at 7:30PM. It was truly a memorable event. Tony Eason was there along with his mom, dad and sister. Also honoring the occasion was our Honorable Mayor Theodore D. Mann. It was a very fun loving and also emotional time. Karen Flannery our Director of Special Needs did a super job coordinating the event. All in attendance enjoyed the festivities tremendously.
- 7. New Business: Mr. Halloran will be meeting with the Soccer people Tuesday evening at 7:30PM. Soccer may have to be moved to a lighted Allison Park. We did receive from Tom Williams, Athletic Director at Newton North, a thank you note commending the men at the Recreation Department on an outstanding job they did in preparing the field for the Thanksgiving Day game.

(cont)

Tricentennial: Linda Plaut, Chairperson for the Tricentennial, sent out invitations through the generosity of E.F. Hutton & Co., to each household in Newton inviting them to Newton's 300 Tricentennial Celebration. Carol Stapleton is assisting Linda for recreational needs. Carol has been of great help in stringing the lights at City Hall with a crew from our Maintenance and Forestry Departments. Some of the lights will be permanent and the rest for the Holiday Season. Activities include:

- Newton's Birthday Party.....3:00 - 6:00PM
- Illumination of Lights.....9:00PM
- Entertainment with the Winiker Orchestra
- Raffle with prizes
- Refreshments and treats

A great time will be had by all!

Capital Improvements for 88':

- Newton Clay Courts.....\$ 80,000
- Nahanton Park.....450,000
- Seasonal Help..... 30,000
- Weeks Jr. High..... 58,000
- Gath Pool Filters..... 97,000
- Jog-A-Walk Path..... 40,000 (BAA)

Mr. Halloran wished all members a "Happy Healthy New Year".

Respectfully submitted

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 11, 1988

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Herbert Bame1, Paul Burke, Fran Rice, Howard Ferguson, Jo Pepper, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton and Faye Hayes, Secretary

MINUTES CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the December meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and brochures were distributed to all members present.
3. Skating: we have 6" of ice and we need 12" to open the skating areas.
4. Nahanton Park: The building has been started and the project should be completed by July/August 1988.
5. Tricentennial: The kick-off was at City Hall on December 1st. All kinds of events took place, the Mayor's Champagne Event was at 7:30PM, City Hall was closed on this day, work wise so we could accomodate these functions, 9:00PM was the lighting of City Hall outside with Cardinal Bernard Law and Rabbi Shield. Carol Stapleton worked with the men from the Recreation Department to coordinate all these events, especially with the Police and Fire Department. From 3:00 - 6:00 the children participated in all kinds of activities. The cafeteria became a Disco, Ice Sculptures were outside, they had a live orchestra and various other events. A great time was had by all who attended. Our many thanks to all the volunteer groups who aided us during these events.

6. Capital Improvements:

Newton Centre Tennis Courts	\$ 80,000
Gath Pool	95,000
Weeks	58,000
Ward	37,000

Approval for \$150,000 School Grounds Improvements for Newton North, Boy's LaCrosse and Girl's Soccer Fields. Newton North to be regraded, loomed and sodded, and the practice football field to be done also. Burr School Improvements have been completed and the two courts to be fixed this Spring. The Dedication was last November. Ward School play apparatus to be done and Franklin two new ballfields and backstops, and new fencing this year. Vincent Silluzio, Assistant Superintendent of Schools is working with us on these school improvements.

(2)

- 7. Fiscal Budget: Mayor to submit FY89 budget to Board of Alderman on later than April 1st of 88.

<u>1987/88 Appropriation</u>	<u>88/89 Request</u>
\$2,965,842	\$3,161,110

88/89 Budget Account Report Summary

Recreation Administration	\$ 562,333
Recreation Pools & Lake	131,510
Outdoor Activities	88,369
Indoor Activities	96,140
Support of Recreation Activities	7,500
Special Needs	87,578
Maintenance Parks & Rec. Vehicles & Equip.	190,261
Emerson Community Center	19,624
Hamilton Community Center	18,266
Cultural Activities	51,636
Senior Citizen's Activities	20,000
Care of Rec. Bldgs/Adjoining Grounds	270,067
Care of Public Grounds	1,164,591

Equipment Replacement 89'

2 Brush Chippers	36,000
1 Skyworker	70,500

Forestry	412,485
Control Snow & Ice	40,750

Briefly there are no program changes and emphasis is on new equipment. Motion was made to accept budget.

- 8. New Business: Soccer - There was a meeting with the Soccer group before Christmas, Marc Goldberg and others to support Allison Park as a Soccer Field. We will keep you posted on this.

Warren Jr. High: Alderman Snyder, Bryson and Mcgrath met with developers and they are redoing the plans for the underground parking. The parking should accomodate 210 cars, 60 of which will be for the public.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays

FEBRUARY 22, 1988

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Paul Burke, Herbert Bamel, Howard Ferguson, Carol Stapleton, Faye Hays, Secretary.
Absent: Jo Pepper and Fran Rice

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the January meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of maintenance, program and etc., were distributed to all members present.
3. Mr. Halloran reported that the usual monthly reports were in the folders. Also enclosed are the highlights from the New Year's Eve Party. Carol Stapleton has done a super job coordinating the party's activities which included the coordination of Police, Fire and Maintenance Workers. It was a very successful event for the start of the Tricentennial Celebration. Brochures and flyers are enclosed for skating, Special Needs, Seniors, and Arts in the Parks.
As an update, Bob Derubeis and Pat Savage our new Supervisors are a joy to have with us and they have done a tremendous job since their arrival.
Carol sent away for the week with the kids from Winter Special Olympics. Some of their activities included: indoor hockey and skating.
4. As of July 30th of this year the CD funds dry up for Emerson and Hamilton School Programs, \$16,000 for Emerson and \$12,000 for Hamilton. A user fee has been implemented for all buildings being run by the Recreation Department. The fee for this year will be \$6.00 per hour this year and raised to \$10.00 for next year. This money will go into the City coffers and not be reflected in the Recreation Department's Budget. This money would be strictly a building fee.
5. Skating: We had Skating on January 29 and half a day on January 30th. The weather continued to be warm after that.
6. Nahanton Park: They are framing the building at Nahanton Park with the monies recieved from the \$450,000 Grant. Everything is moving nicely and should be done by the end of July 1988.
Fran has certainly done an excellent job with all parties involved. Everything is going smoothly.
7. Update on Budget: The budget is in and the Mayor will be presenting it at the end of March. We will let the Commission know when it will be on the Agenda.

(cont.)

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Capital Improvements included:

Filters at Gath Pool.....	\$ 95,000
Ward School.....	37,000
Newton North.....	100,000
Irrigation at Newton North.....	43,000
Asphalt at Albermarle Playground and Horse Mann.....	6,500
Underwood.....	50,000
South High Practice Football.....	80,000
Allison Park/lights Soccer Field Renovation.....	350,000
Franklin School.....	77,000

- 8. New Business: Jennie DeVito asked that Judy Dore be thanked personally for giving the Senior Cookbooks to the Commission members.

Next meeting to be held on March 22, 1988

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MARCH 21, 1988

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Rice, Howard Ferguson, Josephine Pepper, Fran Towle Deputy Commissioner and Faye Hays, Secretary

MINUTES CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the February Meeting were accepted.
2. Election of Officers: Mr. Halloran opened the meeting for election of officers for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Commission. Fran Rice nominated Walter Bernheimer for Chairman and Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson. Jo Pepper seconded the motion for both. Vote was unanimous, Walter Bernheimer was elected Chairman and Jennie DeVito was elected Vice Chairperson. Congratulations to both.
3. Reports of maintenance, program and brochures were distributed to all members present. Again our congratulations to both Walter and Jennie. In the folders we included the Many Worlds of the Newton Parks and Recreation Department 1988 annual brochure. In looking at the last page of the brochure, please note that it was dedicated to James E. Murphy, former Senior Recreation Supervisor from the Newton Parks & Recreation Department. He was an inspiration to us all and we cherish his memory. He was an asset to our Department and will be sadly missed by us all.
4. A very nice tribute was paid to Jim Murphy by his friends at Parks & Recreation and Commission members. He was an inspiration to all of us. We have been very busy this season and Newton North and South athletic activities should be starting around April 1st.
5. Tennis Rules & Regulations: Recommendations are the same as last year. Fran Rice motioned to accept the rules as written. Mr. Ferguson seconded the motion. Permits are only needed at Newton Centre Courts.
6. Youth Awards: The awards will be held on May 16th by Human Services. Applications are in your folders in case you might wish to nominate someone. Bob DeRubeis has sent notes out to those people who sent in requests last year. Awards will be presented by the Board of Alderman and Mayor Mann.

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7. Budget: It will be submitted a week from tonight. Shortly thereafter we should be on the docket. We will let you know the time and date.
8. Nahanton Park: This Thursday will be an on site inspection of all involved. We need to keep tapping our money raising sources. The project is moving very well per Fran Towle. Nahanton Park should open by July of 88 and will be good for the future of Newton.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays, Recording
Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 25, 1988

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice, Paul Burke, Herbert Bamel, Carol Stapleton, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Faye Hays, Recording Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER S. BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the March meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program and Commissioner's Report of Events, Meeting and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
3. Carol Stapleton won the Newton Tricentennial Photo Contest with a photo entitled "Special Needs Camper Investigates a Deer Antler in Webster Reservation". She won first prize as an amateur photographer in the category of People and Their Activities. Congratulations Carol!
4. Tricentennial: A 10K Roadrace is slated for Sunday, June 5, 1988, which is a 1 1.2 mile fun run for children. A Garden City Tour will be held on Saturday, May 14th rain or shine. Also there will be a Tricentennial Symposium Series slated for May 10, 12, 17, and 19th.
5. Youth Award Ceremonies: Ceremonies to start at 7:00PM on Monday, May 16th in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall prior to the next Commission Meeting.
6. Nahanton Park: Building coming along nicely, everything is moving rapidly. Fran Towle has done an excellent job coordinating all the work involved.
7. Special Olympics: Carol and the kids went to Fort Devens 2 weeks ago. The kids won Gold and Bronze medals for Basketball. Special Needs is having a roadrace starting from Newton North and will be 3 miles long on Saturday, April 30th.
8. New Business: Cold Springs - We have not heard anything about the subsidized housing or the house lots as yet.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays
Recording Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 16, 1988

PRESENT: Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Francis Rice, Jo Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRPERSON, JENNIE DEVITO

1. Minutes of the April Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program and Commissioner's Report of Events, Meeting and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
3. Report of Maintenance Program is enclosed.
4. Budget Update: The Budget was approved as submitted.
5. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast: will be held on May 25th at 7:45AM At Boston College. If anyone needs tickets to the event please call Faye at the office.
6. Mr. Halloran read the letter that we received from Helen Murphy about naming the lighted softball field #4 at Albermarle to be named after Jean Hays Cole. He also said that in his 25 years of working he has not known a more magnificent human being who was born and raised here in Newton and has contributed more in sports to the City of Newton. She is a most filling and deserving person and deserves the best. Howard Ferguson made the motion and the board all agreed unanimously to name softball field #4 at Albermarle - "Jean Hays Cole" softball field.
7. Update of Nahanton Park: Construction is going along nicely as per Fran Towle, We are also working with the gardeners at the Park for a new access road which should be opening shortly. This is going to be a great park when finished.
Mr. Halloran said that Fran has done a great job coordinating this project.
8. Swim Rules & Regulations: Crystal Lake will open on Monday, June 20th and Gath Pool on June 13th. Swim rules and regulations were unanimously accepted.
9. St. Mary of Carmen: This will be the 53rd year at Hawthorn Playground for the St. Mary of Carmen Festival. It is recommended that the Festival be held provided they have liability, Police coverage and notify the Building Department.

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10. Hawthorn Recreation Building/Newton Boy's Club: A proposal has been submitted for a 65 year lease and we would use the building. As yet we have not seen the plans. The Boys Club would lease the use to Hawthorn. It was also mentioned that the Mayor was for the plan. Also, the Boy's Club would be responsible for the maintenance.
11. New Business: It was noted that Mr. Halloran was on Cablevision with the Mayor and the discussion was the new Life Course. They have \$40,000 now and hopefully another \$20,000 will come in. Also the hope is that this will go to Nahanton Park.
It was also noted that if anyone wanted to attend the Mayor's FUnd Raising Dinner it would be on June 9th at \$1,000 per plate.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays, Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

June 20, 1988

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Howard Ferguson, Francis Rice, Josephine Pepper, Carol Stapleton, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the June Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program and Commissioner's Report of Events, Meeting and Activities are enclosed in the folders. Crystal Lake will be opening on June 20th and Gath Pool on the 13th. Commissioner reported that we will have a very busy summer ahead of us. Weather wise, May had a lot of rain and the grass is growing wild.
3. Tricentennial Events: We look forward to the Dizzy Gillespie Concert, Totem Pole Dance, Springfest, Memorial Day Parade, Antique Auto show and we will be ending with Fireworks at Albermarle. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Carol Stapleton for a truly magnificent job that she has done working with the Building Department, Public Works, and the Police Department which included at least 15-20 meetings to coordinate all the events. She did a fantastic job and we are very glad to have her at Parks & Recreation. Also, I would like to thank Linda Plaut, Program Chairman, for all her time and effort in coordinating all the events involved with the Tricentennial.
4. Albermarle Acres, Centre Acres, Special Needs Camp and a new entry this year which is Kids Korner, Start again with much enthusiasm and eagerness.
5. Nahanton Park: Dedication should be scheduled for sometime after Labor Day. Fran Towle is as usual doing a fantastic job coordinating this project. Annual maintenance for the park would be \$12,000 to \$15,000. The only thing that recreation would be involved in is to line the fields and empty the trash.
6. Swimming and Tennis Passes: If anyone needs swimming passes, Faye has them available. Tennis: We have 72 courts in Newton, 69 of which are hardsurface and 3 which are clay. Newton Centre is the only place that you would need a permit. The season runs from May 2nd to the end of September.

(cont.)

7. New Business: As we all know there not be any meetings held during the months of July and August. The only time we would need to meet would be on an emergency basis.

Respectfully Submitted,

Faye Hays

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 19, 1988

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Jo Pepper, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the June meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program and Commissioner's Report of Events Meeting and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
3. 1988 Summer Program Reports: We had a very busy hot summer, the swim facilities at Crystal Lake and Gath Pool were well used and run. The heat and humidity were very high this year. Carol did an excellent job at Crystal Lake and Judy Dore did an excellent job at Gath Pool.
4. Nahanton Park: Fran reported that the contractors, Frost and Higgins were very slow this summer. There was a meeting to discuss the situation as there is a cash flow problem with Frost and Higgins. We are concerned with the completion date of December 31, 1988. If the contractor cannot meet this deadline or has to be replaced, the completion of the park is in jeopardy. Fran is doing a great job as usual and will be meeting with the Friends of Nahanton Park to raise \$50,000.
5. Newton North Fee Charges: User fees have changed from:
 - Family...\$35.00....to.....\$50.00
 - Adult....\$15.00....to.....\$25.00
 - Student..\$10.00....to.....\$15.00 (Picture I.D.'s \$5.00)
 The Commission voted unanimously to accept the above rates during an emergency phone call situation in September.
6. Retirement Party for Jean Hays Cole: Jean was one of our outstanding employees who worked for the Parks & Recreation Department. Her party will be on Friday, October 7th at 6:30PM at the Post 440 and it includes a seven course meal. Jean is truly a dedicated employee, there is nothing she would not do for you. We will order something from Lubin's Trophy for the event from the Commission members. We will also be dedicating field #4 at Albermarle to Jean on Sunday, October 23rd at 12:00PM. Anyone interested in going, please see Faye.
7. Beautification Awards: The awards will be held after this meeting in the Aldermanic Chambers at 8:00PM with a State of the City address by the Honorable Theodore D. Mann. We will then meet in the Mayor's office for the awards and refreshments.

- 8. New Business: Jennie & Jo praised Carol on her recent article in the Graphic. It was titled "Golden Girl of Summer", Carol makes the Recreation Department Bloom. Excellent article Carol! The Commissioner said that he was very proud of her. There were articles done on Mr. Halloran and Linda Plaut earlier this year. Outstanding articles! Crystal Lake: There were numerous residents who would like to keep the lake open later this summer. Sophie Inbar is getting together a petition to see that the lake is kept open till sometime in September.
- Capitol Improvements: \$150,000 Budget: things to be done include, Repair to tennis courts, Newton North and South, Peirce School, new vehicles, Allison Park, soccer field, lights and parking.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Faye Hays, Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 17, 1988

PRESENT: Jennie DeVito, Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Herbert Bamel, Paul Burke, Francis Rice, Jo Pepper, Carol Stapleton, and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRPERSON, JENNIE DEVITO

1. Minutes of the September Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program and Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
3. Nahanton Park: Frost & Higgins, the contractor for Nahanton Park was suffering from financial difficulties and the Bonding Company, Commercial Union Insurance Company has taken over. They have hired Capone Construction to finish the job and they will start at the park on October 24th. Both the dock and house still have to be completed. The targeted date to complete the project is December 16, 1988. The Hydro seeding will not be done till spring of 1989.
In the meantime, Fran has been working with the State to extend the deadline of the Urban Self Help Grant from December 1, 1988 to June 1, 1989.
4. Jean Cole's Retirement Party was a huge success. Jean received citations from the Honorable Mayor Theodore D. Mann, Alderman Richard McGrath, State Auditor Joseph DeNucci, Representative Barney Frank and last of all a very nice letter from the President of the United States, Ronald Reagan. Field #4 at Albemarle will be dedicated to Jean around the 1st of May with an old timers softball game. It was a great tribute to Jean, she is an outstanding individual and super worker and we wish her good fortune and happiness in the future.
5. Capital Improvements:

Allison Park/Soccer Complex.....	\$390,000
Turf Control for all fields throughout the City.....	\$ 50,000
Playground Equipment Replacement.....	\$ 40,000
Tennis Courts and Basketball Courts for Peirce School, Newton North.....	\$ 80,000
6. New Lighting: Albemarle Softball Field #4 will have new lighting. The old tennis courts at Newton South will also have new lighting fixtures in the spring of 1989.

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7. Special Olympics Banquet will be held at the Post 440 on November 9th at 6:30 P.M.. They have asked Bruce Hurst of the Boston Red Sox to be a celebrity guest. The tickets are \$10.00 per person and a super time will be had by all. It will be a buffet meal and should be a great evening tribute to Special Athletes.
8. Newton North Indoor Program: Opening day for the program will be Monday, October 3rd at 7:00 P.M.. Rates this season will be \$50.00 per family, \$25.00 for an adult and \$15.00 for a student.
9. Bullough's Pond: Carol Stapleton reported that two grant applications have been filed. One grant is with D.E.Q.E. filed last year and one is with D.E.M., (Department of Environmental Management), by Public Works Department in the spring of 1988. It would appear that the City has D.E.Q.E. application, ultimately, the Bullough's Pond Association would like to see the entire pond dredged and restored to its original size and volume. She stated that she would keep the Commission apprised of the situation.
10. Crystal Lake: Sophie Inbar has a petition with several hundred names on it to extend the Crystal Lake season. We also have a petition from the abutters not to extend the season.
If the season were to be extended, It would be up to the following: availability of lifeguards, monies in budget, public safety and the abutters approval. At this time it is not recommended that anyone should be able to swim after Labor Day in a closed lake area for safety reasons. This may come before the Commission at a later date.
11. Day Care/Use Fee for City Buildings: Fees will be .08¢ per hour per registered child if the school committee votes on it. Buildings that are in use are Emerson, Newton Centre Hut, Hamilton and Mason-Rice After School Program.
12. New Business: A letter will be sent out to Mr. Anthony Pellegrini inviting him to attend the next Commission Meeting on Monday, November 21st at 7:30 P.M.. This will be in regards to the Senior Citizens Cookout at Hawthorn Park.

