

# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm January 23, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Kathleen Heitman, *Vice-Chairman*, Bob DeRubeis, *Commissioner*, Walter Bernheimer, Fran Rice, Andrew Stern, Peter Johnson, Richard Tucker, Peter Kastner, Jack Neville, Michael Clarke, Don Fishman Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary* 

Absent: Bethel Charkoudian

**Also Attending:** Carol Schein, Parks & Recreation Open Space Coordinator, Carol Stapleton, Recreation Manager, Tom Cahill, Aquatics Manager

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

## 1. Meeting Minutes -December 19, 2011- accepted 7-0

• (Mr. Stern arrived after the vote)

### 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance

- Department Snapshot- (attached)
  - Commissioner DeRubeis reviewed the department snapshot and mentioned the snapshot will be revised next month.
  - Mr. Bernheimer inquired if the year to date information and a comparison from last year would be included. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the Department Scorecard would be presented at the February meeting.
  - January 29<sup>th</sup> is the Camp Fair at NNHS
  - Vacation Camps are accepting registrations for February
  - o Tomorrow Commissioner DeRubeis will have a budget presentation. Possibly three Forestry workers may be added to the budget which will help the City to catch up with the tree back log. Mr. Tucker asked if Marc Welch would be the Supervisor for the crew. Commissioner DeRubeis responded yes.
  - The parks & square trash went to the Public Works Department. In exchange the Parks & Recreation Department is caring for all of the municipal lots.

#### 3. Crystal Lake- Swim At Your Own Risk Proposal- Deborah Fogel, 51 Lake Ave

- Ms. Fogel presented a proposal for a Swim at Your Own Risk (SAYOR) policy at Crystal Lake (available upon request). Currently there is authorized swimming in the bath house area during specified hours.
- Ms. Fogel stated last summer the issue was brought to a head with the constant Police presence at Cronin's Cove. Ms. Fogel and Ms. Karen Brae had both created a proposal for SAYOR, but decided to work together on one proposal.
- Ms. Fogel wants to work with the Parks & Recreation Department and supports the bath house but the bath house area and hours do not meet everyone's needs.

- Ms. Fogel supports the enforcement of laws for bad behavior and recommends the SAYOR policy be opened on a trial basis. The off-leash areas are a model for this proposal. Off-leash areas were not favorable in the beginning but they are working now.
- Mr. Matt Pawa, 72 Oxford Rd stated he is a Litigator and a long distance swimmer and the bathhouse area is useless to him. Swimming across the lake and back is about one mile and he can swim the mile during his lunch hour. Mr. Pawa will bring his kids to the lake while he is training. It is unpleasant and threatening when the Police are patrolling. The Commission may be concerned about liability but the City would be protected under the Recreational Use Statute as long as there is no fee for usage. The bath house area is not protected under the recreational Use Statute because a fee is charged for usage. There is also an equality issue. The 1929 Regulations allow abutters access to the lake near their homes, away from the bathhouse area, but no one else. The current system is not working and requests a public hearing.
- Ms. Fogel commented some of the supporters of this proposal are abutters of the lake. Ms. Karen Bray, 38 Stearns Street, commented she has been a Newton resident for 23 years and likes to take a quick swim at 5pm. There are 100's of signatures on the proposal, people should be able to make their own decision to swim at your own risk.
- Mr. Tucker asked about the list of communities on the proposal and the differences such as, fees, access, property, are the areas thickly settled. Ms. Fogel responded most of the listed communities are from the cape. The community's budgets could not support lifeguards.
- Mr. Fishman commented Morse Pond in Wellesley has a swim at your own risk policy only after the regular season ends.
- Mr. Rice asked Mr. Pawa why his kids cannot swim in the bathhouse areas. Mr. Pawa commented he takes his kids with him while he is training. Ms. Fogel commented not many children swim at Cronin's Cove it is mostly adults.
- Mr. Rice stated abutters can only swim 40' off their property. Kids should be in the restricted area; Mr. Rice sees their point but why risk the kids. Mr. Pawa stated the data does not show the children are at risk but the proposal could be modified to exclude children from the SAYOR proposal.
- Mr. Bernheimer asked if the proposal allows SAYOR 24 hours/day. Ms. Fogel stated only during daylight hours.
- Ms. Stapleton asked if the SAYOR policy is for the entire lake. Ms. Fogel stated yes.
- Chairman Magni commented the Recreational Use Statute does not cover death.
   Mr. Pawa commented the Statute will protect the City. A previous case were cited,
   McCarthy vs. The Town of Hamilton.
- Mr. Bernheimer asked if the proposal allows SAYOR year round. Ms. Fogel stated yes. Mr. Pawa stated the group is flexible on the time to swim.
- Ms. Heitman commented the proposal talks about SAYOR but does not address the
  dogs that go into the lake in those restricted areas. Ms. Fogel stated the proposal
  does not allow for dogs in the lake.
- Chairman Magni commented the dogs may affect the water quality, how does the proposal address water quality issues. Ms. Fogel stated the Crystal Lake

Conservancy has reported the run off into Crystal Lake from the dogs does create an issue. The people who swim at their own risk will have to assume the water will be safe.

- Chairman Magni asked if the water is not safe who would notify the people. Mr.
   Pawa said the City Health Department tests the water. Ms. Stapleton commented
   the bathhouse swim area, where the aqualator is located, is the only area tested;
   the City does not have the funds to test the entire lake. Ms. Fogel commented the
   issue would have to be worked out, but does not want to put an undue burden on
   the City.
- There are a number of issues in the proposal that need to be worked out. Mr. Tucker stated additional information is required to address the Commission perceived concerns before a public hearing is scheduled.
- Mr. Pawa stated the proposers are willing to do that. Mr. Tucker suggested they
  envision the worst case scenario, with a legal mind, and come up with some
  responses.
- Mr. Bernheimer stated research will have to be done on the impact of the fee
  paying side of Crystal Lake. Ms. Fogel commented the people who use the
  bathhouse usually do not swim outside that area and the SAYOR swimmers will not
  use the bathhouse area.
- Mr. Bernheimer asked of the list of Towns with the SAYOR policy how many are year round SAYOR. Ms. Fogel responded she does not know with the current information that she has collected.
- Ms. Fogel asked the Commission what information they are looking for; hours, water quality, money for testing, and no dogs. Ms. Stapleton asked how they are justifying kids to SAYOR.
- Ms. Schein recommends Ms. Fogel draft a proposal with parameters.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented Amherst which is on the list restricts children under 12 from SAYOR without supervision; Morse Pond in Wellesley is far removed, and not easy to access. Crystal Lake is an urban lake; young kids are generally not scofflaws, but if kids are walking down the street and see a SAYOR sign they will jump into the lake. The proposal must address parking issues, people dressing in neighbor's yards, etc.
- Mr. Bernheimer commented parking was a serious issue with the off-leash recreation areas.
- Currently the City has the Marcus case in the Supreme Court regarding the Recreation Use Statute. There is an issue because an administration fee was charged, not a usage fee.
- Mr. Tucker asked if a resident pays the fee at the bathhouse but swims outside the bathhouse area and if there is a tragedy is the City liable. Mr. Pawa stated no liability can be guaranteed. A vast majority of the constituents want SAYOR. Mr. Bernheimer stated that is an absurd comment.
- Chairman Magni stated the Commission needs a more refined, specific proposal for review. Chairman Magni suggested Ms. Fogel meet with Commissioner DeRubeis and his staff. Commissioner DeRubeis recommended Ms. Fogel meet with Ms. Stapleton and Mr. Cahill.

#### 4. Updated Field Permit Policy- Tom Cahill - Rescheduled

#### 5. Relay For Life – Informational (see attached)

- Sharon, from the American Cancer Society is requesting the use of Forte Park for its annual Relay For life event taking place on Saturday and Sunday, May 19, 2012, 9:00am through May 20, 2012 at 12:00pm.
- Mr. Tucker asked if there have ever been any issues at past events. Commissioner DeRubeis stated no, this is a fantastic program and they do a terrific job cleaning up.

Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to accept this proposal to move the proposal forward to a public hearing. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

# 6. Off-Leash Area Working group- Informational

- Forte Park & Weeks Park (available upon request)
- Commissioner DeRubeis presented the proposal for Forte Parks and Weeks Park.
   Weeks Park
  - Ward 6- 7 Hereward St
  - Heavily permitted
  - o 15 Acres
  - Currently used by dog owners with dogs
  - Fenced tot lot
  - Additional Mutt-Mitt stations
  - o Hours
  - o March 16- December 14: Weekdays dawn 1:00pm
  - No weekends
  - O December 15 & March 15: 7days per week dawn dusk
  - Parking
  - Lot & off street parking
- Forte Park
  - o Ward 1- 229R California St
  - o 6 acres
  - Heavily Permitted
  - Currently used by dog owners with dogs
  - o Hours
  - March 16- December 14: Open weekdays dawn to noon- closed weekends
  - o December 15 & March 15: Open dawn- dusk 7 days per week
  - Ample parking
  - Additional Mutt-Mitt stations
- Alderman Lennon requested the Commissioner reach out to Guy Forte and discuss the proposal for Forte Park.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented these fields are used heavily by the leagues.
- Mr. Tucker commented it is good news the # of dogs licensed has gone up. Can the
   P & R Department use these fees for the off-leash areas? Commissioner DeRubeis