Respectfully Submitted,

Faye Hays, Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

November 19, 1988

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Jo Pepper, Francis Rice, Paul Burke, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MINUTES CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER

- 1. Minutes of the October 17th meeting were accepted.
- 2. Reports of Maintenance Program and Commissioner's Report of Events, meetings and activities are enclosed in the folders. The Commissioner reported that he has appeared before the Public Finance Committee and that all items should be approved and voted on this evening. A hearing is being held before the Public Facilities and Finance Committee and monies appropriated are:

\$150,000 School Grounds Improvements

- \$ 95,000 South High - 2 fields \$80,000 & 2 backstops \$15,000
- \$ 20,000 Ward School drainage
- \$ 20,000 Underwood playground
- \$ 5,200 Angier - fencing
- \$ 4,800 City wide fencing

Already appropriated:

- \$ 43,000 Newton North High irrigation - all fields with the exception of the football field
- \$100,000 Resod Boys Lacrosse and Girl's Soccer Field
- \$ 58,000 Weeks - Resurface 4 courts
- \$ 80,000 Resurface Newton Center Clay Courts & new irrigation system
- \$ 80,000 New basketball court and resurfacing tennis court at Peirce, 10 courts at Newton North High School
- \$ 40,000 Play equipment city wide
- \$ 50,000 Turf Control

Under construction are two baseball fields and backstops at Franklin School and the basketball court is to be resurfaced and colored coated, in addition 1/2 basketball court at Horace Mann. Basically \$390,000 is going before Public Facilities for complete revamping of Allison Park for a soccer complex.

- 3. Discussion on the Senior Citizen Cookout Rules & Regulations: Ms. Michelle Einhorn, Assistant City Solicitor was a guest at this meeting to discuss the rules and regulations governing the Senior Citizen Cookout at Hawthorn. Mr. Anthony "Fats" Pellegrini representing the Nonantum Christmas Party Association was invited to attend this discussion, but he was not in attendance at this time. A lengthy discussion followed at which time Mrs. DeVito asked that this item be held until a later meeting.

4. Nahanton Park Update: The new contractor is Charles Capone Construction of Dedham. There is an agreement by the City and the Commercial Union Bonding Company for the work to be done by December 16th. The hydro seeding has actually taken place and we are now waiting for the seeding to be accepted no later than May 1st. The Maintenance costs to run the park will be approximately \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year which will be raised by the Friends of Nahanton Park. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has extended the Urban Self Help Grant to June of 1989. Fran Towle has done a great job with the State and all others connected with the Park. She is to be commended for all her hard work and especially her achievement in obtaining the Grant.
5. Update on New Lighting: New lighting will be installed at field #4 at Albermarle and also at 6 tennis courts at Newton South which should be ready by Spring of 1989.
6. Crystal Lake Petition: We have a petition from the residents to extend the swim season and we also have a petition from the abutters of the Lake not to extend the season. We will keep the Commission aware of further developments as they arise.
7. Skating Rules and Regulations: It was recommended that the fee structure initiated by the Parks & Recreation Commission at Crystal Lake, Bullough's Pond and Auburndale Cove in 1982 be continued in this upcoming skating season. The Commission voted unanimously to accept the skating fees for this season; the fees are as follows:
 - Weekday Fee.....\$.50 per person (6-60years)
 - Weekend/Holiday Fee.....\$ 1.00 per person (6-60years)
 - Season Fee (Family).....\$25.00 per family
 - Season Pass (Individual).\$15.00 per individual

Children under six, and adults over sixty, are admitted free of charge.
8. Status New Budget: The 1990 budget will be presented at the next meeting of the Commission on Monday, December 19,1988.
9. New Business: Special Needs Banquet was held on November 9th, at the Post 440. Bruce Hurst from the Boston Red Sox and Gordon Klusak from the Boston Bruins were the featured guests. Two hundred and fifty people attended this incredible evening. Jennie DeVito, who also attended said that she had a wonderful time and both Bruce Hurst and Gordon Klusak were wonderful with the Special Needs children and she admired them both very much.

Respectfully Submitted,

Faye Hays, Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 19, 1988

PRESENT: Vice Chairperson Jennie DeVito, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Howard Ferguson, Herbert Bamel, Jo Pepper, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE VICE CHAIRPERSON, JENNIE DEVITO

1. Minutes of the November 21, 1988 meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of Events, meetings and activities are enclosed in the folders.
Mr. Halloran commented on our new Parks & Recreation Newsletter titled "The Recreator" which he is very proud of. Pat Savage and the entire supervisory staff put together this quarterly publication. John Pria from the Print Shop, printed up 9,000 copies which were distributed through the Newton school system, and to the Mayor and Board of Alderman. He said that the supervisors have done an outstanding job in creating this wonderful newsletter. It is very impressive.
3. Allison Park: There will be a Public Hearing at City Hall on Wednesday, January 4, 1989 at 7:30PM to discuss the \$390,000 Capital Improvement request to develop Allison Park as a Soccer Complex. We will keep the Commission apprised of the situation.

4. Fiscal 1990 Budget:

1988-89	1989/90
<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Request</u>
\$3,188,946.00	\$3,329,906.00
Recreation Administration	\$597,439.00
Pool & Lakes	\$172,475.00
Outdoor Activities	\$ 81,549.00
Indoor Activities	\$ 98,120.00
Support of Recreation Act.	\$ 7,500.00
Special Needs Activities	\$ 96,153.00
Maintenance of Vehicles	\$191,746.00
Emerson Center	\$ 31,197.00
Hamilton Center	\$ 33,966.00
Cultural Activities	\$ 48,723.00
Senior Adult Activities	\$ 22,500.00
c/o Buildings & Adj. Grnds	\$282,238.00
Care of Public Grounds	\$1,194,476.00
Forestry	\$431,074.00
Control of Snow & Ice	\$ 40,750.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,329,906.00

Basically there are no program changes. However, we did recommend to Richard Moynihan, Director of Personnel in a proposal of December 9, 1988, to increase the seasonal rates to ease the difficulty of hiring seasonal staff and still balance within the Fiscal Year 90' Budget.

5. Status of Nahanton Park: Work at the Park is progressing smoothly by the Charles Capone Construction Company of Dedham. We will keep you apprised of the situation on a monthly basis as to the progress. We did have vandalism at the Park. A 16year old Newton youth drove a Jeep roughshod across the newly landscaped park, tearing up some 10 acres of grass and ruining the soccer field. The City is filing a criminal lawsuit against the youth to recover the \$18,000 in damages that he caused.
6. Crystal Lake: Sophie Inbar, a Newton resident has a petition to extend the Crystal Lake swim season. Alderman George Mansfield will call us in January to let us know when a meeting has been scheduled at City Hall with the residents. We will keep the Commission apprised of the outcome.
7. Report on Ice Skating: The ice is now 5" at the Auburndale Playground Cove. Chances are that we will have skating this weekend.
8. New Business: Former Commissioner C. Evan Johnson, 85, passed away last Saturday. Two years ago, the baseball field at New Cold Spring was dedicated professional and outstanding leader of the Community both in Massachusetts and New England. A letter of condolence will be sent to his family.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays,
Recording Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 20, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Paul Burke, Francis Rice, Jo Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the January 23rd meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of Events, meetings and activities are enclosed in the folders.
 Ware's Cove: MDC Police were at the Cove and through a coincidence we found that we need a yearly permit from the MDC to use the Cove for skating. Mr. Halloran spoke with William Chisholm, Executive Secretary to Commissioner Geary, and permission was granted for this season. Permission will be obtained to use the Cove on a yearly basis.
 Allison Park/Soccer Complex: A Public Hearing was held on January 4th, 1989 regarding the Allison Park/Soccer Complex. None of the abutters attended, however a group from the Youth Soccer Group was there to support us. There are no State or Federal funds available at this time for this Complex.
 Special Needs: We are very proud of Margaret Cimetta, Special Needs Staff and Paul Carte, Special Needs youth, who are on the new poster for the Massachusetts Special Needs.
3. Skating: As of today, we have had 12 days of ice skating. The weather is good and the skating is great the Commissioner reported.
4. Nahanton Park: Completion of the building is moving along. The Law Department is working deligently with the partens and their attorney regarding the vandellism that occurred at the Park. The City is pursuing criminal action to recoup monies to repair the area.
 The State Urban Self Help Grant for the Park has been extended to June 1, 1989. The contract deadline for the Contractor has been extended to April 1, 1989 except for the hydro-seeding.
 Friends of Nahanton Park are raising the local share of monies \$50,000 which has been a difficult task.
 The dedication for the Park should take place some time in June. Fran has done a super job in bringing this project to near completion. The Park will be well used by the Newton Community when completed.
5. Budget: We have had our initial meeting with the Executive Department. The recommended seasonal rate for seim personnel has been approved by the Personnel Department. The starting salary for a leader will be \$5.00.
 We have promoted 2 new employees Dan Foley and William Chambers to Caretakers. Foley will be at the Newton Centre Hut and Chambers at Burr Park.

The budget will be going to the Alderman in late March. We do not foresee any problems at this time.

Monies appropriated for this year:

- \$ 43,000 Newton North High irrigation - all fields with the exception of the football field
- \$100,000 Resod Boy's lacrosse and girl's soccer fields at Newton North
- \$ 58,000 Weeks - resurface 4 courts
- \$ 80,000 Resurface Newton Center Clay Courts & new irrigation system
- \$ 80,000 New basketball court at Peirce and resurface 10 courts at Newton North High School
- \$ 40,000 Play equipment City wide
- \$ 50,000 Turf Control City Wide

Under construction are two baseball fields and backstops at Franklin School and the basketball court is to be resurfaced and color coated, in addition 1/2 basketball court at Horace Mann.

6. Crystal Lake: Still waiting to hear from the abutters and Alderman regarding a meeting to extend the swimming season. The Recreation Department will need qualified personnel and additional funds if the season is to be extended.
7. New Business: At the next meeting on February 27th, a Commission picture will be taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays, Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 23, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Paul Burke, Francis Rice, Jo Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER

1. Minutes of the January 23rd meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, meetings and activities are enclosed in the folders.
 Ware's Cove: MDC Police were at the Cove and through s coincidence we found that we need a yearly permit from the MDC to use the Cove for ice ckating. Mr. Halloran spoke with William Chisholm, Secretary to Commissioner Geary, and permission was granted for this season. Permission will be obtained to use the Cove for skating on a yearly basis.
 Allison Park/Soccer Complex: A Public Hearing was held on January 4th regarding the Allison Park/Soccer Complex. None of the abutters attended, however a group from the Youth Soccer Group was there to support us. There are no State or Federal funds available at this time for this complex.

 Special Needs: We are very proud of Margaret Cimetta, Special Needs staff and Paul Carten, Special Needs youth who are on the new poster for the Massachusetts Special Needs poster.
3. Skating: As of today, we have had 12 days of ice skating. The weather is good and the skating is great the Commissioner reported.
4. Nahanton Park: Completion of the building is moving along. The Law Department is working diligently with the parents and their attorney regarding the vandalism that occurred at the Park. The City is pursuing criminal action to recoup monies to repair the area. The State Urban Self Help Grant for the Park has been extended to June 1, 1989.
 The contract deadline for the contractor has been extended to April 1, 1989 except for the hydro-seeding.
 Friends of Nahanton Park are raising the local share of monies \$50,000 which has been a difficult task.
 The dedication for the park should take place sometime in June. Fran has done a super job in bringing this project to near completion. The Park will be well used by the Newton Community when completed.

5. Budget: We have had our initial meeting with the Executive Department. The recommended seasonal rates for swim personnel has been approved by the Personnel Department. The starting salary for a Leader will be \$5.00.

We have promoted 2 new employees, Dan Foley and William Chambers to Caretakers. Foley will be at the Newton Centre Hut and Chambers at Burr Park.

The budget will be going to the Alderman in late March. We do not foresee any problems at this time.

Monies appropriated for this year:

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- \$ 40,000 Play equipment City wide
- \$ 50,000 Turf Control City wide

Under construction are two baseball fields and backstops at Franklin School and the basketball court is to be resurfaced and color coated, in addition 1/2 basketball court at Horace Mann.

6. Crystal Lake: Still waiting to hear from the abutters and Alderman regarding a meeting to extend the swimming season. The Recreation Department will need qualified personnel and additional funds if the season is to be extended.
7. New Business: At the next meeting on February 27th, a Commission picture will be taken.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays
Recording Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 27, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairman,
Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Francis Rice, Jo Pepper,
Herbert Bamel, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Faye
Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER

1. Minutes of the January 23th meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
It was noted that fellow member of the Commission, Jacson Sacks has formerly resigned. All efforts will be made to locate a new member. It is also noted that Paul Burke and Howard Ferguson are hospitalized at this time. Our sincere wishes of good health and happiness to both. Mayor Mann has appointed a committee to investigate potential Police Station sites.
Station sites which include: Nahanton Park Infirmary Land, Newton Highlands Playground, Education Center, Eliot Street, Water Yard and Commonwealth Avenue near the cemetery. The Planning Department will send us a letter after they conduct an analysis of the potential sites.
3. Elections: Reminder that the annual election of Chairman and Vice Chairman will be at the next Commission meeting in March.
4. Report on Skating: So far this year we have had 24 skating days at the Cove at Auburndale. Bob DeRubeis has done an excellent job on his statistical report on skating which was done on the computer.
5. Update on Nahanton Park: Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, is to be commended for all her hard work in completing the Nahanton Park project which is slated to be finished by June 1st.
This beautiful wooded site will have a new dock/canoe launch area, soccer and softball field, dirt bike trail, boathouse and community garden area. Vandalism at Nahanton Park: The case of the youth whose jeep made ruts in the field has gone to court. The City is suing for damages to repair the field. No settlement has been made as yet. Another option would be to sue the contractor as they are responsible for the property while they are there.
6. Update on Budget: The budget was approved by the Mayor's office and it will go before the Board of Alderman at the end of March.

(cont.)

(2)

- 7. Guidelines for renaming of a Parks & Recreation facility: A letter has been received to rename the Richardson Little League Field. A discussion ensued and it was decided that Wally Bernheimer, Fran Rice and Carol Stapleton would meet to set up guidelines to name fields.
- 8. Crystal Lake update on extension of season: Mrs. Sophi Inbar has a petition of 500 signatures to extend the Crystal Lake season. Mr. Halloran and several members of the staff met with her at City Hall for 2 hours along with Aldermans George Mansfield, Alderman Susan Basham, area Alderman Richard McGrath and Alderman Harold Williams.
- 9. New Business: Boy's Club - The Commissioner met with the directors of the Boy's Club to discuss the proposed leasing of Hawthorn for the Boy's Club with renovations of 1.7 million dollars. The Recreation Department would still maintain the playground area. The concerns are with the parking at Hawthorn. The front of the old Stearns school for a site is another selection.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays, Secretary

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MARCH 29, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Vice Chairperson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Francis Rice, Jo Pepper, Herbert Bamel, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the February 27th meeting were accepted.
2. Election of Officers: Mr. Halloran opened the meeting for election of officers for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Commission. Walter Bernheimer was nominated for Chairman and Francis Rice was nominated for Vice Chairman. The voting was unanimous for both Mr. Walter Bernheimer and Mr. Francis Rice. The Commission extends their sincere congratulations and gives a special thank you to Mrs. Jennie DeVito for her many years of service as Vice Chairperson.
3. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, meetings and activities are enclosed in the folders. Newton South Little League responded to the petition regarding the naming of Richardson Field in memory of James David Blum. The Board of Directors denied the request as they felt that are too many other people who would fit into this category. David Chused will work with Carol Stapleton to select an alternative project.
4. Youth Awards: May 15th is the date for the Youth Awards Presentation in the Aldermanic Chambers at 7:00PM just before the next Commission meeting.

There will be 4 awards:

- Judge Franklin N. Flaschner Adult Award.....35 and over
- Judge Julian Yesley Youth Award.....18 - 25
- Officer Robert Braceland Senior Youth Award.....Grade 9-12
- Irene Bickelman Award.....Elementary to 8th grade

5. Status of Budget: The budget Hearing is Wednesday, April 5th in room 209.
6. Status of Nahanton Park: Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner continues to oversee the operations and monitoring of the completion of Nahanton Park. Ms. Towle is scheduled to meet with the Law Department concerning the recent vandalism which took place in November of 1988. She will report on the outcome at the May meeting.

(2)

This project is lated to be finished by June 1st, 1989. It will be an attraction for anoeists, bird watchers, joggers, gardeners, pickeners soccer and softball players and those who want a quiet place in a busy metropolitan area.

7. New Business: Paul Burke is home from the hospital and doing well and Howard Ferguson is out of the hospital and recovering at home. The meeting was then adjourned in order the Commission could begin the Public Hearing in the Aldermanic Chambers regarding the petitions for the possible extension of the Crystal Lake swim season.

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NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



RUSSELL J. HALLORAN - COMMISSIONER

70 Crescent Street, Auburndale, Ma. 02166 Telephone Office: 552-7120 Forestry and Maintenance: 552-7123

March 21, 1989

Dear Resident:

Please be advised that there will be a meeting of the Newton Parks and Recreation Commission in the Aldermanic Chambers at Newton City Hall on Wednesday, March 29 at 8:00 P.M.

This meeting had been previously scheduled for Monday, March 27, but due to conflicts in City Hall schedules, the meeting had to be rescheduled.

This meeting is in regard to the proposed extension of the swim season at Crystal Lake in Newton Highlands.

Due to the tremendous interest in this subject, in order to hear all sides of the request, The Commission will allow brief statements from a maximum of 4 speakers from each side of the issue.

We thank you for your interest in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Russell J. Halloran
Russell J. Halloran
Commissioner

COMMISSION MEMBERS

WARD 1 - JENNIE DEVITO, VICE CHAIRMAN
WARD 2 - HOWARD FERGUSON
WARD 3 - PAUL J. BURKE

WARD 4 - FRANCIS J. RICE
WARD 5 - WALTER S. BERNHEIMER, CHAIRMAN
WARD 6 - MRS. CHARLES PEPPER

WARD 7 - JASON SACKS
WARD 8 - HERBERT R. BAMEL
FAYE HAYS - COMM SECRETARY

NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes from the Public Hearing held on March 29, 1989 in the Aldermanic Chambers regarding the petitions for the possible extension of the swim season for 1989 at Crystal Lake.

Commission Members Present: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman-Presiding
Mrs. Jennie DeVito
Mr. Francis Rice
Mrs. Charles Pepper
Mr. Herbert Bamel

Also present: Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation Department
Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Parks and Recreation Department
Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor, and Manager of Crystal Lake
Faye Hays, Secretary to the Commission

Meeting opened at 8:10 P.M. for discussion to hear both positive and negative aspects of the petitioned extension of the swim hours at Crystal Lake.

The following is a list of speakers names and addresses for the evening.

IN SUPPORT OF THE EXTENSION OF THE SWIM HOURS AT CRYSTAL LAKE:

- 1. Alderman George Mansfield 312 Lake Avenue
- 2. Charles Doherty 124 Allerton Road
- 3. Nicholas Brill 249 Lake Avenue
- 4. David Salant 161 Allerton Road
- 5. Sofi Inbar 702 Boylston Street
- 6. Alderman Susan Basham 67 Fisher Avenue

SPEAKERS NOT IN SUPPORT OF ANY EXTENSION OF THE SWIM HOURS AT CRYSTAL LAKE:

- 1. Louise Levingston 245 Lake Avenue
- 2. Virginia Viola 15 Rogers Street
- 3. Charles Levy 23 Lakewood Avenue
- 4. Janusz Sciegienny 230 Lake Avenue

SPEAKERS IN SUPPORT OF A COMPROMISE APPROACH-DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

- 1. Lloyd Sanders 118 Allerton Road
- 2. Charmian Proskauer 119 Allerton Road
- 3. Jose Seferdi 1456 Center Street
- 4. Anne Dodson 137 Allerton Road
- 5. Frank Wright 115 Allerton Road
- 6. Keith Tornheim, Secretary, NHAC 120 Hyde Street

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- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 7. Peter Kastner | 32 Mechanic Street, Auburndale |
| 8. Deborah Fraioli | 151 Allerton Road |
| 9. Dan Golub | 91 Plainfield Street, Waban |
| 10. Ann Salant | 161 Allerton Road |
| 11. Alderman Richard McGrath | 1617 Washington Street, West Newton |

NOTE: Tapes of entire meeting are available at the Parks and Recreation Department Office.

After lengthy discussions by all parties concerned, The Parks and Recreation Commission voted the following:

On a motion presented by Mr. Francis Rice, Ward 4 and seconded by Mr. Herbert Bamel, Ward 8,:

"To extend the season at Crystal Lake beginning Friday, June 9th to Labor Day, September 4th. The hours of operation would be Weekdays - 4:00 P.M. to dusk - and weekends 1:00 P.M. to dusk; With the following conditional aspects added to the motion

1. An evaluation process be put into place with the following persons to be appointed on the committee:
 - (a) member of the opposition to the extension (1)
 - (b) member in support of the extension (1)
 - (c) member of the Newton Highlands Area Council (1)
 - (d) member of residents concerned with the ecological impact of Crystal Lake (1)
 - (e) members of the Parks and Recreation Dept. Staff as well as the Commissioner (2)

2. And all of the points noted in the February 9, 1989 letter to Commissioner Halloran, from Alderman Mansfield and Basham, noting Items 1-7 in the body of the letter.
(Letter is attached to these minutes)

It was noted by the Commissioner that the actual extension would be from June 9th to June 19th which is the regularly scheduled opening date of the swim season at the Lake. Commissioner Halloran further clarified that there was no additional monies in the Parks and Recreation Department Fiscal 1989 Budget for this extension and that the next step in the process would be for the Commission to request of the Executive Department, the funding necessary for staffing the proposed extension.

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March 29, 1989 Public Hearing
Continued

-3-

This fact was so noted by all of the Commissioners and by Aldermen Mansfield, Basham and McGrath who responded by committing their support to additional funding requests submitted to the Executive Department.

It was also clarified by Commissioner that this extension was on a trial basis only and in no way committed the Commission or the Department to future years of extension. This extension is to be evaluated by the members of the Evaluation Committee at the end of the extension and the points brought up in the February 9th letter from the area Alderman with regard to any progress made towards resolving traffic and parking complaints, and noise and vandalism associated with the use of the swimming area would also be addressed at this time.

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Bernheimer at 11:45 P.M.

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February 9, 1989

Mr. Russell Halloran, Commissioner
Parks and Recreation Department
City of Newton
70 Crescent Street
Auburndale, MA 02166

Dear Russ:

We would like to thank you and your staff for meeting with us and with Ms. Sofi Inbar yesterday. We believe the discussion, in which Ald. McGrath, Ald. Williams, and Mr. Keith Tornheim of the Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council also participated, was fruitful and will help us to respond to the desires of our constituents both to extend the Crystal Lake season and to minimize the impact of the swimming area's operation on the surrounding residents.

Therefore, subsequent to yesterday's meeting, we have agreed to pursue the following course of action. If (and only if), by the first week in March, we are able to assure the Crystal Lake neighbors that tangible progress has been made towards resolving traffic and parking complaints, ensuring enforcement of present and proposed regulations, and minimizing the potential for litter, noise and vandalism associated with use of the swimming area, we will ask you to prepare to operate the facility during an extended season during 1989 on a trial basis.

We further understand that

- 1) The proposed extension dates are June 1 - June 18, and September 5 - 15, 1989.
- 2) The proposed hours of operation are 4:00 P.M. to dusk weekdays and 1:00 P.M. to dusk Saturday and Sunday.
- 3) The estimated additional personnel costs are: June - \$6716. and September - \$3000.
- 4) The operating funds for June, 1989, must be sought through an intra-departmental transfer in the FY89 budget or, more likely, as an additional appropriation request by the Mayor.
- 5) The operating funds for September, 1989, and for June, 1990, will be requested in the FY90 budget or added as part of the Aldermanic budget review process in April.
- 6) Nevertheless, an extension of the season in 1990 will not be implemented without a thorough evaluation of the 1989 experience.
- 7) You and your staff will make every effort to recruit qualified lifeguards for the extension periods, without which such an extension cannot occur.

Finally, we also agreed that whether or not the season is extended, you will encourage your staff to seek alternate means of transportation to the site, so as to maximize available off-street spaces for public use. However, you will not ask your staff who must drive to park off site.

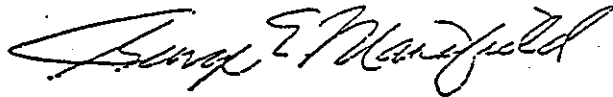
Mr. Russell Halloran

February 9, 1989

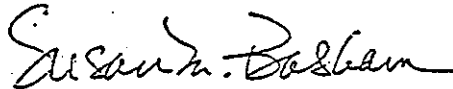
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If all these conditions can be satisfied, we will support the necessary appropriation requests. We look forward to continuing to work with you to strengthen the long-standing relationship between the Recreation Department and the Newton Highlands community.

Sincerely yours,



George E. Mansfield
Ward Alderman, Ward Six



Susan M. Basham
Alderman at Large, Ward Six

cc. Ald. Richard McGrath
Ald. Harold Williams
Mr. Keith Tornheim
Ms. Sofi Inbar

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MARCH 6, 1989 PROPOSAL
(Delivered to residents by Aldermen Basham, Mansfield and Barker
on March 6, 1989, for evaluation and comment)

Some Crystal Lake area residents will not support an extension of the swim season without a corresponding commitment to address and resolve long-standing issues concerning the impact of the Crystal Lake swimming area on the surrounding residential area. However if a concerted effort is made to solve identified problems, those residents will support an extension for one year only on a trial basis.

A proposal which includes both a limited extension of the swim season and actions to address the impact on the surrounding residential area follows:

1. Extend the swim season on a trial basis for 1989 season only, to be followed by evaluation (see #2 below).

June 1 - June 18, and Sept. 5 - Sept. 45

1 p.m. to dusk on Saturdays and Sundays

4 p.m. to dusk on weekdays

(Note: The lake will not be open during school hours)

2. Evaluation of the trial extension.

The extension is proposed for the 1989 season on a trial basis only, and should be followed by a post-season evaluation.

Evaluation should not be based solely on the basis of amount of use, but must also gather information from neighbors concerning the impact of extended season and of any improvements implemented. If there is significant negative impact of the extended season, or if no improvements have been effected during the regular season, the extended season should not be continued. The Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council will sponsor meetings to gather information from neighbors in late June and late September and a statement of the findings will be submitted to the Recreation Department.

3. Additional costs.

Costs of maintaining the extension and level of use during the extended season should be carefully documented by the Recreation Department and made public.

4. Freeze on requests to extend season/hours further.

If the extension is continued beyond the trial year, no further requests to extend hours or season should be entertained for a minimum of three years beyond the trial year.

The following problems which arise during the swim season have been raised and discussed, and proposed solutions follow. While we recognize that the Recreation Department has no direct control over parking and traffic and Police Department activities, significant progress on all of these issues is a critical factor on whether the extension will be continued after 1989.

1. Illegal after-hours use of the lake:

Enforcement needs to be improved since noisy gatherings and use of the beach area for gathering and drinking are common after midnight. The Recreation Dept. keeps a guard on duty until midnight most evenings.

The guard shift should be extended to 3 a.m. throughout the entire season, combined with frequent surveillance by the Police Department.

2. Unnecessary noise and trash around parking lot during open hours.

There shall be no use of boom boxes by parking lot attendants. Trash barrels will be placed at gate and outside at both corners of parking lot. Parking lot attendant will regularly empty these and also keep trash near the barrels picked up, and will be supervised to ensure that these responsibilities are carried out.

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

APRIL 24, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Jennie DeVito, Howard Ferguson, Herbert Bamel, Jo Pepper, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the March 29th meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's reports of events, meetings and activities are enclosed in the folders.
Jennie DeVito's last commission meeting will be May 15, 1989. Commissioner Halloran expressed his sentiments in that he has had the pleasure of working with Jennie for the past 10 years on the Commission. Jennie and her husband will be at the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on May 25th at Boston College to be honored for outstanding service to the Newton Community. Due to a change of address, Jennie will be leaving the Commission. To work with Jennie is a real pleasure, she is a true friend and we will miss her very much. All of the Commission members were in complete agreement.
3. Tennis Rules & Regulations: Recommendations are the same as last year. The Rules & Regulations were accepted as written. Permits are only needed at Newton Centre Courts.
4. Swim Rules and Regulations for Gath Pool and Crystal Lake: Official opening for Gath Pool will be June 12th and Crystal Lake will be June 9th, 1989. Swim Rules & Regulations were unanimously accepted. Changes in family pass and student pass are as follows:

Family Pass: was \$25.00.....now	\$27.00
Adult Pass: was \$10.00.....now	\$11.00
Student Pass: same.....	\$ 5.00
Non Resident: same.....	\$ 5.00 daily
Resident: was \$1.50.....	\$ 2.00 daily

5. Recreation Land for possible Police Station site: The Commission voted unanimously to oppose any consideration of parkland as a potential Police Headquarters site. The Commission voted unanimously to oppose any consideration of parkland as a potential Police Headquarters site.
6. Update for Youth Awards: The awards will be held at 7:00PM prior to the next Commission Meeting in the Aldermanic Chambers.

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7. Update on Nahanton Park: Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner continues to oversee the operations and monitoring of the completion of Nahanton Park.
The Department requested an appropriation of \$18,810.00 from the Budget Reserve for funds to repair the vandalism damage to Nahanton Park. The appropriation was voted on and approved last Tuesday.

8. Status of Budget: The budget was approved by the Finance Committee and Public Facilities and Administration and Program Committee.
Newton Centre Tennis Courts: bids opened last Thursday and should be completed in 4-5 weeks after the contractor starts.
Monies appropriated for this year include, Newton North High irrigation, resod boy's lacrosse and girl's soccer fields at Newton North, resurface 4 courts at Weeks, New basketball court at Peirce and resurface 10 courts at Newton North, play equipment City wide and Turf Control City wide.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays,
Recording Secretary

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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

May 15, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Francis Rice, Vice Chairman, Jennie DeVito Josephine Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the April 24th meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, meetings and activities are enclosed in the folders. Special Needs sponsored a three mile Fun Run Race which went very well. This month the Memorial Day Parade and Springfest will both be held on Sunday, May 21, 1989.
3. The Maintenance Department is doing very well in maintaining all the fields for the upcoming season. Grass is being cut and fields are being marked. The Forestry Department planted trees to beautify the Newton Centre Parking lot area.
4. Budget Update: The budget should be voted on within the week. Everything that we requested has been approved. The Recreation Department foresees no problem in the approval of the budget.
5. Jean Hays Cole Field Dedication: The lighted softball field dedication will be at Albermarle Field #4 on June 4th at 5:45PM. Jennie DeVito will be the speaker from the Commission.
6. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is to be held on May 25th at 7:45AM at Boston College. Anyone needing tickets for this event, please contact Faye. Tickets will be \$10.00.
7. Nahanton Park: Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner and Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, will be meeting with the contractors this week to start the Punch List. June 25th, 1989 will be the dedication and at 1:00PM there will be a reception for those who donated to the Park. The dedication will start at 2:00PM and the reception will follow. The vandalism at the Park has been corrected. The hydro/seeding for the grass is being done. Judy Dore, Recreation Supervisor, has Garden Plots available for those who request them. The Dirt Bike Program will start on June 10, 1989 and will run from 10:00AM to 2:00PM each Saturday thereafter.

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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

JUNE 19, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Paul Burke, Howard Ferguson, Herbert Bamel, Gwendolyn Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Commissioner Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the May 15th meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
June 4th, 1989 was the dedication for the Jean Hays Cole Softball Field #5 at Albermarle. The field was dedicated to Jean for her 44 years of public service to the City of Newton.
Howard Ferguson, Commission member, is dedicating several hours of his valuable time each week assisting us at the Recreation office. We are very pleased indeed to have Howard with us.
We are delighted that Gwendolyn Fineberg and Anthony Battista have been appointed by Mayor Mann to fill a term of office pending confirmation by the Board of Alderman to serve on a temporary basis till then.
Gwen is replacing Jason Sacks at Ward 7 and Anthony Battista is replacing Jennie DeVito of Ward 1.
Crystal Lake: Srystal Lake opened Friday, June 9th at dusk and Gath Pool opened June 12, 1989. Crystal opened a week early this year.
Special Needs Olympic Festivities were held again at Boston University on June 16th, 17th and 18th. On the front page of the Boston Paper was a photo of Adam Fineberg, Gwen's son, partaking in the festivities. All who went had a good time.
3. Tennis and Swimming passes: Please call Faye at the office and she will mail out the passes to you.
4. Summer plans. Albermarle Acres, Centre Acres, Special Needs Camp and Kids Korner are all opening according to their summer schedule.
5. Nahanton Park Dedication: The dedication will be held on Sunday, June 25th, at 2:00PM at the Nahanton Park/Boat House. Festivities to include activities, walking tours, canoeing, fishing and children's games. All are cordially invited to attend.
6. Newton North Little League: Tony Colella, President, Newton North Little League, Tony Morris and Woody Boudreau attended the meeting. The Commission voted unanimously to name field #5 at Albermarle after Bob Roache. Bob is a longtime friend and mentor of Newton North Little League and has retired after thirty-four years of selfless service to the youth in the program.

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Tony Colella, President of the Little League asked that dugouts be built at the major league field. This would be at the Little League's expense as they are only seeking authorization to build them.

Herbert Bamel motioned a petition for the construction of a dugout at field #5 at Albermarle as requested by the Newton North Little League's letter of May 30, 1989, to be approved to the specifications submitted contingent on the legal department. Paul Burke seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously on this.

The Commission also voted unanimously that further requests must also go before the Commission Board.

7. New business: Hope is that everyone will have a safe and healthy summer and will see you all back on September 18, 1989.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays
Secretary

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

September 18, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Francis Rice, Vice Chairman, Paul Burke, Howard Ferguson, Josephine Pepper, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the June 19th meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders. Commissioner Halloran thanked Howard Ferguson for coming into the office 3 days a week to help answer phones, help with program information and to assist the staff in projects. Mr. Ferguson has been extremely helpful and the office appreciates all the assistance he gives.
3. 1989 Summer Program Reports: Arts in the Parks has continued with their summer programs. Concerts at Newton Centre Green, swim facilities at Gath Pool and Crystal Lake were well attended, summer softball leagues were successful as were Albermarle and Centre Acres, Special Needs Camps along with Kids Korner which started last season. Crystal Lake: Crystal opened one week earlier this season. A neighborhood committee has been selected to evaluate the trial extension and will report back to the Commission with their findings at the November meeting. Mr. Halloran commended Carol Stapleton for the excellent job she did this past summer season at Crystal Lake. A drowning occurred at Crystal Lake on August 6th. The facility was closed and the 28 year old male was trespassing after hours.
4. Newton North Little League Incorporated, proposed to the City of Newton through it's Recreation Commission that the League will assume the responsibility for the maintenance of the James E. Murphy Little League Field located at field #5 at Albermarle Playground. The League also requested the Commission authorize them to display advertising on the interior of the outfield fencing at Murphy Field as a means of generating revenue for the maintenance of the facility. The signs dimensions would be thirty nine (39) 4' X 8' signs spaced equidistantly and symmetrically. One sign would identify with each of the teams who play in the league with a team logo approximately forty-two inches in diameter, lettering which names the team and the individual or entity who sponsored the team. The League would be responsible for all vandalism.

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This arrangement would be on an annual basis and may be revoked by the Recreation Commission. The Recreation Commission will work very closely with Newton North Little League on all phases of this project. The League would be responsible for the maintenance of the field, as they would be adopting the field.

The Newton North Little League will have to appear before the Zoning Board of Appeals on this request. If the ZBA does not grant a variance the alternative is to file an amendment to the code which provides for sannage in public use districts by special permit from the Board of Alderman. The zoning amendment and the petition for a special permit may be filed simuntaneously, The League will keep us apprised of their progress with the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Commission voted 7-0 in favor of this request with the providion that it is approved by the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Urban Beautification Commission.

The Commission also voted unanimously for the construction of 2 dup-outs and announcers box and storage facility built according to specifications by the City.

- 5. Status of Nahanton Park: Dedication of Nahanton Park was held on Sunday, June 25th at 2:00PM. It was an excellent day, the sun was shining and those who attended had a wonderful time. Master of Ceremonies was Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner of Parks and Recreation. Speakers included Elizabeth Miller, Project Manager, Division of Conservation Services, Peter Kastner, President, Friends of Nahanton Park and Jean Husher, President of Newton Conservators. The celebration included walking tours, canoeing, fishing demonstrations and children's games. Three hundred people attended the festivities.
- 6. Beautification Awards were given out to 42 City residents in the Mayor's Chambers at 7:00PM before the start of our Commission meeting. Families and friends were there to support the awards group. Refreshments were served and everyone had a good time.
- 7. Newton North Complex: The Complex will be opening on October 2nd at 7:00PM from Monday through Friday. Activities will include swimming, basketball, floor hockey, weight room, jogging, volleyball, aerobics and Special Needs programs and indoor tennis. Facility will open for its regular schedule in November.
- 8. New Business: A custodial hearing will be held regarding overtime pay on Sunday's at Newton North High School at our indoor complex. The Commission will be informed as to the outcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Hays

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

October 16, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Francis Rice, Vice Chairman, Herbert Bamel, Paul Burke, Anthony Battista, Gwen Fineberg, Jo Pepper, Howard Ferguson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the September 18th meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders. Senior Citizen Cookout at Hawthorn went well. Mr. Pellegrini will be at the next Commission meeting to discuss permits.
3. Request for Canoeing on Crystal Lake: Michael Clarke attended our last commission meeting with a petition for boating on Crystal Lake. After a lengthy discussion whereby those parties in opposition to the petition made presentations to the members of the Commission, and those in favor of the petition made a presentation, the following was motioned and voted unanimously:

"At this time, to uphold the present policy voted in 1952 which limits boating only to the direct abutters of Crystal Lake until such time as a committee could be appointed to study and recommend to the Commission, at its April 1990 meeting, a suggested set of rules and regulations and guidelines for the possible implementation of boating permits issued to residents and non-residents of Newton at Crystal Lake. This committee would be comprised of representatives of the Crystal Lake Abutter Assciaton, Parks and Recreation Department Personnel; Mr. Michael Clarke, and any other parties deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation. Also that a survey of other cities and towns within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who have "Great Ponds" under their jurisdiction be contacted and requested to submit copies of their rules and regulations to the Department. It was also recommended to the Commissioner that the City's Law Department guide the Commissioner and Commission in any matters pertaining to this ruling by the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement before any action is taken.

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4. Capital Improvements: The Newton North High School Soccer and Lacrosse field irrigation systems were revamped and also new sod added. Newton South High School Soccer and Lacrosse fields had new irrigation systems installed. Two baseball backstops were also installed at NNHS. Newton Centre Clay Courts were redone this season. The 10 tennis courts at Newton North will be resealed and repaired this month.

Judy Dore, Recreation Supervisor is the coordinator for the new play apparatus at Countryside. The PTA and school families will be installing all of the new equipment in one weekend. We are working with the PTA's of Zervas, Williams and Countryside for new play equipment.

5. Upcoming events: Special Needs Awards Banquet: November 8th at 6:30PM at Post 440.
 Special Needs Pancake Festival: October 22nd at 9:00AM at Sons of Italy Hall in Watertown

6. Newton North Indoor Program: Opened for its pre-season schedule on October 2nd, Monday through Friday. The indoor complex opened for its regular season on November 4th, 1989 and is open Monday through Friday and week-ends.

7. New Business: Commissioner Halloran thanked Howard F. Eggson for coming into the office 3 days a week as a volunteer to help us with the phones. Herbert Bamel complimented Linda Plaut and Leo Levi for all of the hard work that they have done in handling all of the orders for the flower bulbs which were ordered by residents in the City.

Mary Brown, Recreation Supervisor will be bringing in her Senior Volunteer's to receive awards which will be presented at the next Commission meeting.

The programs at Nahanton Park are going extremely well. The building is well used by various recreation programs daily.

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

November 20, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Fran Rice, Vice Chairman, Herbert Bamel, Paul Burke, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Jo Pepper, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor, and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the October 16, 1989 meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
3. Senior Adult Awards: Mary Brown, Supervisor for Senior Activities brought to the Commission Meeting 19 Senior Volunteers from her program. The volunteers received Awards for their Recognition for the year and also prior to this meeting, Mary treated them to a dinner at the Marriott. Mary recognizes for over the "55" group for all that they have done throughtout the year. Senior Activities include: Monthly trips, walking club, craft group, tennis, dances lectures, etc. The Grand Volunteer Award went to Helen Murphy for all that she did for the Senior Activities Program.
4. Crystal Lake Evaluation Committee Report: Keith Tornheim, member of the Newton Highlands Area Council discussed progress of Committee formed to evaluate Crystal Lake extension. The consensus of the committee was to recommend to the Commission that there be a 10-day preseason extension next year, again on a trial basis and clearly linked with further efforts to reduce the neighborhood impact. It is their hope and expectation that by beginning the planning process in the fall, suitable and timely arrangements can be in effect for the swim season. They also underline that the single most important unresolved issue, both in terms of public safety and the impact on the closest abutters, is prevention of illegal after-hours usage. They recommend that the Recreation Department obtain a committment from the Police Department for a more effective solution; this committee is willing to work with both the City Departments toward that end. If all else fails, they suggest the City hire a watchman or an off duty officer. Text is attached.