- responded no, these fees go into the general fund. The off-leash permits fees and the \$50K donation is used for the off-leash areas.
- Mr. Fishman commented Weeks Park may be too close to the Cold Spring Park offleash area, Kennard Estate may be a better choice. Mr. Bernheimer disagreed; Weeks Park is not too close to Cold Spring Park.
- Mr. Fishman asked if it is time to limit the number of dog parks in Newton. Mr.
   Tucker commented there are more people in Newton than Brookline and Brookline has 12 off-leash areas.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented the public hearing will be scheduled after the February Commission meeting.

#### 7. Other Business

# Nahanton Park Management Plan – Carol Schein, Open Space Coordinator

- Ms. Schein summarized The Natural Resource Inventory and Management Plan completed by Mass Audubon in October 2011. The study goes beyond the Master Plan; there is a focus on Natural Resources. One of the recommendations from the Audubon study was to focus on the Community Gardens.
- The Parks & Recreation Department has cleaned out the gardens, opened the roadway around the gardens, in preparation for the 2012 growing season. Ms. Schein has mapped out the plots in the upper and lower gardens. A committee has been formed that includes Parks & Recreation staff and some of the Community Gardeners. The Community Garden Policy & Procedure handbook has been updated. There is a meeting on Wednesday January 25. Some of the issues include trash and abandoned plots.
- Mr. Tucker asked what the fee is for the plots and if there is a use it or lose it policy. Ms. Schein commented the fee is \$40.00 per plot and there is a new use it or lose it policy.
- Mr. Tucker asked if there was any discussion on fencing the entire gardens instead of the individual plots. Ms. Schein stated yes but a fence to surround the garden would cost a lot of money.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented the department is acting on the study as suggested by Mass Audubon.
- o Mr. Hillis stated the report was unfavorable to the farm using area 2 but favorable to the farm using area 1. Ms. Schein commented the farms new proposal looks like they would like to use area 2. The Farm would have to come before the Commission with the new proposal.
- Mr. Kastner asked Ms. Dore how many people are on the waiting list. Ms.
   Dore responded there are 27 people on the waiting list. Usually 10-12 plots turn over each year.
- o Mr. Clarke commented the report involves more than the gardens and the farm and the Commission should take a look at the entire study.

#### Kennard Estate – M.O.U.

 Commissioner DeRubeis thanked Jane Sender for her input as a member of the Kennard Trust Committee Member. A Memo of Understanding has been signed between the City and the Newton School Partnership for use of the building at Kennard Park.

- Commissioner DeRubeis commented going forward we should think of some ideas for usage of the Kennard Estate. This past week a resident met with the Commissioner to discuss the idea of having an apple orchard at Kennard Park.
- Ms. Sender suggested a new sign be made for Kennard Park and maybe start a Friends of Kennard Park group.
- Mr. Stern asked if the building is historical. Commissioner DeRubeis replied yes. Mr. Stern stated the building may qualify for CPA funding.
- Mr. Hillis commented the Parks & Recreation Commission must understand they lost control of this building at Kennard Park and the Citizens support the Commission to get the building back under their control.

#### 8. New Business

#### Annual Ethics Compliance

• The annual ethics compliance handbooks were distributed to the members for review and signatures.

#### Commission Elections

- Mr. Bernheimer nominated Mr. Magni for Parks & Recreation Commission Chairman. Mr. Stern seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
- Mr. Bernheimer nominated Ms. Heitman as Vice-chairman for the P & R
   Commission. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:47 pm Respectfully submitted,

Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

# Parks and Recreation Department Snapshot December 2011

Employee Attendence								
	Worker Days	Days Mi	issed	Power Indicat	or [			72%
		Leave	Vacation			- 4		
Administration (5)	105	25	1	75%				
Program (8)	168	41	4.5	73%				
Grounds Maintenance (15)	315	82	8	71%				
Urban Forestry (2)	42	17.5	0	58%				
	630	165.5	13.5	72%				
Customer Service Measures	5							
	Phone Calls	FAQ's Viewed	Total Inquires					
Administration	128	67	195	195				
Program	190	776	966				966	
Facilities	88	1	9	9				
Grounds Maintenance	24	3	27	27				
Urban Forestry	88	1113	1201					1201
totals	438	1960	2398		-		'	
Service Requests								
Grounds Maintenance				Urban Forestry				
								Avg. Age of
	Rcv'd	closed				Rcv'd	Closed	Comp. (day
School Dude	11	<b>y</b> 6		Pruning		11	0	na
				Removals		9	0	na
				Dn tr, lb, hngr		55	69	2
WebQA	3	3						
						Num.	Days till Co	omplete
				Removal backlog		239	280	
				Prune backlog		746	6587 (18 y	ears)
Financial Measures								
	Quant.	\$ Amount	-\$18,926	-\$150,627	\$40,06	55	\$824	\$39,310
Purchase Orders	12	\$ (18,925.83)	,			Щ.	3024	
nvoices Paid	260	\$ (150,627.28)						
Checks Processed	148	\$ 40,065.01						
Cash Processed	11	\$ 824.00						
Credit Cards Processed	230	\$ 39,310.00	II .	Invoices Paid	Check			Credit Cards
	661	\$ (198,930.87)	Orders		Process	ed P	rocessed	Processed
Program Attendance								
						TOTAL	ATTENDAN	CE 23253
						1010		

November 29, 2011

Carol Stapleton Newton Parks & Recreation 70 Crescent Street Auburndale, MA 02466



Dear Carol.

The American Cancer Society would like to formally request the use of Forte Park in Newton for its annual Relay For Life event, taking place on Saturday and Sunday, May 19-20, 2012. We would like to request the use of the entire park beginning at 9:00 a.m. on May 19 and ending at 12:00 p.m. on May 20.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is a life-changing, fun-filled overnight event that brings together 3.5 million people across the country to raise cancer awareness and funds for cancer research, advocacy efforts, education, and patient service programs. It serves as a celebration for cancer survivors, a memorial for loved ones lost, and a community rally to fight cancer.

During the 13-hour Relay For Life of Newton/Brookline, teams of 8-15 people set up campsites and take turns walking the track while enjoying music, food entertainment, games and more! Cancer survivors are honored during the event with a special ceremony, survivor lap, and dinner reception. More than 500 Luminaria (candle lit bags) surround the track and light our way through the night, each one in honor or memory of family and friends touched by cancer.

With your help, last year Newton and Brookline raised \$44,000 to fight cancer! We sincerely appreciate your past support and hope to have it once again this year to help us raise more than ever. Please contact me with questions or concerns. I can be reached at 781-314-2633 or gillian.baudreau@cancer.org.

Sincerely,

Gillian Baudreau

Community Executive, Development

American Cancer Society

43 Nagog Park, Suite #110

Acton, MA 01720

New England Division 43 Nagog Park, Suite 110, Acton, MA 01720-3426 p) 781.314.2600 / 877.655.4907 f) 781.314.2699 Cancer information 1.800.227.2345 cancer.org RelayForLife.org



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 202, 7:00pm February 27, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Kathleen Heitman, *Vice-Chairman*, Bob DeRubeis, *Commissioner*, Walter Bernheimer, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Andrew Stern, Peter Johnson, Richard Tucker, Peter Kastner, Jack Neville, Michael Clarke, Don Fishman (Alternate sitting in for Mr. Rice), Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary* 

Absent: Fran Rice

**Also Attending:** Carol Schein, Parks & Recreation Open Space Coordinator, Carol Stapleton, Recreation Manager, Tom Cahill, Aquatics Manager, Dori Zaleznik, MD, Newton Health Commissioner, Maria Rose, City of Newton, Environmental Engineer

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm

1. Meeting Minutes –January 23, 2011- accepted 8-0

#### 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance

- Department Scorecard (attached)
  - The Scorecard is available on the City's website. The Scorecard measures the performance of programs, maintenance of P & R lands and facilities and the sustainability of the community forest.
  - Mr. Stern commented the revenue for programs appears to be down.
     Commissioner DeRubeis commented it appears that way because of the way the money is taken in.

#### Other Business

- The four skating rinks at Newtonville, Lower Falls Community Center, Hyde Community Center, and Newton Centre are being taken down this week.
- The City launched the new website last week.
- There was a demand for additional summer camps at the end of June and the end of August. The department has added an additional camp for these weeks; the camp will be run out of the Emerson Community Center.
- The Maintenance Department has started working on the ball fields thanks to the mild weather.

### Field Permit Policy- Updated

- Tom Cahill, Aquatics Director has been working with the Law Department to update the Field Permit Policy. Mr. Cahill discussed the changes:
  - Groups must provide Insurance
  - Permits for PTO groups fund raising efforts must provide a letter of support from the school principal.
  - The permit will be available on-line as well as in hard copy.
- Chairman Magni asked if the Commission is required to vote on the new policy, Commissioner DeRubeis said yes. This new policy has made the process less convoluted and complicated.