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5. Michael Clarke/Boating Crystal Lake: The Commission welcomed Mr. Michael Clark, representing the request for boating at Crystal Lake and the organization of "Crystal Lake is Our Gem". (A copy of his remarks is attached.)
- . Mr. Clarke believes that the motion which was set forth at the previous meeting in October allowed for a delay in the process at hand and that the motion that was voted on by the Commission members present.

Mr. Clarke was assured by Chairman Bernheimer as well as Mr. Halloran that there was no intent on the Commission's behalf to delay the process at hand.

Mr. Halloran elaborated that since the October meeting, he had received additional instructions from the City Solicitor, Dan Funk with regard to the formation of the Committee appointed to deal with this task. Mr. Funk advised the Commission and Commissioner to appoint a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission as well as the Law Department and the Police Department. Mr. Halloran continued on by expressing, once again, his deep concern for the neighborhood and the impact that has been placed on them over the past year and one-half. He also went on to say that he strongly agreed with Mr. Funk that "We just do not overturn a 37 year old policy overnight and that we must proceed with great care, reason and deliberation in the areas of liability to the City, safety, access, parking and neighborhood issues must all be taken into consideration".

Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Manager of Crystal Lake reported to the Commission that she had met with Mr. Jack Sheppard of the State of Massachusetts Public Access Board at Crystal Lake at an early morning meeting on Tuesday, November 7, 1989. Mr. Sheppard was very helpful and and would be willing as the process continued, to meet with the Commission at any time to review that State's position as to guidelines of Boating and Public Access of Boating by residents of the Commonwealth. Carol also reported that the Public Access Board has no jurisdiction over swimming and those rules are strictly left up to the City or Town where the body of water is located. She also reported that she is in the process of completing a survey of 71 Cities and Towns throughout the Commonwealth where Great Ponds fall within the jurisdiction of the City or Town limits.

Mr. Bernheimer went on to explain to Mr. Clarke that it was not the intent of the Commission to delay any action on moving forward until next spring, but to leave the decision of the issue until the April 1990 meeting.

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At this time, Mr. Bamel put forward a motion to rescind which is recorded on the tape of the October meeting and substitute the motion that was written in the October minutes verbatim as it appears. This was seconded by Mr. Battista, and voted unanimously by members present. The motion will read as follows:

"At this time, to uphold the present policy voted in 1952 which limits boating only to the direct abutters of Crystal Lake until such time as a committee could be appointed to study and recommend to the Commission, at its April 1990 meeting, a suggested set of rules and regulations and guidelines for the possible implementation of boating permits issued to residents and non-residents of Newton at Crystal Lake. This committee would be compromised of representatives of the Crystal Lake Abutter Association, Parks and Recreation Department Personnel: Mr. Michael Clarke, and any other parties deemed appropriate by the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation. Also, that a survey of other Cities and Towns within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts who have "Great Ponds" under their jurisdiction be contacted and requested to submit copies fo their rules and regulations to the Department. It was also recommended to the Commissioner that the City's Law Department guide the Commissioner and Commission in any matters pertaining to this ruling by the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement before any action is taken.

The members of the Committee on Boating at Crystal Lake are:

- o Mr. Bernard Shore, Crystal Lake Abutters Association
- o Mr. Fran Rice, Parks & Recreation Commission
- o Representation of the City of Newton Law Department to be named at a later date
- o Representation of the City of Newton Police Department to be named at a later date
- o Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Parks and Recreation Department
- o Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor, Parks and Recreation Department
- o Mr. Michael Clark

This committee would be augmented with representatives of the Life Guard Staff of Crystal Lake as needed with consultation from Mr. Jack Sheppard of the State of Massachusetts Public Access Board of his designee.

- Attach: 1. Keith Tornheim Letter
 2. Text of Michael Clarke's Statement

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Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council

20 Hartford Street, Newton, Massachusetts 02161

CRYSTAL LAKE 1989--Successes, failures, and recommendations

A report by Keith Tornheim

Last spring the Recreation Commission voted a trial pre-season extension of the swimming season. Their motion linked continuance or further extension to progress in remedying the problems that impact on the residential neighborhood, as detailed in the proposal presented at the meeting by Allerton Road resident Lloyd Sanders. Among the actions listed in that proposal were the following:

- 1) Reduction in trash, by provision of additional trash barrels at the swim facility and litter patrolling by staff.
- 2) Reduction in noise, especially banning of boomboxes.
- 3) Prevention of illegal after-hours usage (and the accompanying disturbance, litter, and vandalism), by having a guard on duty (say till 3 a.m.).
- 4) Obtaining commitments from
 - (a) the Police Department re: increased coverage, patrols and attention to lake problems,
 - (b) the Conservation Commission re: ongoing monitoring of health issues,
 - (c) the Department of Public Works, to install new sidewalks and curbing requested on Rogers, Allerton and Lake (which would promote safety for pedestrians and protect grass areas).
- 5) Approval by the Traffic Commission and Board of Aldermen of requested changes in no-parking zones on Allerton and Hyde to promote safety.

To help monitor progress on these issues and also to help address problems as they arose, I formed a committee of neighborhood residents representing a spectrum of views and concerns and including original proponents and opponents of the swim season extension. Importantly, all agreed to work together to help solve problems and make the swim season more pleasurable for all concerned. The members of the committee are: Virginia Viola (Rogers St), Lorraine Sciegienny (Lake Ave), Lloyd Sanders (Allerton Rd), Debbie Fraioli (Allerton), Felice Mendell (Hyde St), Gerald Chan (Lake Ave), Monty Stambler (Lake Ave), Frank Wright (Conservation Commission; Allerton Rd), Keith Tornheim (Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council; Hyde St), George Mansfield (Ward 6 Alderman; Lake Ave), and Carol Stapleton (Recreation Department). Virginia Viola and Lorraine Sciegienny are the closest abutters to the swim facility. Gerald Chan and Monty Stambler live adjacent or near to other public areas of the lake front. Lloyd Sanders was instrumental in putting together the "compromise" proposal linking any extension of the season with progress in remedying the residential impact; as mentioned above, his suggestions were alluded to in the motion of the Recreation Commission extending the season. Felice Mendell also gave thoughtful suggestions for the evaluation process, including establishment of this committee. Debbie Fraioli, a proponent of the extension living near the lake, was actively involved in efforts since December to reach a neighborhood consensus. Frank Wright is a member of the Conservation Commission and deals professionally with environmental issues, as well as being a lake abutter; he was officially appointed to this committee by the Conservation Commission. George Mansfield and I are the local elected officials who live in closest proximity to the lake. Carol Stapleton, of course, is the supervisor of the swimming facility. This committee has met once or twice a month from June

There was significant progress in some areas in reducing the neighborhood impact this past swim season. Carol Stapleton and her staff were very cooperative and are to be commended for their hard work. Extra trash barrels were provided, including a special container at the bathhouse for dirty diapers, and litter patrolling by recreation staff largely kept the surrounding streets and sidewalks free of litter. (There was some delay in getting the barrels, which were not in place until the start of the regular season, and they should probably be chained on the street, since some days they were not moved out from the parking lot.) Boomboxes were banned from the parking lot and swim area. The no-parking zone changes requested by residents were passed by the board; however, the posted signs were not clear and may have led to some of the parking problems. Public works agreed to the sidewalks (at city expense) and curbing requests. They could not be installed before the swim season, and it was felt that especially for pedestrian safety such work should not be performed during the swim season. The work is now underway and scheduled to be completed this fall.

Some problems remain to be addressed. In particular, illegal after-hours usage continued to be a major problem this season. There are two aspects to this problem. One is public safety, as was tragically underlined by the drowning of a Newton resident at 2:30 in the morning last August. Members of the committee have strongly expressed their fear that such could be the fate of any of the teenagers or young adults in the community who might congregate at night, if the lake continues to be viewed as a place to go at that hour. The second aspect is the unacceptable impact on certain of the closest abutters of the swimming area. They have been awakened in the middle of the night, for night after night. Their property has been daily littered with bottles and containers. They have been subjected to various acts of vandalism, most recently the destruction of \$700 worth of lawn furniture which was thrown into the lake.

To try to combat this problem, the Recreation Department did try stationing someone at the bathhouse on hot nights, generally till 2 a.m. This was done frequently, but not always consistently. Some of the activity, including that which resulted in the drowning, occurred after 2 a.m. The Police Department arranged for more frequent patrolling. However, this was generally by car, not on foot. Police would generally come promptly when called by residents, but preventive measures were lacking. At the beginning of the season Carol Stapleton arranged to leave the parking lot unlocked so that police could drive in and then check the area on foot, but apparently they did not regularly do so. Residents had expressed their view that a few well-publicized arrests early in the season would give the lake the reputation of NOT being the place to party. The Chief of Police was quoted in the paper after the drowning as saying that there had not been problems at the lake previously and that the police had only received one phone complaint over the summer. It is true that there had been only one call on the emergency line; however, on the non-emergency line, which lake residents had been told to use, there were well over a hundred calls, better than one a day! This indicates that part of the problem was that the Police Department was not yet convinced that there was a problem, and so the lake had low priority. A feeling that perhaps they had more important things to do than chase people out of the lake was challenged by the incident of the drowning. Several arrests were made subsequently, late in the season.

The other major problem was parking violations, which at least some residents felt were in fact worse this year. A contributing factor may have been the sharply increased number of users of the swim facility. Especially on Allerton Road, cars parked in no-parking zones, blocked access to driveways, and parked in the wrong direction. In addition to inconveniencing residents, such actions aggravate problems of traffic flow and pedestrian safety. The parking in the no-parking zones (and therefore on both sides of the street) is also of particular concern from a public safety standpoint, because the road is narrow, and access of emergency vehicles to the swim area and the neighboring houses could have been restricted. Police did come when called, but routine patrolling/ticketing, at least on popular days, did not seem to have much priority. After an officer attended a meeting of this committee and heard in detail about the problems, there did seem to be some increase in enforcement. As pointed out by a number of residents, the cost of a part time metermaid during the times of heavy usage would easily be covered by the ticket income; therefore, perhaps the Police Department should consider this option if the regular personnel are overworked. It should also be noted that the reason people were parking illegally is not that there were no legal spaces, but that they were unwilling to walk a few short blocks; my block on Hyde between Floral and Centre was hardly ever used.

In view of the success of some actions this season to remedy the problems, the consensus of the committee was to recommend to the Recreation Commission that there be a 10-day preseason extension next year, again on a trial basis and clearly linked with further efforts to reduce the neighborhood impact. It is our hope and expectation that by beginning the planning process in the fall, suitable and timely arrangements can be in effect for the swim season. We also underline that the single most important unresolved issue, both in terms of public safety and the impact on the closest abutters, is prevention of illegal after-hours usage. We recommend that the Recreation Department obtain a commitment from the Police Department for a more effective solution; this committee is very much willing to work with both city departments toward that end. If all else fails, then the Recreation Department should consider hiring a watchman, or perhaps more appropriately, an off-duty officer.

There is a broad range of views held by members of this committee, yet they have continued to listen to each other and work together, motivated by a concern for the neighborhood. The recommendation of the committee is a compromise that partially fulfills the competing desires of Newton residents. On the one hand, many swimmers would like a much larger extension of the swim season. That would not be fair at this time, since certain serious problems of the abutters have yet to be well addressed, in keeping with the motion of the Recreation Commission establishing the past trial extension. On the other hand, some neighbors might feel that since the problems have not been solved, there should be no repetition of the extension. However, the problems of the season as a whole are more likely to be addressed when the linkage with a trial extension provides an incentive and a focus. The Crystal Lake neighborhood monitoring committee will continue to work with the Recreation Department to help make the swim season more enjoyable for all.

Keith Tornheim
Keith Tornheim

Remarks for the Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting of November 20, 1989
Michael J. Clarke, 38 Halcyon Rd., Newton Centre

I am here tonight representing the organization of people brought together by Sofi Inbar, Susan Abush and a number of others, which is now incorporating under the name: "Crystal Lake is Our Gem", which (I suppose) gives it some rather strange acronyms (CLOG has been one suggestion); however we have settled on CLIO (leaving off the G). While the focus of this organization is definitely on Crystal Lake, in our discussions, a number of individuals have reported the same *sorts* of problems in dealing with the city with regard to the *use* of this and other recreational areas. That is: a certain lack of responsiveness from the Department in *facilitating* the development of the *use* of the parks, lakes and open spaces *for* recreation. While we are contending with limited resources and no doubt the Department has to make decisions as to how to spend its manpower among various projects, all too often there seems to be a resistance in moving toward new ideas and uses—to the point that (in my opinion) more time is spent in footdragging than would have been necessary to have actually tackled and completed the project. Newton's limited resources will be better used if the time, energy and manpower of our city agencies are expended to serve our citizens rather than obstructing them. While this is not directly the topic of discussion tonight, it is, in fact, the *primary* problem involved here, and we hope the Commission will address this in its meetings in the coming months.

With regard to Crystal Lake specifically: by now all of you have had a chance to read through the documentation I provided you with for last month's meeting. No doubt you have noted that the Department is not following its own rules, which it agreed on with the State in 1929, for regulating the *use* of Crystal Lake. This entire set of rules is, in fact, anachronistic and should be completely revised. Our organization suggests that the Commission establish *committees*, similar to the one formed for boating on the Lake, representative of both users and the neighborhood, to work *with* the Parks and Recreation Department, to deal with the additional issues of: 1) Swimming, 2) Fishing, and 3) Skating, so that a comprehensive review of the rules for the *use* of the lake be made and changes recommended back to the Commission for eventual approval by the State. Our organization will be happy to provide volunteers to serve on each of these committees.

With regard to the *immediate* issues of swimming and boating on the lake that must be dealt with *tonight*::

We are very pleased to see that the Lake was more available to the community and more used for swimming last summer, while at the same time a good start was made in addressing the neighborhood concerns of litter, parking and noise abatement. We agree with Mr. Tornheim's recommendation that the swimming season be extended for 10 days, which would put the opening date around Friday, June 9. Moreover, we feel that most of the problems around the lake having to do with

parking violations and disorderly conduct should be dealt with more emphatically by the police. The committee, which we are requesting, should see what can be done about: having foot patrols around the Lake on days of high use, allocating meter maids to the area at times when parking is expected to be a problem, determining the hours of use and whether the swimming instruction programs can be extended, assessing the feasibility of promoting bicycling and jogging as the *preferred* modes of transport to and from the Lake rather than automobiles, clarifying the equanimity of rights both abutters and nonabutters should enjoy and posting the rules and rights of access for all. CLIO is willing to work with the Crystal Lake Monitoring Committee toward these common goals. In addition, we ask the Commission to address the overlooked issue of expanding the swimming season into September, which (I understand) had been favorably addressed at your meeting of last March. While this will also need to be addressed by the proposed committee, we request tonight that you direct the Department to make provision for the possible, but limited, expansion of the season into September by hiring some lifeguards, who would be willing to work afternoons and weekends during the first few weeks of that month.

With regard to boating: Mr. Funk has recommended that representatives of the police, law office and this commission be added to the committee that *was* to have been formed. While the names suggested may be those of helpful personnel, each of these agencies of the City of Newton has at least a 37 year history of preventing boating on the lake. There is no reason to *assume* that these new members of the committee will behave any differently than the organizations which they represent. Consequently, I ask you to *appoint* them to the committee, since their advice will be valuable--but *only* as consulting members. 2) Secondly, I ask that this committee be requested to report on its progress at your monthly meetings. Since the canoeing season typically starts in March and the state *must* approve the new rules, a deadline of February should be set for completion of its work. 3) Thirdly, since the present rules of operation do not allow for any discrimination to be made between abutters and other citizens in the *use* of the lake (cf. MacDonell-Funk letter), and since, at your last meeting, you choose *not* to reverse your ruling of 1952, then *all permits* should be immediately revoked until an agreement governing boating on the Lake is reached. I expect that this will hasten the process of working *together* to reach the agreement, which until now has not moved forward. 3) Finally, if you chose to stand by your present set of inconsistencies and not do revoke *all* permits, then I ask you to, indeed, have the courage of your convictions and state publicly what they are, that is to change the signs on the Lake which now say "No Boating" to what your position *really* is, that is: "Boating for Abutters Only" or "Boating Permit Required". The latter, of course, is what the signs will eventually have to read anyway.

Lest *my* remarks be garbled in the transcript, I provide this copy for the minutes.
Thank you.

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

December 18, 1989

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Fran Rice, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Paul Burke, Gwen Fineberg, Jo Pepper, Herbert Bamel, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the November Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance, Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
3. **Newton West Little League Dugouts:** Proposal for Lyons Playground - Neil Adkins, President of Newton West Little League, Jack Kearney and Frank Albano attended the meeting to propose before the Commission, concrete dugouts for Lyons Playground which would be built to specifications. All materials and labor would be at the expense of the Newton West Little League. Newton West Little League would also maintain the concrete dugouts according to specifications of the Building Department. This is subject to approval from the Building Department. The Little League hopes to complete the project by April of 1990. Commission voted unanimously for approval of the concrete dugouts, with subject of approval of the Building Department. Newton West Little League will keep the Commission apprised of the situation.
4. **Ice Skating Rules and Regulations:** It is recommended that the fee structure initiated by the Parks & Recreation Commission in 1981 at Crystal Lake and Bulloughs Pond, and carried over to the Auburndale Cove in 1982, be continued in this upcoming skating season. The Commission voted unanimously to accept the skating fees for this season.

(2)

- 5. **Status of Fiscal 91' Budget:** The 1991 budget will be presented at the next meeting of the Commission on Monday, January 22, 1990. Letter was sent to Mayor Mann on December 14th from Commissioner Halloran regarding the basic concept of "Consolidation of Other Agencies" under the Parks & Recreation Department. Departments would include: School Athletics Administration, Community Schools, Human Services, Continuing Education and Veterans Services. Copy of letter in Commission folders.

- 6. **New Business: Ammendment to #4,** in the September Commission Meeting minutes: Newton Little League, Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting, September 18th, 1989. Quantity of signs should read thirty nine (39) instead of nine (9) signs, one for each eight foot section of the curved portion of the chain link fence. Commission voted unanimously to change the sign numbers from 9 to 39.

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

January 22, 1990

PRESENT: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Fran Rice, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Jo Pepper, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the December Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance, Program, Commissioner's Reports of Events, Meetings and Activities are enclosed in the folders.
3. Award presentation to William Cleary who was honored for 35 years of contributions to amateur sports. Bill is beginning his 19th season as Coach of Harvard University's ice hockey program and was one of Harvard's great skaters.
4. Senior Citizen Cookout: Mr. Robert Tennant, Esquire accompanied Mr. Anthony Pellegrini for a discussion before the Commission on the previous years permits issued by the Recreation Department for the Nonantum Children's Christmas Party, Inc. Senior Citizen Cookout. The Commission voted 6-0 to forward this document to the Law Department for their interpretation and asked that the subject matter be made available for a discussion and a vote at the next meeting.
5. Report on skating: So far this year we have had 17 skating days at the Cove in Auburndale. Bob DeRubeis has done an excellent job on his statistical report on skating which has been done on the computer.
6. Presentation of Fiscal 1991 Budget: The vote was unanimously 6-0 to approve the budget as presented. The budget will now go to Mayor Mann's Office and then before the Board of Alderman sometime in April.

(2)

7. **New Business:** Crystal Lake swim season/boating will be discussed at the March meeting.

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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

February 26, 1990

**Present: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Francis Rice, Vice Chairman,
Paul Burke, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Feinberg, Anthony Battista
Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner
and Faye Hays, Secretary**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the January Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and Meetings attended during the past month are in the folders.
3. Budget: In the January budget presentation was made in Hockey from \$5,000 down to \$3,500. The monies go towards the ice time at Fessenden School for Newton Youth Hockey. Commissioner Halloran recommended that the \$1,500 be put back into the budget. The Commission voted 6 - 0 unanimously to put the \$1,500 back into the budget.
4. Commission Member Paul Burke presented a letter to the Commission to request that the Skating and Warming House at the Auburndale Cove be named in honor of William "Cuz" Connolly, "A friend of generations of Auburndale youth". The Commission voted unanimously 6 - 0 to name the building after William "Cuz" Connolly. The Auburndale Playground Wares Cove Reunion will be held on Saturday, May 19th to honor "Cuz".
5. Senior Citizen Cookout Permit: Permit to be discussed at the March Meeting
6. Tree Contract: Carol Stapleton, Fran Towle and Richard Metro have worked very hard with Tree Companies, private industry, Law Department, Purchasing Department and others to prepare the contract for trees which may go out to bid in April. The Department will keep the Commission posted as to the status of the Tree Contract.

Commissioner Halloran announced that Newton has been accepted as a 1989 Tree City USA. It is an excellent indication that Newton is taking the municipal tree care responsibilities seriously. The tree care program is an ongoing process of renewal and improvement of planting and care that continues through the years.

7. Crystal Lake swim season/boating will be discussed at the March Meeting.
8. Elections: The Election for Chairman and Vice Chairman will take place at the March 19th meeting.
9. New Business: Dick Keyes attended the meeting to reiterate what Paul Burke had said in honoring Cuz Connolly on Saturday, May 19th. Naming the building at the Cove after Cuz Connolly is a well deserved tribute Dick said.

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

MARCH 19, 1990

Present: Walter Bernheimer, Chairman, Francis Rice, Vice Chairman, Paul Burke, Howard Ferguson, Jo Pepper, Gwen Feinberg, Anthony Battista, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER;

1. Minutes of the February Meeting were accepted.
2. Election of Officers: Mr. Halloran opened the meeting for election of officers for Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Commission. Francis Rice was nominated for Chairman and Walter Bernheimer was nominated for Vice Chairman. The voting was unanimously 6-0 for both Mr. Francis Rice as Chairman and Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman. The Commission extended their sincere congratulations to them both.
3. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and Meetings attended during the past month are in the folders.
4. Crystal Lake Boating: The State of Massachusetts Public Access Board has found the City of Newton to be in violation of the Great Pond Act at Crystal Lake: The Great Pond Act enables any and all residents of the Commonwealth reasonable access to waters of ponds and lakes over 20 acres in size for fishing and fowling (ducks). The City has disagreed with the State's position. A member/rep from Law, Parks & Recreation, Commission and neighborhood are working on proposals to recommend a set of rules and regulations to the Commissioner.
At this time boating is still prohibited by anyone who is not an abutter of Crystal Lake.
A set of rules and regulations will be recommended to the Commission at its April 23rd meeting.
5. Status of Budget: The budget hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 1990 in room 222 at City Hall at 7:00PM.

(2)

6. **Youth Awards:** The Youth Awards ceremony will be held Monday, May 21, 1990 at 7:00PM in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall. The Commission meeting will be held at 7:30PM that evening.
7. **Tree Contract:** The Parks & Recreation Forestry Tree Contract will be going out to bid on Thursday, April 12th. The Department will keep the Commission advised as to the status.
8. **Senior Citizen Cookout:** A meeting will be set up with the Law Department, Mr. Halloran, and Mr. Pellegrini's Attorney to discuss the Senior Citizen Cookout.
9. **Renaming of Old Stearns Playground:** Commissioner Russell J. Halloran presented a letter to the Commission requesting that Stearns Park be renamed the Jennie Magni DeVito Park. Jennie, described as a "Compassionate" lady, has used her many warm characteristics and talents to continuously improve her community, neighborhood, Recreation Commission and family. The Commission voted unanimously 7-0 in favor of renaming the Stearns Park, the "Jennie Magni DeVito Park".
10. **New Business:** Our next meeting will be held, Monday, April 23rd.

APRIL 23, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Paul Burke, Howard Ferguson, Jo Pepper, Gwen Feinberg, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

- 1. Minutes of the March meeting were accepted.
- 2. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Report of Events and Meetings attended during the past month are in the folders.
- 3. Consideration of Swim Rules and Regulations for Gath Pool and Crystal Lake: Official opening for both Gath Pool and Crystal Lake will be June 11th, 1990. Swim Rules & Regulations were unanimously accepted by the Commission 6-0.

Family Pass:.....	\$27.00
Adult Pass:	\$11.00
Student Pass:	\$ 5.00
Non Resident Pass:	\$ 5.00 (daily)
Resident Pass:.....	\$ 2.00 (daily)

- 4. Crystal Lake Boating:
 In attendance Jack Shepard, Commonwealth of MA, Director State Access Road Board,
 State Representative Susan Shore Shur, Alderman George Mansfield, Alderman, Linda Kraus & Kathy Lester, Law Department.
 Carol Stapleton has worked with all agencies in the City, including Law Department, Michael Clarke, abutters, and Crystal Lake Committee, to discuss boating on Crystal Lake. Issues to check out are liability, size of boat/canoe, parking spaces, safety and access point.
 The Commission decided that another meeting was necessary to discuss rules and regulations. The rules and regulations would be presented at the next Commission Meeting on May 21, 1990.

- 5. Update May 21st Youth Awards Presentations: The 12th Annual Youth Awards will be held at 7:00PM in the Aldermanic Chamber prior to the Recreation Commission Meeting.
- 6. Consideration of Tennis Rules and Regulations: Alderman Linda Jordan Kraus attended the meeting along with Paul Joyce and 2 tennis players from Newton Centre Courts.
The monies spent on the 5 courts at Newton Center was \$80,000. In order to maintain the courts \$7,000 is needed for supervision, \$5,000 for start up costs and \$3,000 for supplies. The hope is to generate \$12,000 in fees to maintain the quality upkeep of the courts.

The tennis fees at Newton Centre Clay Courts were accepted 6-0 by the Commission.
The fees are:

Resident Family.....	\$100.00
Resident Adult.....	\$ 75.00
Resident Student (under 18)...	\$ 25.00
Non-Resident.....	\$200.00
Non-Resident Student.....	\$ 75.00

Hourly Rates

Resident Adult.....	\$ 3.00
Resident Student.....	\$ 2.00
Non- Resident.....	\$ 6.00
Non-Resident Student.....	\$ 4.00

Walter Bernheimer motioned that any overage be kept out of the General Fund It was unaminously voted 6-0 to keep any tennis overage monies out of the City's General Fund.

- 7. Status of Budget: The Parks & Recreation Budget was passed by the Programs and Services Committee on April 18, 1990.
- 8. Update Tree Contract: Tree Contract bids opened at City Hall and are being reviewed at this time.

May 21, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Feinberg, Anthony Battista, Herbert Bamel, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor, & Faye Hays, Secretary.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

1. Meeting of the May meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Report of Events and Meetings attended during the past month are in the folders.
3. Budget update: The budget was approved in total in all departments.
4. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast is to be held on May 24th at 7:45AM at Boston College.
5. Newton Corner Neighborhood Committee: Terry O'Halloran proposed a request to name a cement walkway which traverses Chaffin and Farlow Parks from the corner of Centre and Vernon Streets. A metal plaque will be installed with private funding. This would honor Anton Pruckner of 132 Charlesbank Road for his outstanding service to the Newton Corner Community.
The Commission voted unanimously 6-0 to name this area "Pruckner Walk".
6. St. Mary Carmen Request: Request to hold its Annual Fiesta on July 9th 1990 through July 15, 1990. The Carnival set up would be Monday, July 9th and take down would be Tuesday, July 17th. This would be the 55th year at Hawthorn Playground for the St. Mary of Carmen Festival. The Commission voted unanimously 6-0 to permit the St. Mary of Carmen request to use the Hawthorn Playground.

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(2)

7. **Crystal Lake Boating:** A proposed set of Rules & Regulations for Boating on Crystal Lake were reviewed by the Commission. Since there was so much discussion regarding the proposed Rules and Regulations, the Commission members motioned to have a special Commission meeting on June 4th to discuss the new proposed Rules and Regulations only. The meeting would take place at 7:30PM at City Hall and a room would be procured.
8. **Review tennis and swim fees for next year:** Commission members would made aware of any changes and a report on tennis fees would be forthcoming each month.
9. **New Business:** Special Commission Meeting June 4th for Crystal Lake Boating only.



NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



RUSSELL J. HALLORAN - COMMISSIONER

70 Crescent Street, Auburndale, Ma. 02166 Telephone Office: 552-7120 Forestry and Maintenance: 552-7123

May 21, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Herbert Bamel, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor, & Faye Hays, Secretary.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

1. Meeting of the May meeting were accepted.
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New Business: Special Commission Meeting June 4th for Crystal Lake Boating only.



NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



RUSSELL J. HALLORAN - COMMISSIONER

70 Crescent Street, Auburndale, Ma. 02166 Telephone Office: 552-7120 Forestry and Maintenance: 552-7123

June 4, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

SPECIAL CRYSTAL LAKE MEETING: RULES & REGULATIONS

7:30PM in Room 222 at City Hall

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Jo Pepper, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor & Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCES RICE:

1. Crystal Lake Boating/Rules & Regulations: After a two hour discussion the Commission voted 4-1 to accept the Crystal Lake Rules and Regulations and to review these rules on a yearly basis.

The Rules and Regulations will now go the Mayor's Office for his signature and then to the State for their approval.

The Commission will be advised to the status of the Rules and Regulations.

Should the State rule that any portion of the Rules & Regulations as presented change, the Commission and the Boating Committee will need to be reconvened and an appeal made to the State.

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equal to one half of the annual salary or other compensation payable to him during the last year of his service. The pension of any call or substitute call fireman retired under said section shall be the same as that of a permanent member of the first grade of the same department in which he served.

SECTION 3. The words "permanent member" as used in this act shall be construed to include the chief engineer of the fire department of said city, notwithstanding that he is subject to election at stated intervals by the municipal council.

Words "permanent member" to include chief engineer, etc.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its acceptance by a two thirds vote of the municipal council of the said city.

Submission to municipal council.

Approved April 12, 1924.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL RELICS AND WORKS OF ART WITHIN THE STATE HOUSE.

Chap.242

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section twenty of chapter six of the General Laws, as amended by chapter two hundred and ninety-eight of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-two, is hereby further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph: — Said commission shall have the custody and care of all historical relics in the state house, and of all works of art, as herein defined, erected or maintained therein.

G. L. 6, § 20, etc., amended.

Art commission to have custody, etc., of historical relics, etc., in state house

Approved April 12, 1924.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CONTROL OF CRYSTAL LAKE IN THE CITY OF NEWTON.

Chap.243

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The city of Newton, through its playground commission, may from time to time make rules and regulations as to the erection, maintenance and control of all public bath houses on the shores of Crystal lake in said city.

Control of Crystal lake in city of Newton.

SECTION 2. The playground commission of said city may from time to time make rules and regulations governing fishing, boating, bathing, skating and other recreational activities in or on Crystal lake in said city. Such rules and regulations shall be subject to the approval of the division of waterways and public lands of the department of public works of the commonwealth and when approved by said division shall have the force of law.

Rules and regulations governing fishing, boating, etc.

SECTION 3. Any police officer of said city may patrol any part of the waters of said lake and shall have authority to arrest any person violating any law of the commonwealth in, on or adjacent to the waters of said lake or violating any rule or regulation established under this act.

Police protection

SECTION 4. The violation of any rule or regulation established under this act shall be punished by a fine of not more than twenty dollars.

Penalty

SECTION 5. Nothing in this act shall be construed to abridge the powers and duties of said division under chapter ninety-one of the General Laws.

Construction of act

Approved April 12, 1924.

CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS PLAYGROUND COMMISSION RULES AND REGULATIONS For The Government and Use of CRYSTAL LAKE

GENERAL RULES

Rule 1. No person shall enter or leave Crystal Lake except at beaches where the City owns the land or at such other places as the Playground Commission may specially designate, providing, however, that all inhabitants of the Commonwealth shall have equal rights with the citizens of Newton, subject to the payment of such charges as are fixed under these rules. Exception is made with abutors, their guests and servants on their own respective beaches.

Rule 2. No person shall in or on Crystal Lake, or upon any land bordering thereon, solicit the acquaintance of, or annoy another person; or utter any profane, threatening, abusive or indecent language, or loud outcry; or solicit any subscription or contribution; or have possession of or drink any intoxicating liquor; or play any game of chance; or have possession of any instrument of gambling, or do any obscene or indecent act; or preach aloud, or make an oration or harangue, or any political or other canvass; or move in a military or civic parade, drill or procession; or sit down upon a bench or boat or go to sleep thereon; or play any musical instrument except by written authority from said Newton Playground Commission.

Rule 3. No person shall dig up, cut, break, remove, deface, defile or ill-use, any building, structure, fence, sign, bush, plant, turf, rock, or any other thing belonging to the City of Newton, or have possession of any part thereof.

Rule 4. No person shall throw any stone or any other missile, or have possession of or discharge any destructive weapon, fire-arm, firecracker, torpedo or firework, or make a fire or throw or place upon the ground a lighted match, cigar, cigarette, or other burning substance; or post, paint, or affix any sign, notice, placard or advertising device; or, except with written authority from said Newton Playground Commission engage in business, sell or expose for sale, or give away any goods, wares, or circulars; or set a trap or snare or injure or have possession of any wild animal or bird; or injure or destroy any bird's nest or eggs; or drop or place and suffer to remain any piece of paper or other refuse, except in the receptacles designated therefor.

Rule 5. No person shall throw, drop or place in the water or on the beach any waste paper, rubbish or refuse.

Rule 6. No person shall ride or drive any animal or vehicle on the city reservation or the beach of the lake; or bring dogs to the lake except on leash.

Rule 7. No person shall refuse or neglect to obey any reasonable direction of a playground official or police officer.

BATHING

Rule 8. All bathing in Crystal Lake will be limited to ticket holders. These will be issued to applicants by the Playground Department at City Hall, West Newton, during the month of May. The tickets are good only for the summer of the year in which they are issued and are subject to observance of all the rules pertaining to bathing in Crystal Lake.

Rule 9. Each bather is restricted to one hour's use of the dressing room and the bathing facilities in Crystal Lake, per day. A shower bath must be taken before entering the waters of the lake.

Rule 10. Bathing during the day until six o'clock in the afternoon is restricted to children of both sexes eighteen years of age or younger, and to parents and guardians or other older people having young people in their charge.

Rule 11. After six o'clock in the afternoon until dark, older people holding season tickets may bathe, subject to the same rules governing the use of the bathhouse for dressing, showers before entering the waters of the lake and the time limit of one hour each day.

Rule 12. All persons bathing in the lake shall use the bathing facilities provided by the City of Newton. A charge of fifty cents (50c.) will be made to non-residents for the use of such bathing facilities each time they bathe in the lake. For exceptions read Rule 11.

Rule 13. No person shall bathe in this lake except in proper costume and at a place designated therefor, or bathe at any other seasons or hours than are posted at the designated bathing beach; or bathe on days or during hours not designated for his or her sex and no persons may loiter on or near the bathing beach. Exception is made as to loitering when parents or guardians accompany their children or when nurses or maids or other older persons come in charge of children.

SKATING

Rule 14. No person shall skate on the ice except at a place or places designated therefor by ropes and lanterns; or skate on any other days or hours than are posted at the skating reservation, or cut ice, or fish through the ice, or deposit snow on any part of the reservation for skating, or within fifty yards of this reservation; or skate in the reservation when the signs are up forbidding skating; or play hockey in any area not specially marked for this game; or refuse or neglect to obey the posted rules and regulations governing winter sports; or refuse or neglect to obey any reasonable directions of playground directors or police officers.

BOATING

Rule 15. No person shall have charge of, row a boat, paddle a canoe, run or drive a boat or canoe, propelled by steam, naphtha, gasoline, electric or other motor or engine, or by sail, unless he shall have first obtained a written permit therefor from the Newton Playground Commission; or drive the same at a speed exceeding eight miles an hour; or in such a manner as to endanger or annoy others.

FISHING

Rule 16. No fishing is allowed on Crystal Lake from December 1st to June 30th. From July 1st to November 30th, fishing is allowed but is subject to existing rules and regulations of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts pertaining to fishing.

Any person violating any of the above rules, shall for each offense, be punished by a fine of not more than twenty dollars. (Revised Laws, Chapter 243.)

CITY OF NEWTON PLAYGROUND COMMISSION

Signed, ALBERT P. CARTER, Chairman
CHARLES F. JOHNSON, Jr.
THOMAS J. LYONS
RALPH COOLIDGE HENRY
E. RAY SPEARE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Department of Public Works

State House, Boston.
May 15, 1929.

Voted, That the Department of Public Works approves the accompanying rules and regulations for the government and use of Crystal Lake, Newton, as formulated by the Playground Commission of the City of Newton, insofar as said rules and regulations govern fishing, boating, bathing, skating and other recreational activities in or on Crystal Lake in said City, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 243 of the Acts of 1924.

Signed, F. E. LYMAN
Commissioner.

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June 4, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

SPECIAL CRYSTAL LAKE MEETING: RULES & REGULATIONS

7:30PM in Room 222 at City Hall

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Jo Pepper, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor & Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCES RICE:

1. Crystal Lake Boating/Rules & Regulations: After a two hour discussion the Commission voted 4-1 to accept the Crystal Lake Rules and Regulations and to review these rules on a yearly basis.

The Rules and Regulations will now go the Mayor's Office for his signature and then to the State for their approval.

The Commission will be advised to the status of the Rules and Regulations.

Should the State rule that any portion of the Rules & Regulations as presented change, the Commission and the Boating Committee will need to be reconvened and an appeal made to the State.

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June 18, 1990

RECREATION COMMISISON MEETING

Present: Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Paul Burke, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Jo Pepper, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE VICE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the May meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Report of Events and meetings attended during the past month are in the folders.
3. Tennis Update: Bob DeRubeis, Supervisor has done a super job in coordinating the opening day of tennis on the clay courts at Newton Centre. Courts were renovated in July of 1989 at a cost of \$80,000. For the courts to be self sustaining there was a recommended increase in the fee structure. It is hoped that through the collection of permit monies and daily fees, enough monies will be collected to offset start-up and operational costs.
Renaming of Old Stearns Playground: The dedication to rename Stearns Playground the Jennie Devito Playground was cancelled. We received a letter from Jennie and her family requesting that the renaming of the playground be cancelled.
Crystal Lake and Gath Pool both opened on June 15th this year. Laidlaw Tree Service of Rhode Island was named the Contractor for the City of Newton for tree removals.
4. Camps: Albermarle Acres, Centre Acres, Special Needs Camp and Kids Korner all started on their regular summer schedule this June.
5. Senior Citizen Cookout: Will be held the Sunday after Labor Day at Hawthorn. Tony Battista has agreed to work with Mr. Pellegrini and Mr. Halloran regarding the rules and ordinances for the cookout prior to September 9th, 1990.

(2)

6. Parkland designations for Newton Centre Green Parkland and City owned land bordered by Walnut Street and Commonwealth Avenue and Lakeview Avenues: Mr. Halloran will work with Helen Heyn, Conservation Commission, to write letter to the Board of Alderman and Mayor Mann to support the above lands to be designated Parklands. The Commission voted 6-0 to support the Parkland Designations for Newton Centre Green and land bordered by Walnut Street, Commonwealth Avenue and Lakeview Avenues.

7. Crystal Lake:

1.) Rules & Regulations/Boating Update: At the Special June 4th meeting regarding the Rules & Regulations, the evaluation committee did an excellent job in preparing the rules. As of the June 4th Special Commission Meeting, the Rules and Regulations were sent to the Law Department. They were then forwarded to the Mayor's Office for his approval and then sent to the State for their approval. The Commission will be kept apprised of the situation.

2) Request formation advocacy committee per Ms. Irene Howard: Ms. Howard requested another advocacy committee for Crystal Lake. Since we already have a committee it was suggested that there be one group to take care of all the issues and to contact Keith Tornhiem of the Newton Highlands Neighborhood area council group to try and work something out with them. The Commission said they would take some of Ms. Howard's issues under advisement.

8. New Business: No meetings are held during the months of July and August unless on an emergency basis

Have a safe, happy and healthy summer. See you back on September 17, 1990.

(2)

	<u>89/90 Fees</u>	<u>Accepted 90/91 Fees</u>
	<u>Seasonal Fee</u>	<u>Seasonal Fee</u>
Adult	\$25.00	\$35.00
Family	\$50.00	\$75.00
Student	\$15.00	\$25.00
Non-Resident	New	\$95.00
	<u>Daily Fee</u>	<u>Daily Fee</u>
Adult	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.00
Student	\$ 1.00	\$ 2.00
Non-Resident	\$ 5.00	\$ 6.00

6. Spray Basin/Hawthorn: Commissioner Halloran reported on the progress to date of the installation of the Spray Basin on the Hawthorne Playground. He also reported that there had been some issues which had surfaced on the correct process of obtaining the necessary permits from the Inspectional Services Department. As soon as all of the necessary permits and documents are in place, the basin will be turned on and water will flow into it during playground hours. We will keep the Commission advised as to the progress.
7. Water damages NNHS/Tennis Courts and Fields: Because of a rain storm water came from the dam at Bullough's Pond over Hull Street and into the tennis courts at Newton North High School. Severe damage occurred to the 10 courts and sink holes had to be resealed. Monies to repair the damage to the four tennis courts that were just refinished is \$18,500. To rebuild the 6 courts the City's Engineering Department estimated the cost to be between \$80,000 and \$90,000.
8. Laidlaw Tree Service has done an excellent job regarding the City's Tree Contract as per Commissioner Halloran. Also, a Tree Task Force Advisory Committee is being set up to establish policy governing trees, tree care, tree planting, tree preservation and tree health.