- Mr. Stern asked if groups with participants under 18 must have insurance.
   Mr. Cahill responded yes.
- Ms. Heitman asked if a group has already submitted a permit will they have to re-submit the new permit. Mr. Cahill stated yes, he will notify all of those who have already submitted a permit and send them the updated permit.

Mr. Tucker made the motion to approve the updated field permit policy as presented. Mr. Bernheimer seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0.

# 3. Relay For Life - Public Hearing

- The American Cancer Society is requesting the use of Forte Park for its annual Relay For Life event taking place on Saturday and Sunday, May 19, 2012, 9:00am through May 20, 2012 at 12:00pm (attached).
- Notification of the Public hearing was mailed to the abutters of Forte Park on February 6, 2012. Chairman Magni asked if there were any abutters present who may have comments, issues or concerns regarding this event. There were no abutters present.

Mr. Tucker made the motion to approve the American Cancer Society's request to use Forte Park for the Relay for Life event, as proposed. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0.

# 4. St. Mary of Carmen Festival - Informational Meeting

- Chuck Proia presented the schedule for the St. Mary of Carmen Festival in July (attached). Mr. Proia stated there are no significant changes from last year. Last year the only issue took place during the procession, but the issue was addressed immediately.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented that Mr. Proia is very receptive and accessible to the community and to those who may have concerns about the festival.
- Ms. Heitman commented this is a wonderful event for the community.
- Mr. Proia commented the St. Mary of Carmen Society has become a non-profit organization and will be more visible within the community.

Mr. Bernheimer made a motion to move the request for St. Mary of Carmen Festival to a public hearing in March. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0. (Chairman Magni recused himself from the vote because he is a member of the St. Mary of Carmen Society)

# 5. Susan G. Komen- 3Day Event- Informational

- Jennifer Ricker, a representative of the SGK 3Day Event thanked the Commission for their support during the 2011 event.
- Ms. Ricker made the following requests:
  - We would like to request the use of fields at West Newton Playground & McGrath Park on Friday, July 27, 2012 from 9:00am to 5:00pm as a rest stops for our 2,000 participants (NOTE: Only approximate 100 to 150 people onsite at any given time). At West Newton Playground, we would create a Pit Stop with three 15'x15' non-staked tents for our staff and volunteers who will offer food, drink and medical attention to the Walkers who elect to stop. All food and drink are provided by the event. Nothing will be sold on site. In addition, we would place several portable toilets on the premises. Trash boxes will be provided to collect trash and debris. Once the site is a closed, all trash will be disposed of in our dumpsters located off-site.
  - We would also like to set-up a Lunch Stop at McGrath Park on Friday, July 27, 2012 from 9:00am to 5:00pm. This stop would include six 15'x15' non-staked tents for our staff and volunteers who will offer food, drink and medical attention to the Walkers who elect to stop. The food would be stored in a 24' refrigerated truck until served. All food and drink are provided by the event. Nothing will be sold on site. In addition, we would place several portable toilets on the premises. Dumpsters will also be placed on-site to collect trash and debris. The dumpsters will be removed following the event.
- Ms. Ricker commented the request is the same as last year. She has been in contact
  the Mayor's Office and Captain Mintz to work out the logistic details.
- Chairman Magni asked Commissioner DeRubeis for feedback from the 2011 event. Commissioner DeRubeis stated last years' event went well. There were no issues.

Mr. Stern made a motion to move the request to a public hearing in March. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0.

# 6. Crystal Lake- Swim At Your Own Risk Proposal- 2<sup>nd</sup> Informational meeting

- Deborah Fogel, of Lake Ave, appeared before the Commission on January 23, 2012 with a Swim at Your Own Risk proposal for Crystal Lake. At the January meeting the Commission requested a more detailed proposal addressing certain issues, such as enforcement, safety, parking, etc.
- Ms. Fogel presented an updated proposal (available upon request). Chairman Magni asked Ms. Fogel about the water quality issues and studies that have been done at Crystal Lake. Ms. Fogel stated the concerns of the study do not have to do with the swimmers, but the lake itself and she must defer to the Crystal Lake Conservancy regarding the studies.
- A Crystal Lake Conservancy representative stated the Conservancy is not taking a stand on either side of the Swim at Your Own Risk issue. Two years ago the Conservancy participated in a study to determine the health of Crystal Lake. The results from the study showed the main issues are:
  - Run off through the storm drains
  - What people put on their lawns and comes down the drains.