City of Newton, Massachusetts

Incorporated 1873

CITY HALL

COMMONWEALTH AVENUE AND WALNUT STREET
NEWTON CENTRE 02159

THEODORE D. MANN
MAYOR

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June 20, 1990

Allan McGroary, Director
Division of Law Enforcement
100 Nashua Street
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Mr. McGroary:

Enclosed please find an attested copy of the "Proposed Rules and Regulations for Boating on Crystal Lake" which are hereby submitted to you for approval as the successor agency to the Division of Waterways and Public Lands of the Department of Public Works. Chapter 243 of the Acts of 1924 authorizes the City of Newton to adopt rules and regulations for boating on Crystal Lake which have the force of law upon approval by the Division of Law Enforcement. A copy of the special legislation, and the current Rules and Regulations are attached, along with other relevant data.

The City of Newton Parks and Recreation Commission voted to adopt these Rules at a public meeting held on June 4, 1990. These Rules represent the culmination of many hours of work of both the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Crystal Lake Boating Committee. The Committee, composed of interested citizens and abutters, has worked with the Parks and Commission since October, 1989, holding meetings with neighbors and other interested citizens to discuss the impact of boating on the lake. In addition, these Rules were thoroughly discussed at two well-attended public hearings which produced valuable comments that were incorporated into the final draft.

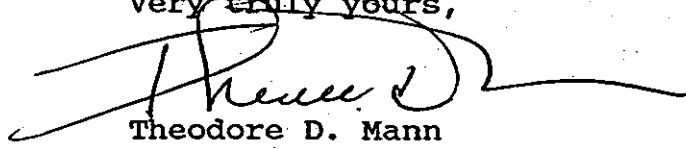
As you know, Crystal Lake has presented some unique issues in that it is a small lake relative to other great ponds and it is located in a densely populated residential area. These Rules represent a sincere attempt to address the concerns of all interested parties while at the same time ensure adequate public access to the lake.

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The Parks and Recreation staff will have the ultimate responsibility for implementation of these Rules and is most willing to meet with your staff, if necessary, to discuss any details. Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor, is the contact person (552-7120). Questions may also be directed to Catherine Lester, Assistant City Solicitor. (552-7050)

Thank you for your careful consideration. I look forward to your reply.

Very truly yours,



Theodore D. Mann
Mayor

CAL/cal
enclosures

- CC: Russell Halloran, Commissioner, Parks & Recreation
Francis Rice, Chairman, Parks & Recreation Commission
Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor
Daniel M. Funk, City Solicitor
Susan D. Schur, State Representative
John Devillars, Secretary, EOE

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Crystal Lake, Newton, MA

Other Relevant Data

Crystal Lake is a great pond located entirely within the City of Newton. The area of Crystal Lake is twenty four (24) acres (9.6 hectares); the volume is three hundred and forty-eight (348) acre feet (430,000 cubic meters); and the lake has a mean depth of fourteen and five hundredths (14.5) feet (4.4 meters). (See attached Lycott Report, October 18, 1989.) Crystal Lake is not a source of public water supply. Crystal Lake has not been stocked since 1976.

Public access is presently provided for swimming from June 11th through Labor Day by the Newton Parks and Recreation Department in the area shown on the attached diagram. The beach area consists of approximately two hundred and fifty (250) linear feet. There is a bathhouse and parking for twenty-two (22) cars, including two (2) handicapped parking spaces. The average daily attendance for swimming is 1600 people.

There are eighteen (18) private abutters on Crystal Lake, including one condominium complex of approximately thirty (30) units. There are no private docks on the lake.

The Newton Parks and Recreation Department supervises the use of the lake with the assistance of the Newton Police and Fire Departments. The Parks and Recreation Department has a staff of approximately 50 people to supervise the swimming operations. There are 6-8 lifeguards on duty while the public is swimming. There are no boating accidents on record. One drowning occurred at the lake on August 6, 1989 at approximately 2:30 a.m.

Crystal Lake to date has not been used for boating, except by abutters who were required to obtain a permit. Copies of the City's current rules governing Crystal Lake, dated 1929, and the special legislation governing the lake (Chapter 243 of the Acts of 1924) are attached.

Use of the lake for boating purposes is to be limited, as specified in Proposed Rule Number 1. Internal combustion engines are prohibited, as are electric motors, jet skis and crew sculls. A maximum of twenty (20) boats is permitted on the lake at one time.

The limitations on size and type of boat are deemed necessary due to the relatively small size of Crystal Lake, the need to accommodate the use of the lake by both boaters and swimmers and the lack of staff available to supervise boaters. Hammond Pond is an alternative site for boating in Newton.

CITY OF NEWTON
LAW DEPARTMENT

6/21/90 22

PROPOSED RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
BOATING ON CRYSTAL LAKE

Use of Crystal Lake for boating and fishing from boats is permitted from April 15 to October 15 during the hours of 9:00 a.m. until the earlier of 8:00 p.m. or dusk subject to the following rules and regulations:

1. TYPE OF BOATS

The following boats are permitted:

- a. Car top boats, (including inflatable boats that have sides, oar locks and a rated carrying capacity of at least 300 lbs.), not exceeding 15 feet in length;
- b. Canoes and kayaks not exceeding 18 feet in length.

ALL PERSONS USING THE ABOVE PERMITTED BOATS MUST WEAR A COAST GUARD APPROVED PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE AT ALL TIMES. (See Rule 5 a. below)

The following are prohibited:

- a. Jet skis, crew sculls, water skiing;
- b. All inflatables that do not meet the requirements as specified above;
- c. Internal combustion engines;
- d. Electric motors.

2. ACCESS POINT

- a. All boats must be put in the water by hand carrying at the designated area on Cronin Cove on Lake Avenue. Boats may not be put in the lake from any other site, except for boats belonging to owners of property abutting the lake (abutters), which may be launched from the abutter's property, subject to the provisions of Rule 3 below.

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3. LAUNCHING AND LANDING

- a. Abutters who wish to launch boats as permitted under Rule 1 may do so, but must first register their boats with the Newton Parks and Recreation Department and obtain a sticker to be affixed to the boat. Such stickers are to aid officials in monitoring the use of the lake and are available free of charge.
- b. Boaters, who are not abutters, are prohibited from landing their boats on private property along the lake, and boaters shall not operate their boats within a one hundred (100) foot radius of an abutter's property, except that the foregoing restrictions shall not apply to private abutters boating in front of their own property.
- c. No person shall moor a boat in the water and no person shall beach a boat within the boundary of the access point or upon any other public land surrounding the lake (a) after dusk or (b) in a manner that interferes with the reasonable use and enjoyment of the access point and other public land by others entitled thereto.
- d. No person shall dig up, cut, break, remove, deface, defile or ill-use any fence, sign, stairway, bush, plant, turf, rock, or any other thing belonging to the City of Newton, or have possession of any part thereof.

4. PARKING

- a. Subject to an amendment to City parking ordinances, boaters may park in the designated spot on Lake Avenue at Cronin Cove for five (5) minutes while loading and unloading boats. At all other times, boaters' cars must be legally parked in appropriate spaces.
- b. The maximum number of boats permitted on the lake at any one time is limited to twenty (20) boats on a first-come/first-served basis.

5. SAFETY

- a. All boats must be equipped with one Coast Guard approved personal flotation device, in good and serviceable condition, for each person on board, which must be worn at all times by each such person on board. (M.G.L. c.90B, §5A)

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- b. Boaters are required to read and obey State boating regulations which appear on the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement sign posted at Cronin Cove.
- c. No person shall operate a boat or other craft that is deemed to be unsafe, which shall include overloading (exceeding the recommended number of persons or weight limit). Any person in charge of such unsafe vessel shall be ordered to remove such vessel from the lake until it is deemed safe, as provided in M.G.L. c.90B, §12A.
- d. No person under age 16 shall operate a boat on the lake, unless accompanied by another person (in the same boat) who is at least 18 years of age.
- e. Boating is not permitted within a one hundred (100) foot radius of said swimming area. Boaters should be mindful of swimmers who may stray outside of the swimming area.
- f. Swimming from boats is prohibited (boaters are not permitted to jump into the water or swim from their boats.)
- g. All boaters use the lake at their own risk.

6. FISHING

- a. All persons who fish from boats at Crystal Lake must have a valid fishing license as required.
- b. Fishing is prohibited within a one hundred (100) foot radius of the launching and landing area, and within a one hundred (100) foot radius of the swimming area.
- c. Fishing is prohibited within a one hundred (100) foot radius of a private abutter's property, except that the foregoing restriction shall not apply to private abutters fishing in front of their own property.
- d. Only single hook fishing hooks are to be used; treble or multiple hooks are prohibited;
- e. No netting may be used to trap or catch fish in the water;

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f. Scuba fishing and spear fishing are prohibited.

7. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. No person shall throw, drop or place any waste paper, rubbish or refuse in or on Crystal Lake or upon any public land bordering thereon.
- b. No person shall throw any stone or any other missile, or have possession of or discharge any destructive weapon, firearm, firecracker, torpedo or firework in or on Crystal Lake or upon any public or private land bordering thereon.
- c. No person shall, in or on Crystal Lake or upon any public land bordering thereon, engage in disorderly conduct, gambling, use of illegal drugs, or use of obscene or indecent language.
- d. No person shall, in or on Crystal Lake or upon any public land bordering thereon, have possession of or drink any alcoholic beverage.
- e. No person shall throw or place a lighted match, cigar, cigarette or other burning substance in or on Crystal Lake or upon any public land bordering thereon, nor shall any person make a fire upon the ground or in a grill upon any public land bordering Crystal Lake, nor shall any person make a fire in a grill on a boat.

8. ENFORCEMENT

- a. No person shall refuse or neglect to obey any reasonable direction of any official authorized to enforce these rules as specified in Rule 8(b) below.
- b. The Director of the Division of Law Enforcement of the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement; Environmental Police Officers, State Police, City of Newton Police and Newton Parks and Recreation officials shall enforce these rules and regulations. Violations are subject to a \$50 fine to be paid to the City of Newton. (M.G.L. c.90B, §12, §14.)
- c. These Rules have been established taking into account the population density of the City and close proximity of Crystal Lake to major thoroughfares and Newton Center. These Rules also reflect the desire of the City to deal equitably with abutters and non-abutters and to preserve the ecological balance of Crystal Lake by preventing the overutilization of this cherished natural

resource. These Rules will be reviewed annually in April at a formal Parks and Recreation meeting, and as deemed necessary by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

9. PRIOR RULES

Rule 15, "Boating" and Rule 16 "Fishing" of the "Rules and Regulations for the Government and Use of Crystal Lake" (City of Newton Playground Commission, (1929)) to the extent they are inconsistent with the foregoing, are hereby amended and superseded by these Rules. Except as specifically set forth herein, these rules are not intended to displace or supplant existing law.

BEACON ST..

LAKE

CRONINS COVE

NORWOOD AVE.

LAKE
TER

APTS

LEVINSON COVE

BEACH AREA

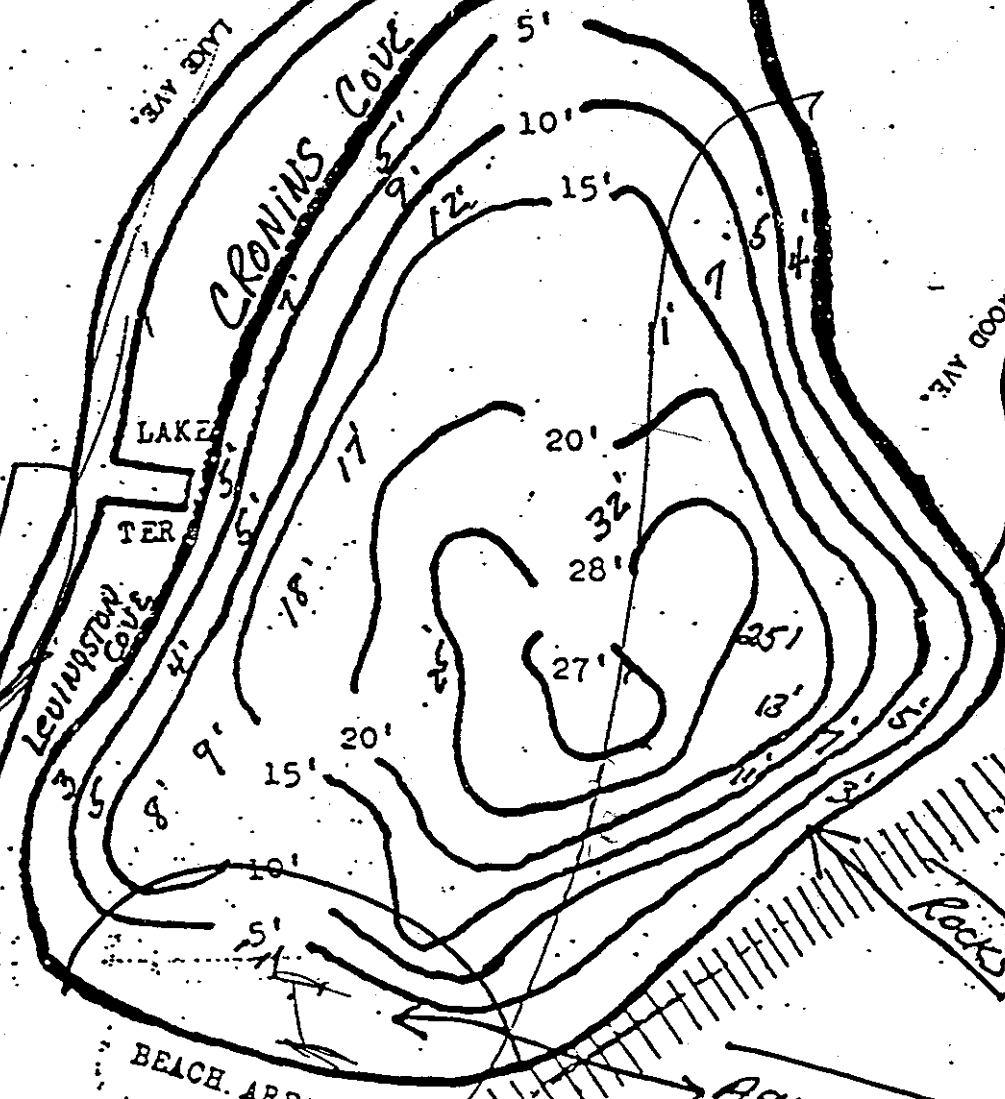
ROCKS

CENTRE STREET

BATH HOUSE

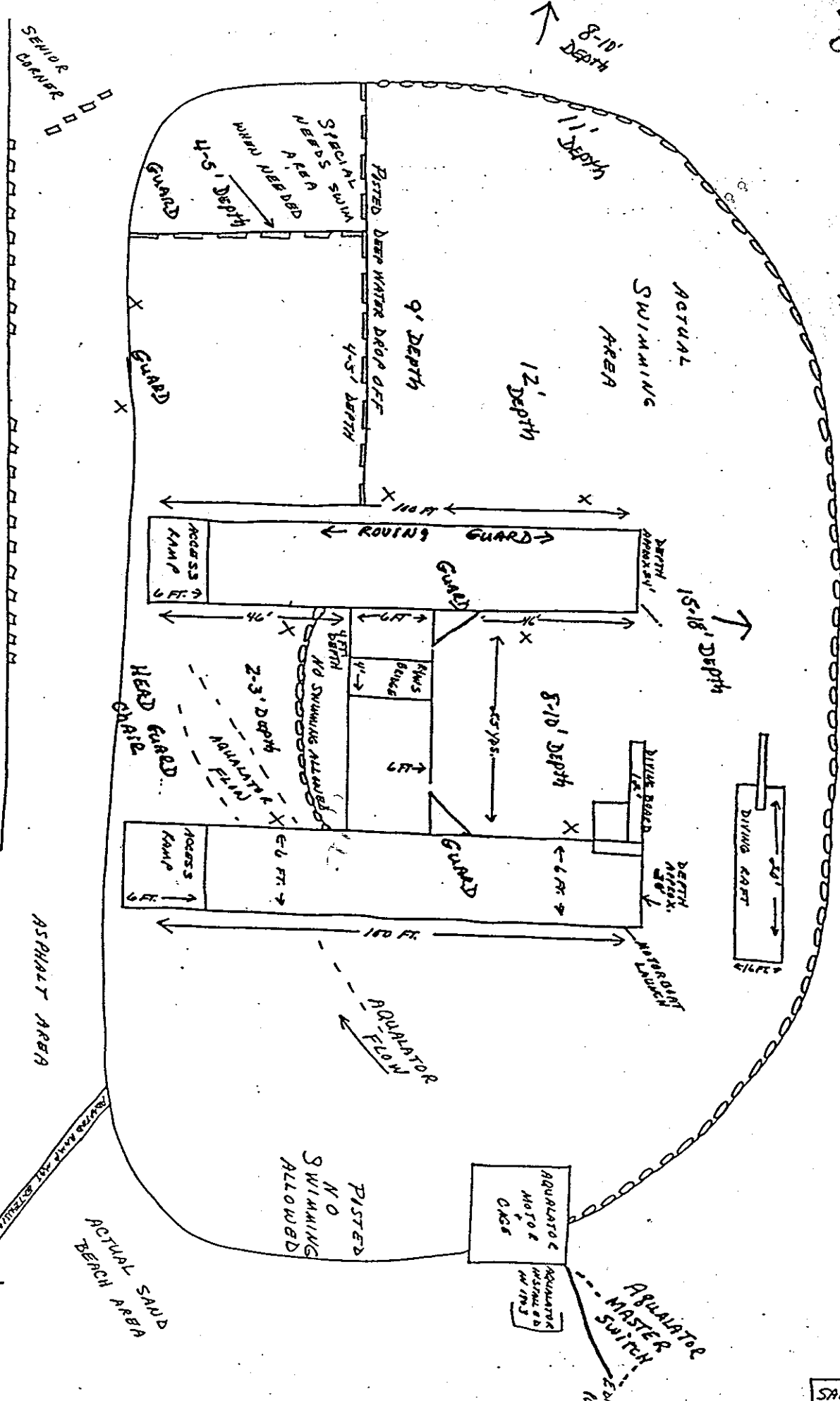
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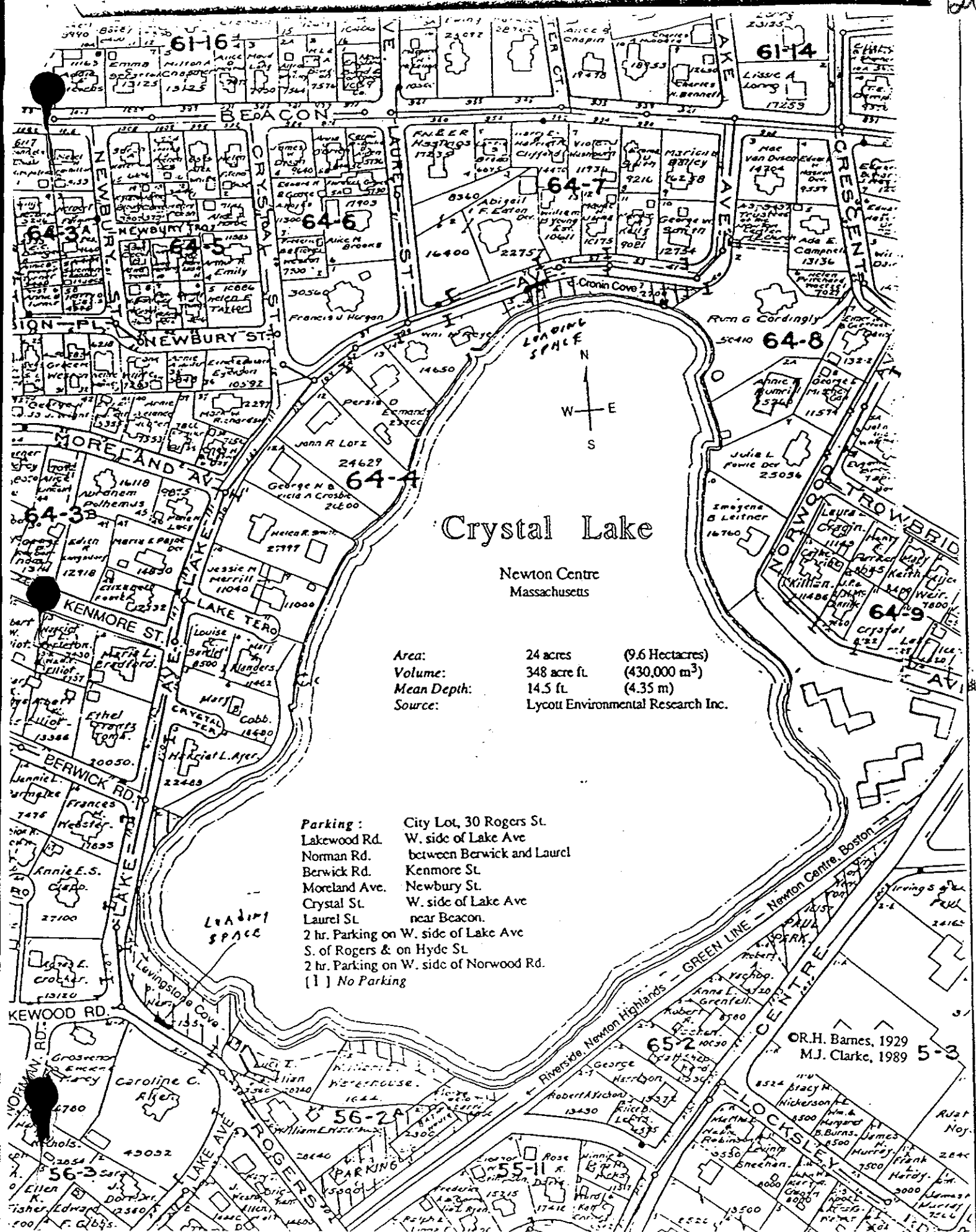
ROGERS STREET



Update Aug 1989

NO SWIMMING ALLOWED





Crystal Lake

Newton Centre
Massachusetts

Area: 24 acres (9.6 Hectares)
 Volume: 348 acre ft. (430,000 m³)
 Mean Depth: 14.5 ft. (4.35 m)
 Source: Lycott Environmental Research Inc.

Parking : City Lot, 30 Rogers St.
 Lakewood Rd. W. side of Lake Ave
 Norman Rd. between Berwick and Laurel
 Berwick Rd. Kenmore St.
 Moreland Ave. Newbury St.
 Crystal St. W. side of Lake Ave
 Laurel St. near Beacon.
 2 hr. Parking on W. side of Lake Ave
 S. of Rogers & Hyde St.
 2 hr. Parking on W. side of Norwood Rd.
 [] No Parking

OR.H. Barnes, 1929
 M.J. Clarke, 1989

SEPTEMBER 17, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Jo Pepper, Herbert Bamel, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE

1. Minutes of the June meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and meetings attended during the past month are in the folders.
3. Crystal Lake: After a lengthy discussion the representatives of the Crystal Lake Abutters Association, as well as Mr. Clarke were in attendance to discuss the revised Crystal Lake Rules and Regulations as presented by the Law Department's Assistant Solicitor Catherine Lestor. After a lengthy discussion the revised Crystal Lake Rules and Regulations were passed unanimously 5-0 eliminating, under, The following are to be prohibited, part b. which reads:

ALL INFLATABLES THAT DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS AS SPECIFIED ABOVE.

The Commission will take up the inflatable issue at the Spring 1991 meeting while discussing the Swim Rules and Regulations at Gath Pool and Crystal Lake.

4. Newton East Little League: Terry Sack, from the The Newton East Little League requested to adopt the Newton East Little League/ Newton Centre Field and to make repairs of field, level, regrade, resod the infield using a clay and sand mix work to commence and be substantially completed this fall in accordance of all rules and regulations. The Commission voted unanimously 5-0 to grant the Newton East Little League to adopt the Newton Centre Field peddicating all City Rules and Regulations.
5. Newton North High School Indoor Complex User Fees: The Commission voted unanimously 5-0 to accept the new proposed fees for the Newton North High School Indoor Complex for the 90/91 season.

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October 15, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE

1. Minutes of the September meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and meetings attended during the past month are enclosed in the folders.
3. Bullough's Pond: Betsy Leitch, President of Bullough's Pond Association and Peter Conde, Research Assistant, attended the meeting. Betsy presented photo's and background information regarding the two violent rain storms of July 25th and August 11th, 1990. The Pond overflowed its Dexter Road spillway and algae was carried downstream into the Hull Street culvert where it formed, together with other debris, an impentetrable barrier. Water rose over Hull Street culvert and washed out the tennis courts, destroyed paved roadways, damaged the school's playing fields, flooded Walnut Street and ruined private gardens. Betsy added, in the opinion of the Bullough's Pond Association restoring Bullough's Pond to its former depth and maintaining its ability to be a watershed for one-third of the City the Pond can once again function to its originally designed purpose.
4. Upcoming Events: Newton Special Olympics Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, October 28th, Bullough's Pond Clean Up, Sunday, October 28th, Newton North Indoor Program is now open, The Hyde-Out will be open on Friday nights from October to May, and the Annual Special Olympics Awards Banquet, Wednesday, November 14th.

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5. **Newton North Indoor Complex:** The Complex opened on October 1st, Monday through Friday, from 7:00PM to 9:45PM on a pre-season schedule. Activities include, swimming, full basketball court, weight room, aerobics, junior olympics volleyball, box lacrosse, tennis, and golf lessons. Regular season schedule starts November 2, 1990.
6. **Letter from Hawthorn abutter:** The Recreation office received a letter from Frederick S. Seidenberg regarding complaints and concerns of the abutters during the St. Mary of Carmen Festival. It was the Commission's decision to invite Mr. Seidenberg and Mr. Pellegrini to the next Commission meeting on November 19th to discuss the issues.
7. **Urban Tree Task Force Advisory Committee** is up and running. At the first meeting the discussions centered on a Street Tree Survey, funding and development.
8. **New Business:** Paul Burke, after 20 years on the Commission, will submit his resignation at the December 17th meeting.

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November 19, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Herbert Bamel, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE

1. Minutes of the October meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Program, Maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and meetings attended during the past month are enclosed in the folders.
Happenings: Thanksgiving Day Football Game: Newton North against Brookline at North. Laidlaw Tree Service doing a super job with their tree contract for the City. Busy month at Newton North Indoor Complex. Two Hundred and Seventy people attended the Special Needs Banquet this month. Joe Castilione, Red Sox announcer, guest at the banquet. The Urban Tree Task Force Committee is very active and proceeding with great enthusiasm. Several meetings have already been held. Regarding the Daly Rink Mayor Mann to work with the City to acquire it for \$1.00. The rink would be operated by an independent organization such as i.e. The Commonwealth Golf Course
3. St. Mary Carmen Carnival: Frederick S. Seidenberg of 20 Lothrop Street attended the meeting regarding his letter of October 5th, in reference to concerns and complaints of some of the abutters of the Hawthorn Playground during the St. Mary Carmen Carnival. Also attending the meeting was Anthony Pellegrini and friends. Issues discussed were noise, drinking, carnival people living on grounds and parking. It was decided that a working committee be set up to include; Tony Battista, Commission Member, a person from the Parks and Recreation Department, Police Department, St. Mary Carmen Society and abutters to discuss the situation to see what concerns and complaints could be worked out to everyone's satisfaction.

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4. Update on Boating: Re a letter received from the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife ask that two changes be made on the proposed Boating Rules and Regulations for Crystal Lake: Mr. Halloran commented that a meeting would be set up to go over and meet with the State and he would report the results at the December 17, 1990 Commission Meeting
5. Budget Update: Three Hundred Thousand dollars is to be cut from the Recreation budget for FY91-92. The budget will be presented to the Commission at our December meeting.
6. Tennis Update: Newton Centre Courts, total attendance was 2,851 with a daily attendance of 25. Total fees collected were \$7,880.00. Robert DeRubeis, Supervisor, submitted an excellent report and Thomas Cahill, Supervisor, did a super job with the graphics.
7. New Business: Paul Burke will retire from the Commission after 20 years of devoted service.

Next Commission meeting will be December 17, 1990

MS

December 17, 1990

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman
Herbert Bamel, Jo Pepper, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista,
Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy
Commissioner, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye
Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE

1. Minutes of the November meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of program, maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and meetings attended during the past month are enclosed in the folders.
3. Award Presentation to former Commission Member Paul J. Burke: Paul has resigned after 20 years on the Commission. He was honored last Thursday by Mayor Theodore D. Mann with a proclamation from the City of Newton for his distinguished record as a highly valued member of the community who has contributed significantly to the quality of life in our Garden City. He also received a Citation from Joseph DeNucci, Auditor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for his more than 20 years of dedicated service as a member and Chairman of the Newton Parks and Recreation Commission. He received a plaque from the members of the Parks & Recreation Commission members for his 20 years of outstanding dedication to the Commission.
Paul thanked everyone present at the Commission meeting for the plaque and said it was a pleasure to serve during the past 20 years.

Also the Parks & Recreation Commission presented Helen Murphy a clock for her 3100 hours of devoted service as a volunteer for Senior Citizen Activities. Helen is a dedicated individual who has worked tirelessly in organizing various activities for seniors.

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- 4. Presentation of Fiscal 91' Budget: The Parks & Recreation budget was cut \$309,546.00. Nineteen positions will be eliminated from the budget. The Commission voted unanimously 6-0 to approve the budget as presented. The budget will now go to Mayor Mann's Office and then before the Board of Alderman sometime in March.
- 5. Ice Skating Rules & Regulations 1990/1991: It is recommended that the fee structure initiated by the Parks & Recreation Commission in 1981 at Crystal Lake and Bulloughs Pond, and carried over to the Auburndale Cove in 1982, be continued in this upcoming skating season.

Weekday Fee	\$.50 per person (6-60)
Weekend/Holiday Fee	\$1.00 per person (6-60)

Children under 6 and adults over 60 are admitted free of charge. Due to the unpredictable weather conditions and the resultant limited skating that ensues during these times, season passes are no longer a feasible alternative.

- 6. New Business: Herbert Bamel spoke very enthusiastically about the Arts in the Parks Boston Symphony programs. Anthony Battista to work with Mr. Pellegrini, Mr. Halloran, and a representative from the Police and Fire Departments to discuss the abutters complaints of the St. Mary of Carmen Carnival. Commission Halloran spoke very highly of Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner whom he works very closely with and considers an equal partner.

Commissioner Halloran wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

January 28, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Herbert Bamel, Jo Pepper, Gwen Fineberg, Howard Ferguson, Russell J. Halloran, Carol Stapleton, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE

1. Minutes of the December meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of program, maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and meetings attended during the past month are enclosed in the folders.
 - In the folder is a copy of an article which featured Paul Burke who was honored by the City of Newton for his 43 years of long service to the community.
 - Tennis Courts at Newton North High School: The Parks and Recreation Department is working with the coach to relocate the tennis team to other areas in the City for Spring tennis.
 - The Parks & Recreation Department is meeting with the Law Department to finalize the bids for the cutting of grass and cleaning of Recreation buildings.
 - Leo Levi is Chairman of the Urban Tree Task Force Committee and he is now in the process of gathering City resident volunteers for the Street Tree Survey to be conducted on our City Streets. They will gather information as to size, type, condition, etc. The goal is to update our urban forest and City trees and place the information on the computer.
3. Language on Parks & Recreation picnic, field, building gymnasium or other permits: The Commission voted unanimously 5-0 to approve the Rules and Regulations Governing the use of a Parks and Recreation Facility or Area and Article VI Parks and Public Grounds, on the back of the permits.
4. Newton East Little League: Terry Sack, Co-President of the Newton East Little requested permission to install 4 X 8 signs to display advertising on the interior of the outfield fencing as a means of generating monies for the maintenance of the Jay Gordon Field at Albermarle. This would be the same set-up as what Newton North Little League did at the James E. Murphy field at Albermarle.

cont.

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The league would be responsible for all vandalism. This arrangement would be on an annual basis and may be revoked by the Recreation Commission. The Recreation Commission will work very closely with the Newton East Little League on all phases of this project.

The Commission members voted unanimously 5-0 in favor of the Newton East Little League's request to install the 4 X 8 signs providing they follow all policies and procedure. The next procedure is to go before the Board of Alderman.

The Newton East Little League will also buy a brand new field dedication sign for Jay Gordon..

- 5. Budget Update: Due to a mistake by the Budget Director, the Parks & Recreation Department has put \$23,000 back into their budget. The Payroll Supervisor's position has been reinstated. Monies from the Auto Account has been used to put 2 positions back into our budget. Four employees have given their retirement notices. Mayor Mann will present the budget to the Board of Alderman in March.
- 6. St. Mary of Carmen: Anthony Battista, the Commission spokesman for meetings with Anthony Pellegrini, informed us that Mr. Pellegrini has decided to by pass the Commission and docketed the St. Mary of Carmen Carnival with the Board of Alderman to be heard soon. This is in regards to complaints by neighbors regarding noise and disturbances. The Commission members will be advised as to the date this will appear on the docket.
- 7. Hamilton: The School Department is considering using the Lower Falls Community Center for Special Needs classes to start next Fall, Monday through Friday. Presently, groups using the facility are Recreation Place--an after school daycare program, Arts in Parks Programs, Senior Citizen Programs, Special Needs Programs plus community programs and administrative meetings. To displace these groups for that of another agency who should look well within their own structure is a disservice to those who participate and depend on the Community's Center programs. It would have and adverse financial impact on the Arts in the Parks Programs. The Parks & Recreation Department is working with Katie Spinos Assistant Superintendent of Planning & Operations to resolve this crisis and will keep the Commission posted as to the status.

(3)

- 8. Skating Report: No ice skating at the Auburndale Cove so far.
There is 6 1/2" of ice with slush on top.
- 9. New Business: No new business

Next meeting: Monday, February 25, 1991

February 25, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Jo Pepper, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

1. Minutes of the January Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of program, maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and meetings during the past month are enclosed in the folders.
 Pat Forte, Maintenance Foreman has retired after 33 years of devoted service to the Recreation Maintenance Department. Richard Metro, Forestry Superintendent has assumed Pat's role and is now in charge of both the Forestry and Maintenance Divisions.
 Mayor Mann's Budget message to the Citizens of Newton will be held on Monday, March 4th at 8:00PM in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall.
 Youth Awards Ceremony will be held on Monday, May 20th in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall
3. Budget Report: On Wednesday April 3rd, Programs & Services will discuss the Parks & Recreation Department's budget.
4. Newton's Street Tree Survey: Fran Towle, Deputy, Commissioner and Leo Levi, Chairman of the Tree Task Force Advisory Committee have worked very diligently to start a volunteer program to gather information needed for the care and maintenance of our valuable street trees. The first meeting was held on February 27th in the War Memorial and was very successful. Over 300 volunteer applications were submitted.

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5. Building Maintenance Bids: Bids have been received for the cleaning of our Rereation Buildings.
United Industrial Cleaning Company received the bid at \$62,062.00.
Grass Bids are to open March 6th.
6. Elections: Reminder that at the next meeting March 18th, the Commission will elect a Chairman and Vice Chairman.
7. New Business: No new business

March 18, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Howard Ferguson, Herbert Bamel, Jo Pepper, Peter Johnson, Russell J. Halloran, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

1. Minutes of the February Meeting were accepted.
2. Annual Election for Chairman & Vice Chairman: Mr. Halloran opened the meeting for election of officers. Francis Rice was nominated for Chairman and Walter Bernheimer was nominated for Vice Chairman. The voting was unanimous 6-0 for both Mr. Francis Rice as Chairman and Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman. The Commission extended their sincere congratulations to them both.
3. Reports of program, maintenance, Commissioner's Reports of Events and meetings during the past month are enclosed in the folders. The Newton Parks & Recreation Commission wishes to welcome Peter Johnson to the Commission. Mayor Mann appointed Peter to fill a term of office pending confirmation by the Board of Alderman to serve on a temporary basis till then.
4. Newton South Little League: Adoption of Richardson Field - The Recreation office received a call on March 18th, that Newton South Little League would not adopt Richardson Field at this time.
5. St. Mary of Carmen Carnival Issue: The issue of Public Safety at the Carnival goes before the Public Safety Committee on Wednesday, May 1, 1991 at 7:45PM at City Hall. Anthony Battista was to meet with Mr. Pellegrini and the Society to discuss Public Safety during the Carnival in July. The Society cancelled the meeting and will appear before the Board of Alderman on May 1st. Commissioner Halloran met with Mayor Mann and abutters to the Carnival last week and it was decided to leave the St. Mary of Carmen issue on the agenda till resolved.

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6. Status of Budget: On Wednesday, March 20th at 8:00PM in Room 222 Programs & Services, Board of Alderman will meet in regards to the Parks & Recreation Budget.
7. Status Tree Contract and results of bids on Building & Grass Cutting: Anthony Vanaria & Sons, Inc. received the grass bid which came in at \$176,000 with a \$96,000 savings to the department. United Industrial Cleaning Company received the bid for the cleaning of our buildings at \$58,500.
8. No new business.

April 22, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESEMT: Commissioner, Russell J. Halloran, Anthony Battista, Gwen Fineberg, Peter Johnson and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY COMMISSIONER RUSSELL J. HALLORAN ACTING AS CHAIRMAN FOR THE EVENING:

1. Minutes of the March meeting were accepted by those present.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissiner's Reports of Events, Meetings & Activities.
 - Tuesday, May 7th at Newton City Hall from 12:00PM to 3:30PM Newton will celebrate Nabisco-Fig Newton's 100th Anniversary. Free barbecue will be accompanied with Pop Singer Juice Newton. Free T-Shirts will be given out while supply lasts. The "Big Fig" will teach everyone the Fig Newton song and dance.
 - Springfest will be held on Sunday, May 12th, Mother's Day, at City Hall
 - Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be held on May 17th at Boston College. 7:45AM. Tickets \$10.00 per person.
 - Santa Claus is still up at Magni Park. A letter was sent to Mr. Pellegrini, Nonantum Christmas Party regarding the Santa Claus Statue that is still standing at Magni Park. The City has no objection to the use of Magni Park Locale during the Christmas Season. The erection & taking down of the statue by City employees creates liability. Comm-issioner, Halloran and Commissioner Hickey, Public Works look forward to hearing from Mr. Pellegrini regarding the issues in a letter that was sent to him.
3. St. Mary Carmen Carnival Status: On Wednesday, May 1st at 7:45PM the St. Mary of Carmen Society will appear before the Board of Alderman's Safety Committee to take the steps necessary to enhance, rather than diminish the fiesta & carnival. The Commission members will be made aware of any new information regarding this issue. The item is to be on each agenda until it is resolved.

(2)

- 4. Youth Awards: Presentation of the Youth Awards will be held in the Aldermanic Chambers at 7:00PM prior to the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting on Monday, May 20th.
- 5. Consideration of Tennis Rules, Regulations & Fees at Newton Centre tennis courts: Bob DeRubeis recommended that the permit fees for 1991 remain the same and the daily fees be raised \$2.00.

Permit:

Resident Family	\$100.00
Resident Adult	\$ 75.00
Resident Student	\$ 25.00
Non-Resident	\$150.00

Daily Fees:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991 (Proposed)</u>
Resident Adult	\$ 3.00	\$5.00
Resident Student	\$ 2.00	\$4.00
Non-Resident Daily	\$ 6.00	\$8.00
(\$2.00 daily increase)		

The tennis fees were accepted unanimously by the Commission 3-0.

- 6. Status of Budget: After meeting with the Board of Alderman the Parks & Recreation budget was passed with the exception of the Grass Contract which was not accepted. The Alderman voted 11-11 not to accept the contract from Anthony Vanaria & Sons in the amount of \$176,000 due to the fact that 7 men were being laid off. If the Union (Local 800) votes for a new medical plan 75% to be paid by Blue Cross/Blue Shield and 25% to be paid by the employees, then chances are with the monies saved, the men would not be laid off as of July 1, 1991.
- 7. New Business: No new business.