- Maria Rose, City's Environmental Engineer commented she assisted the Conservancy with the study and agrees with the above summary but must defer to Dori Zaleznik, MD, Health Commissioner, regarding swimming in the lake.
- Chairman Magni asked where the run off is located in the lake. Ms. Rose commented the run offs are located in the cove (Cronin's Cove & Levingston Cove) areas, not in the beach area. After a rainstorm the bacteria would be high in the cove areas.
- Dr. Zaleznik stated she values the study done by the Crystal Lake Conservancy, but that study does not apply to the issue presented tonight. The City does not test samples outside the beach area. Testing in the beach area is performed weekly during the swim season and the City has no intention of testing other parts of the lake. Water quality levels, for swimming, as instructed by the State, will only be tested in the beach area. The testing for the Conservancy was done at the same lab as the City uses, but a different type of sample testing is done. If a sample is taken too close to the shore or the surface there could be more bacteria in the sample. The sample taken by the City is taken off-shore one foot below the surface and two feet above the floor. The City has years of data and is comfortable with the water quality in the beach area but nowhere else in the lake. Bacteria multiplies quickly, if a sample is delayed getting to the lab the data could be inaccurate. If the beach closes it would be prudent others should not swim in other areas of the lake.
- Ms. Fogel stated she understands and is not arguing that point, and would somehow notify those swimming in the Cove area if the beach is closed.
- Chairman Magni asked Ms. Stapleton if the aqualator at Crystal Lake is used for the beach area only. Ms. Stapleton said yes, the aqualator keeps the water moving for about 275'. Dr. Zaleznik commented the aqualator is not a filter it circulates the water to prevent an algae bloom.
- Chairman Magni commented the proposal expects the police to enforce bad behavior but you also state the police are wasting their time trying to enforce the rules at Crystal Lake. Ms. Fogel commented they do not want a constant police presence. The Police should enforce bad behavior but allow people to swim.
- Mr. Bernheimer asked the meaning of the proposed rule that states people cannot leave the beach area. Ms. Fogel stated people cannot swim out of or into the beach area.
- Chairman Magni asked where people are going to change in the cove areas. Ms.
   Fogel said the people would change at the bath house. Mr. Pawa said most people will change at their homes.
- Mr. Bernheimer asked if the group has met with the Police. Ms. Fogel said no, but she has spoken with a few police officers.
- Chairman Magni asked if it would help if the bath house hours were extended. Ms. Stapleton said this is not what the group wants. Ms. Fogel agreed.
- Chairman Magni asked if this proposal was to accommodate the tri athlete swimmers, wouldn't extended bath house hours help. Ms. Fogel said no.
- Mr. Tucker asked if all the supporters who signed the proposal were swim at your own risk swimmers. Ms. Karen Brae said no. Mr. Tucker asked what the estimated number of swimmers is using the coves. Mr. Pawa said a couple hundred during the day.

- Mr. Tucker stated with the off-leash areas the users of the off-leash areas are selfpolicing, does your group have the same support. Ms. Fogel said she hopes they would have the support.
- Mr. Tucker asked if the group cares if the people in the water can swim or not. In the beach area people are constantly observed. Mr. Pawa said people look out for each other.
- Mr. Stern asked if there are any specific rules that deal with illegal swimming, are there trespassing fines. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the magistrate will not enforce the citation without an ordinance.
- Mr. Bernheimer stated if we try this experiment, permit sales will go down and people will use the lake when the bath house is closed and this will have a negative effect on the City.
- Mr. Stern asked where the boat dock is located. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the boat dock is at Cronin's Cove. Mr. Stern asked who uses the dock. Ms. Fogel said swimmers sit on it.
- Mr. Magni asked if there is a danger of boats and swimmers. Mr. Clarke responded the boats going into the water do not have motors.
- Mr. Fishman stated the numbers will increase outside the beach area and this will
  increase the danger to others. An example is his daughter, who wishes the bath
  house was open later, may decide to swim after the bath house is closed if the swim
  at your own risk policy is put into place.
- Commissioner DeRubeis asked who will enforce the rules. Mr. Pawa said the
  existing rule is a silly rule. Mr. Bernheimer stated an ordinance is needed before a
  new policy is put into place. Mr. Kastner stated fees and penalties should be
  implemented.
- Mr. Stern commented he is a lawyer and read the proposal. And his personal opinion after reading the two cases cited in the proposal regarding the Recreational Use Statute, is as follows:
  - o People will be endangering themselves
  - o If we approve this proposal we will be setting a precedent and next we will have a proposal for skating at your own risk, etc.
  - Law suits always allege the wanton, willful misconduct and reckless behavior
    of Cities and Towns. Even if the City is protected by the Recreational use
    Statute, all the facts must be figured out which incurs a lot of time and a high
    financial cost.
- Mr. Stern agrees the Alderman must create an ordinance to protect with credible enforcement.
- Ms. Fogel requested a public hearing. Mr. Bernheimer stated in his opinion an ordinance is required before the proposal moves on to the public hearing. Mr. Clarke agreed.
- Mr. Stern said it is the responsibility of the Commission to state a position on an area we control.