May 20, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Herbert Bamel, Jo Pepper, Gwen Fineberg, Peter Johnson, Anthony Battista, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Robert DeRubeis, Chief Supervisor, Carol Stapleton, Supervisor, and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

1. Minutes of the April Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of various meetings attended during the past month were distributed to all present.
 - a. Fig Newton Day held on Tuesday, May 7th at City Hall from 12:00 to 3:30PM to celebrate Nabisco-Fig Newton's 100th Anniversary. Free T Shirts were given out also a free all-American barbecue accompanied with entertainment by Juice Newton. The Big Fig taught everyone the Fig Newton song.
 - b. Springfest was held on Sunday, May 12th. Mother's Day at City Hall, 12,000 people attended. It was a complete success.
 - c. Howard Ferguson, 82 years old, resigned from the Commission after 19 years of devoted service. He has moved to Willimantic, Connecticut to be near his daughter Susan and her family. Fergie, a teacher at Newton High School was very devoted to his students and followed many of their careers up until now. The Commission members wish him the best in his future plans.
 - d. The Commission members welcomed Peter Johnson to the Newton Parks & Recreation Commission. Peter replaced Paul J. Burke from Ward 3

- 3. Budget Update: Local 800 Union will vote on Tuesday regarding the new Blue Cross/Blue Shield Plan. If they vote the new plan in, (which is mores monies) the 13 people who were slated to be laid off July 1st, would be back to work.

The Grass Contract which was not voted in, will come before the Board of Alderman again sometime in June.

- 4. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast: to be held May 23rd at 7:45AM at Boston College, tickets \$10.00.
- 5. St. Mary of Carmen Carnival: This Spring the 23rd annual St. Mary of Carnival, pending approval, is to be held July 17th through July 25th. Commissioner Halloran met with the abutters of the Carnival grounds at the home of Anthony Battista. Tony did a super job with negotiations. A Special Commission meeting is to be held on Thursday, May 23rd at 7:30PM in the Aldermanic Chambers to discuss the St. Mary of Carmen Carnival.
- 6. Crystal Lake Boating: A packet of information was enclosed in the folders regarding the Boating/Fishing Rules and Regulations for Crystal Lake 1990/91.
- 7. Swim Rules & Regulations for Gath Pool & Crystal Lake: The Commission members voted unanimously 6-0 to accept the Swim Rules & Regulations for Gath Pool and Crystal Lake.

The rules and regulations pertaining to the "Inflatables Outside the Swim Area" will be taken up at the next Commission meeting on June 24th.

Carol Stapleton said that letters would be sent out to abutters to let them know of the next meeting.

Carol Stapleton and Tom Cahill have done an outstanding job in preparing for the openings of the pool and lake.

- 8. Consideration of Tennis Rules & Regulations: It is recommended that the seasonal permit fees remain the same and raise the daily fees for 1991.

Permit Fees:

Resident Family	\$100.00
Resident Adult	\$ 75.00
Resident Student	\$ 25.00
Non-Resident	\$150.00

Daily Fees:

	<u>1990</u>	<u>1991</u>
Resident Adult	\$ 3.00	\$ 5.00
Resident Student	\$ 2.00	\$ 4.00
Non-Resident Daily	\$ 6.00	\$ 8.00

(3)

The Commission members voted unanimously 6-0 in favor of the Newton Centre Tennis Fees and Rules.

- 9. New Business: Carol Stapleton has asked to be dropped down from the Chief Supervisor's position to Supervisor's position. Mr. Halloran said that he accepted her request with great reluctance and did not agree with her request, but that he would honor it.

Robert DeRubeis has been chosen as the new Chief Supervisor for the Parks & Recreation Department. In this Chief Supervisory position, he will be a great asset to the Department.

During the Months of July and August the Recreation Commission does not meet. Hope that each and everyone of you have a happy and healthy summer. See you in September.

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June 24, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Fran Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Jo Pepper, Gwen Fineberg, Anthony Battista, Peter Johnson, James Mahoney, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Robert DeRubeis, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

1. Minutes of the May meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of various meetings attended during the past month were distributed to all present.
 - a. Thirty five thousand people are expected at the 4th of July Celebration this year
 - b. Crystal Lake and Gath Pool both open on Monday, June 10th this year.
 - c. James Mahoney, new Commission member, from Ward 2 is a welcome addition to the Parks & Recreation Commission. James is replacing Howard Ferguson who has resigned after 19 years of devoted service.
3. Crystal Lake: The issue of inflatable swim aids was carried over from previous meetings and was discussed at length at this meeting.

Tom Cahill, Carol Stapleton and Lt. Gregory Wright, from the Newton Police Department were on hand for this discussion.

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Crystal Lake:

A petition from members of the Condominium Association was before the Commission which asked that the use of inflatable swim aids not be restricted at Crystal Lake outside the swimming area

The Parks and Recreation Department made a presentation, which included an American Red Cross Video on the dangers of unsupervised play on inflatable swim aids, especially rafts and inner tubes. The State had also approved the Departments request to allow only rubber rafts, with a carrying capacity of 300 lbs. with oar locks.

Lt. Wright, on behalf of Chief Quinn, also expressed concern with the dangers of allowing inflatables - unsupervised onto the Lake in the non-swimming area.

Motion was made and seconded on the recommendation of Commissioner Halloran to disallow all use of inflatable swim aids at any time on Crystal Lake. Vote was four (4) to two (2).

After much discussion, the Commission decided to maintain the status quo and carefully monitor the incidents with inflatables during the summer months and if there were any problems, an emergency meeting would be called immediately by Francis Rice, Chairman.

- 4. Budget Update: The Parks & Recreation Budget was cut \$245,000. Seventeen positions were cut from the budget. If the Union signs the Blue Cross/Blue Shield contract, 13 Parks & Recreation employees will be reinstated as of July 1, 1991.

Effective July 1, 1991 the Newton Parks & Recreation Department contracted with Anthony Vanaria & Sons to grass cutting services on 39 major areas that total 250 acres of 216 park, recreation and school areas. After several meetings with the Board of Alderman the 14-7 decision was to accept the Grass Contract in the amount of \$177,000.

(3)

Also a Building Cleaning Contract will be in effect July 1, 1991. The Parks & Recreation Department has contracted with United Cleaning Services of Newton to perform the cleaning services previously attended to by full time maintenance caretakers in each facility. The contract was for \$58,500.00.

5. Summer plants for tennis, Albermarle Acres, Centre Acres, Special Needs Camp, Kids Korner and Leagues:

- Albermarle Acres Camp starts it 10th season and Centre Centres starts its 8th season
- Special Needs Camp and Kids Korner will start their regular summer season schedule this June
- Softball started in May and basketball leagues started in June

6. St. Mary of Carmen: A five page letter was sent to Nunzio Leone, Festival Chairman for the St. Mary of Carmen Society on regulations in order to hold a carnival at Hawthorn Playground beginning on Wednesday, July 17th, 1991 (with set up on Monday, July 15th, and Tuesday, July 16, take-down Monday, July 22nd and Tuesday, July 23rd. The regulations must be adhered to in order to make the permit valid.

Commissioner Halloran commended Tony Battista, Chairman from Ward 1, for his assistance in numerous meetings with the abutters and the St. Mary of Carmen Society to hold a safe and enjoyable Carnival this July 1991 season.

7. New Business: The Recreation Commission does not meet during July and August. Hope that each and everyone of you have a "Happy and Healthy" summer. See you in September!

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September 23, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Anthony Battista, Jo Pepper, James Mahoney, Peter Johnson, Herbert Bamel, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Robert DeRubeis, Chief Supervisor

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

1. Minutes of the June meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of various meetings attended during the past month were distributed to all present.

Commissioner Halloran commended Anthony Battista on the excellent job that he did in working with the St. Mary of Carmen Society, with regard to the St. Mary of Carmen Carnival.

- a. Newton North Track: \$75,000 of Marathon monies will be used to renovate the Newton North Track. Work began on Tuesday, September 17th and the hope is to finish before the competitive track season begins in the Fall.
- b. Newton South Track: \$4,000 of Marathon monies will be used to make repairs to the track. The work will also hopefully be completed before the beginning of the outdoor track season.
- c. \$25,000 of the Marathon monies will be used for the procurement of playground equipment at Cabot School and Memorial Spaulding School.

The monies in this account has been building up for five years.

(2)

- d. The Parks & Recreation Department fared very favorably in the City Census of 1990. Mr. Bernheimer thought it would be beneficial for the Department to look at some prior year statistics and plot them against the current year to assess the actual increase percentage wise in favorability
- e. Hurricane Bob hit on Monday, August 19th at approximately 1:30PM. Estimated damage as a result of the storm was close to 400 trees down, along with approximately 1500 tree limbs. Major clean-up effort after the storm was completed by the Saturday following the storm. Recreation costs related to the storm were the following:

Hired Equipment.....	\$150,000
Overtime	\$ 20,000
Materials, Supplies & Saws	\$ 10,000

The City was informed that it was eligible for 75% reimbursement of storm related costs from F.E.M.A.

- 3. Newton East Little League Signs: The Commissioner explained to the Commission the process by which the signs were adopted. A two-thirds vote of the Board of Alderman is needed. Due to a faux pas on the part of the Board of Alderman, the signs were passed by default. The Commissioner will keep the Commission members apprised of any further action.
- 4. Although not on the agenda, Mr. Anthony Pellegrini wished to address the Commission. Prior to his statements, Commissioner Halloran relayed to the Commission members on how well the St. Mary of Carmen Carnival had been run, as was the Senior Citizen's Cookout.

Commissioner Halloran did say he received some complaints pertaining to the Elvis Presley Day. The specific nature of the complaints were noise and fireworks. The complaints were logged into the Police Department's file at 9:00PM.

(3)

Mr. Pellegrini questioned: Did the Commissioner have the right to impose a bill for Elvis Presley Day for work and supplies? The Commissioner informed Mr. Pellegrini that he had been apprised of the overtime and supplies prior to that day. The bill is in the amount of \$172.00.

- 5. Request for Concession Stand at South High: Commissioner Halloran has been working with Lynn Brown from the Newton South Booster on constructing a concession stand on the home side of gridiron next to the bleachers. He will keep the Commission posted as to the status of this project.
- 6. Contracts: The Tree Contractor began his second year of the contract on July 1st. Deputy Commissioner Fran Towle continues to work closely with the contractor and the results have been very positive.

The Grass and Building Contractors began their contracts on July 1st, 1991. Chief Supervisor Bob DeRubeis along with Deputy Commissioner Fran Towle, are acting as liasons for the aforementioned contracts.

The grass contractor is cutting 39 areas comprised of approximately 250 acres. Twenty Seven of those sites are cut weekly and the remaining twelve are cut bi-weekly. The contract up-to-date has progressed very smoothly.

The building contract has been fair with refinement still needed to certain criteria. Deputy Commissioner Fran Towle and Chief Supervisor, Bob DeRubeis are working closely with the contractor to rectify the deficiencies.

- 7. Revolving Accounts: In 1978, the City Treasurer, was asked by Commissioner Halloran if he could set up accounts for the Senior Citizen Program. Over the past several years with the success of programs, the Recreation Department has established 8 checking accounts with full-time supervisors overseeing them.

The Commissioner has met with the Executive Department and the Comptroller to set up revolving accounts in lieu of checking accounts that currently exist. Also, the Commissioner will be appearing before the Finance Committee, Board of Alderman at 9:00PM this evening on establishing revolving accounts.

- 8. No new business:

Next meeting October 21, 1991

October 21, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Anthony Battista, Jo Pepper, James Mahoney, Peter Johnson, Herbert Bamel, Gwen Fineberg, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Robert DeRubeis, Chief Supervisor, Carol Stapleton, Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

- 1. Minutes of the September Meeting were accepted.
- 2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of various meetings attended during the past month were distributed to all present.

Sixth Annual Special Olympics Banguet to be held on Wednesday, November 13th from 6:30PM to 10:00PM at Post 440 in Newton. Reservations are necessary due to limited seating. Tickets \$11.00.

Harvest Fair took place on a beautiful Fall day October 13th on the Newton Centre Green under the direction of Linda Plaut. There were over 200 booths and displays. Our compliments to Linda and her staff on her very successful day.

- 3. Crystal Lake Summer Report: Carol Stapleton, Supervisor presented her Crystal Lake report which included receipts for 1991, attendance and incidents. Also included were the final Rules and Regulations for Boating and fishing on Crystal Lake.

Crystal Lake GEM Committee: Attending the meeting were Alderman George Mansfield, Keith Tornheim and Sophi Inbar.

Carol Stapleton, Supervisor commented the season was outstanding and she had the full cooperation of the Police and neighbors.

Commissioner Halloran complimented Carol and her staff on the excellent job that they did this summer at Crystal Lake.

Alderman George Mansfield reiterated what he said in GEM'S September meeting in that there has been considerable improvements especially the relationship between the abutters and the City. Permanent improvements included new sidewalks and curbs, parking regulations, litter controls by the Parks & Recreation staff were working well. He commented that the relationship between the neighborhood and the Police Department seems to have improved.

Sophi Inbar presented the proposal for extended season for two weeks after Labor Day, longer hours, volunteer lifeguards for the extended season, and open Memorial Day weekend instead of June.

Herbert Bamel commented that a final decisions cannot be made until the budget process has been settled.

Keith Tornheim discussed the 1991 Crystal Lake swimming season with the members of the neighborhood monitoring committee that was established several years ago. There were fewer complaints this year, traffic & parking remained heavy, which reflects the increased usage of the lake. The season went well in large part because of the extraordinary efforts of Carol Stapleton and her staff. Although the impact on the neighbors has been improved in some matters, it certainly still remains significant.

Chairman Francis Rice said that the Commission would take GEM'S Proposal under consideration and will notify the people attending this meeting as to the next meeting, perhaps in March, which will discuss the Rules and Regulations of Crystal Lake.

- 4. Merger of Community Schools and Adult Education: Community Schools merged this year with Adult Education to better service the public. Carol Stapleton has been the designee for our Department since 1978. Commission members applauded Carol and wished her success in her future endeavors as liaison between the two departments.

(3)

5. Revolving Accounts: The following revolving accounts have been approved by the Finance Committee and the full Board of Alderman:

- 1. Senior Citizens
- 2. Arts in the Parks
- 3. Camps
- 4. Recreational/Activities/Classes

This was based upon the recommendation of the Comptroller of Accounts and the Commissioner of Parks & Recreation.

6. Newton North Indoor Program: The indoor program is open and operating according to schedule:

Monday through Friday 7:00PM to 9:30PM
 Saturday/Sunday 9:30AM to 8:30PM

7. Progress Report on Trees, Grass and Building Contracts: Tree and Grass contracts are going extremely well. The Cleaning of the Buildings Contract is not up to par, however, Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner and Robert DeRubeis are working very closely with the contractor to see that all standards are met. Fran Towle has done an excellent job as liason with the Tree and Buildings contractors and I know that she will continue to be successful.

8. Newton Special Olympics Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, October 27th Sons of Italy in Watertown from 8:00Am to 12:00PM. Tickets are \$4.00 and procees to benefit Newton's Special Olympics.

9. New Business: No new business, meeting ended at 8:50PM

NOVEMBER 18, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Jo Pepper, Peter Johnson, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner Fran Towle, Deputy Commissioner, Robert DeRubeis, Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIRMAN, FRANCIS RICE:

- 1. Minutes of the October Meeting were accepted.
- 2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of various meetings attended during the past month were distributed to all present.

Newton Commonwealth Golf Course was the setting for "Newton Day". Residents came and discovered Newton's 18 hole course. The proceeds for both days was \$6,697.00 and the monies were dispersed as follows:

Newton Pride 50%.....	\$3,288.50
Newton North High School Athletics.....	\$1,644.25
Newton South High School Atheltics.....	\$1,644.25

In 1992, a series of five (5) "Newton Days" will be held at the Newton Commonwealth Golf Course to raise monies to benefit Newton Groups.

A good time was had by all who attended the Sixth Annual Special Olympics Banquet held on Wednesday, November 13th at Post 440 in Newton. Red Sox player Mike Gardner and radio announcer Joe Castiglione attended as guest speakers. Both men thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Also attending was Commissioner Halloran and several staff members. Special thanks to Karen Peirce, Special Needs Director and Rick Cass for a truly enjoyable evening for the children and their parents and also guests.

- 3. Budget Update: The budget cut for last year was \$282,507 and the cut for this year is \$285,275.00. Thirteen positions were cut last year however, they were reinstated when the Union signed the Blue Cross/Blue Shield contract.

- 4. **Program Fee's:** Commissioner Halloran is working with Richard Kelliher, Chief Administrative Officer and Howard Shaefer, Chief Budget Officer regarding program fees. Commissioner Halloran will keep the Commission posted as to the status of the Fee's.
- 5. **Ice Skating Update:** Even though Ice Skating Rules and Regulations will be on next month's agenda, Bob DeRubeis, Chief Supervisor commented that ice skating does not pay for itself. He has researched this through many communities and said that Newton could very well succumb to "Skating at your Own Risk".
- 6. **New Business:** Newton North Track should be finished sometime this week. Four rubberized coatings were applied to the track.

Also there is a weed growth problem at the Auburndale Cove. The killer weed is called "Fanwort" and an herbicide would need to be purchased in order to stop it. A meeting was held at City Hall on how to raise the \$7,975.00 necessary to stop the weeds. On hand were Polly Bryson, Ward 4 Alderman, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Dan Driscoll of the M.D.C. and members of the citizen's group to save the Cove. The Commissioner will keep the Commission posted as to the status of the Cove.

December 16, 1991

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

PRESENT: Francis Rice, Chairman, Walter Bernheimer, Vice Chairman, Anthony Battista, Gwen Fineberg, Peter Johnson, James Mahoney, Russell J. Halloran, Commissioner, Robert DeRubeis Chief Supervisor and Faye Hays, Secretary

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE VICE CHAIRMAN, WALTER BERNHEIMER:

1. Minutes of the November Meeting were accepted.
2. Reports of Maintenance Program, Commissioner's Report of various meetings attended during the past month were distributed to all present.
3. Weed growth Ware's Cove on Charles River: Susan Regan and Kevin McNamara, abbutters to Cove attended meeting. Ms. Regan and committee met with Marty Sender, Alderman Polly Bryson and Dick McGrath at a Public Hearing at City Hall to discuss the "FANWORT" weed growth problem at Ware's Cove. Fanwort is a weed that grows very thick. You cannot get a boat with a motor through the weeds. Also there is no more flow of water through the Cove. The committee needs to raise \$9,000 to treat the weed with chemicals to stop the growth. Also, the chemical has been approved by the DEQE. The long term goal would be to dredge the Cove however, it is an extremely expensive operation.
 A meeting has been scheduled with Commissioner Bhatti of the MDC and members of his staff for Tuesday, January 7th, 1:00PM at the Cove to discuss a solution to this problem. Also being contacted are Alderman's Polly Bryson and Dick McGrath. The Cove is a valuable asset to the Community and Commissioner Halloran recommended to Susan and Kevin that they procure a funding source.
 The Department will keep the Commission posted as to the status of the weeds at the Cove.

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4. Budget Update: The budget will be presented to the Commission members at the January 27, 1992.

5. Ice Skating: 1991-1992 Recommended Skating Fees
It is recommended that the fee structure initiated by the Parks & Recreation Commission in 1981 at Crystal Lake and Bulloughs Pond and carried over to the Auburndale Cove in 1982 be continued in this upcoming skating season.

WEEKDAY FEE	\$.50 per person	(6-60)
WEEKEND/HOLIDAY FEE	\$1.00 per person	(6-60)

Children under 6 and adults over 60 are admitted free of charge. Due to the unpredictable weather conditions and the resultant limited skating that ensues during these times, season passes are no longer a feasible alternative.

The Commission voted unanimously 6-0 to accept the recommended 1991-92 Skating Rules and Regulations.

Discussion ensued regarding a "Skate at Own Risk" Policy that other cities and towns have adopted. Commissioner Halloran met with Alderman Basham, George Mead, City Safety Officer, Cathy Lester, Assistant City Solicitor and Bob DeRubeis, Chief Supervisor to discuss ways in which the community and the Recreation Department could work together so that skating at your own risk could become a reality. One of the determinations that was made at this meeting was that the Law Department would have to make a decision as to what the liabilities are from the City perspective and the public's perspective. Supervised skating is the exception rather than the norm. Of the communities surveyed, Weston was the only other community that has supervised skating.

The Department will keep the Commission posted as to the status of "Ice Skating at Your Own Risk."

6. New Business: Commissioner Halloran wished all of the Commission members a Happy Holiday and a Happy Healthy New Year.