Mr. Fishman made the motion to establish a conference committee consisting of the members from the following groups; P & R Commission, P & R Department, An Alderman representative including an Alderman from Ward 6, Police Department and Law Department, to develop a policy for Crystal Lake. Motion passed 6-1(Stern)-1(Charkoudian).

# 7. Lyons Field Concession Stand – Newton West Little League (NWLL) -Informational

- Melissa Summer stated she was the concession manager for NWLL last year. The
  concession stand was certified last season and she has been certified to run the
  concession stand but the stand will not be approved by the Health Department as
  is. Currently on site are storage containers and a horse trailer. Changes need to be
  made. NWLL is proposing (plans attached) a permanent structure, which includes
  the concession stand, storage and a unisex bathroom that is accessible.
- Mr. Bernheimer and Mr. Stern commented the issue is do we want a permanent structure for private use on public land. Chairman Magni asked what an alternative would be. Ms. Heitman commented she has been to youth league events with her grandchildren and permanent concession stands seem to be the trend.
- Mr. Stern asked how many months the stand would be in operation. Ms. Summer answered eight month of the year.
- Mr. Johnson commented the structure would be a good size, without the overhang the building would be approximately as large as the room they were in (Room 202, City Hall).
- Ms. Schein stated a permanent structure cannot be built in a park without an accessible route. There has to be a less than 5% grade.
- Chairman Magni stated the proposal will require an ADA accessibility plan.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented he has met with the NWLL representatives and NWLL is aware they must go before the Site Plan & Review committee.
   Commissioner DeRubeis recommended NWLL meet with the Planning Department and John Lojek of the Inspectional Services Department.
- Mr. Clarke suggested the plan be revised to justify the structure, have a maintenance plan and a finance plan to afford the structure.
- Mr. Bernheimer would like to see a rendering of the plan with a view from Commonwealth Ave.
- Mr. Tucker asked what NWLL is doing this season waiting for a decision. Ms.
   Summer responded they have contacted a private vendor.
- Mr. Fishman stated there is a conflict of a privately run structure on public land; what is the agreement regarding land, etc.
- Mr. Stern stated the Commission must think of the precedent that is being set if this is approved.
- Mr. Tucker asked if the City benefits financially in any way. Ms. Summer said no.
- Chairman Magni requested NWLL come back to the March 19<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting with a revised plan.

#### 8. New Business

- Alms House Nahanton Park
  - Michael Clarke made a presentation to the Commission regarding the Alms House at Nahanton Park (The complete presentation is available upon request). Currently the building is used by the Public Buildings Department as a carpenters shop. Mr. Clarke would like the Commission's approval to go to the Historical Commission to have the Alms House added to the Massachusetts Historical Register.

Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to approve Mr. Clarke's request. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0

Meeting Adjourned at 9:45 pm Respectfully submitted,
Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

#### **Scorecard**

#### **Parks and Rec Department** Nette Vearly Goal Develop and provide a rich array of cultural, recreational and educational programs Keep total programs per month at or above their monthly average Keep total program participants at or above their monthly average Keep total program unique Participants at or above their monthly average Keep total program unique participants at or above their monthly average Keep total program revenue at or above the monthly average Men total Program Revenue Men total Program Revenue Men total Program Revenue Men total Program revenue at or above the monthly average Keep Work Orders received at or helps the monthly. Keep Work Orders received at or helps the monthly. 0 9794 12847 9794 56316 188276 . 685 1260 685 6898 37296 \$122,928 \$122,928 \$60,133 \$573,195 \$727,515 0 actities Keep Work Orders received at or below the monthly average Keep Work Orders completed at or above the monthly average 35 46 13 46 1032 0 13 208 0 154 94 0 154 200 411 148 148 72 1264 2629 0 376 1031 3392 6197 of Tree Maintenance requests inspected within 3 days. Keep % at or above the monthly average for Down tree, limb, or hanger requests inspected within 24 hours. Keep % at or above the monthly average of Tree Related Emergencies inspected and made safe. 98 100 0 0 92 Notes

November 29, 2011

Carol Stapleton Newton Parks & Recreation 70 Crescent Street Auburndale, MA 02466



Dear Carol,

The American Cancer Society would like to formally request the use of Forte Park in Newton for its annual Relay For Life event, taking place on Saturday and Sunday, May 19-20, 2012. We would like to request the use of the entire park beginning at 9:00 a.m. on May 19 and ending at 12:00 p.m. on May 20.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is a life-changing, fun-filled overnight event that brings together 3.5 million people across the country to raise cancer awareness and funds for cancer research, advocacy efforts, education, and patient service programs. It serves as a celebration for cancer survivors, a memorial for loved ones lost, and a community rally to fight cancer.

During the 13-hour Relay For Life of Newton/Brookline, teams of 8-15 people set up campsites and take turns walking the track while enjoying music, food entertainment, games and more! Cancer survivors are honored during the event with a special ceremony, survivor lap, and dinner reception. More than 500 Luminaria (candle lit bags) surround the track and light our way through the night, each one in honor or memory of family and friends touched by cancer.

With your help, last year Newton and Brookline raised \$44,000 to fight cancer! We sincerely appreciate your past support and hope to have it once again this year to help us raise more than ever. Please contact me with questions or concerns. I can be reached at 781-314-2633 or gillian.baudreau@cancer.org.

Sincerely.

Gillian Baudreau

Community Executive, Development

American Cancer Society

43 Nagog Park, Suite #110

Acton, MA 01720

New England Division

43 Nagog Paik, Suite 110, Acton, MA 01720-3426
p) 781.314.2600 / 877.655.4907 f) 781.314.2699

Cancer Information 1.800.227.2345 cancerorg RelayForLife.org



# SAINT MARY 77TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

# Saint Mary of Carmen Society

Frank Battista President

Michael Leone Vice President

Jason Pisano Secretary

David Annese Treasurer

Anthony Gentile President Emeritus

Charles Proia Festival Chairman

Roger Marrocco Festival Vice Chairman

Joseph Caruso Festival Vice Chairman

Mike Olivo Festival Vice Chairman

Tino Degisi Scholarship Chairman

Robert DeRubeis Commissioner Newton Recreation Department 124 Vernon Street Newton, MA 02458

Dear Commissioner DeRubeis,

February 12, 2012

Please find below the information requested in support of our permit for the St. Mary of Carmen Society Festival on the grounds of JoAnne C. Pellegrini Memorial playground.

The St. Mary of Carmen Society would like to again sponsor Fiesta Shows to operate a carnival & food vendors at Pellegrini Playground with the following dates & times.

Set-up - Carnival will arrive no earlier than 8 AM, July 9th to begin set-up on that day through Wednesday afternoon, July 11th.

The Carnival will operate:

July 11th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Wednesday)

July 12th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Thursday)

July 13th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Friday)

July 14th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Saturday)

July 15th - 1PM until 11pm - all activity ceases at 11:00PM and the carnival operator will be allowed until 1:00AM to begin the process of clean up and equipment removal, all activity to cease by 1:00AM, all carnival personnel to be off the premises by 1:30AM.

July 16th - Removal will commence no sooner than 8AM and conclude by 10PM July 17th - Final cleanup & removal will be finished by 12 Noon.

Entertainment for the festival will be as follows:

- Wednesday, July 13th 7:00 PM 10PM, The Legit Band(Pop/Event band)
- •Thursday, July 14<sup>th</sup> 6:00PM 7:30PM,

7:30PM - 10PM, Axminster (Local Rock & Roll Band)

- Friday, July 15th 7:00 PM 10 PM, Scabreeze (Italian Orchestra) legit Band (Ry Knowt)
- Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM 10:30 PM, The Reminisants (Oldies Band)
  - Sunday, July 17th 2 PM 5 PM, Afternoon Procession thru Street of Nonantum

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM, Seabreeze (Italian Orchestra) 10:00PM - 10:45 PM, Candlelight Procession to Our Lady's Church

(Adams - Watertown - Washington Streets)

Festival Chairman

Tax Exempt # 20-4035392

ST. MARY OF CARMEN SOCIETY PO BOX 95094 NEWTON, MASS 02495



# Saint Mary CARMEN SOCIETY 77TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

## Saint Mary of Carmen Society.

Frank Battista President

Michael Leone Vice President

Jason Pisano Secretary

David Annese Treasurer

Anthony Gentile President Emeritus

Charles Proia Festival Chairman

Roger Marrocco Festival Vice Chairman

Joseph Caruso Festival Vice Chairman

Mike Olivo Festival Vice Chairman

Tino Degisi Scholarship Chairman

Robert DeRubeis Commissioner 124 Vernon Street Newton, MA 02458

Dear Commissioner DeRubeis,

February 6, 2012

The St. Mary of Carmen Society will celebrate its Annual Fiesta on July 11, 2011 through July 15, 2012. This is our 77th anniversary celebration.

- Carnival personnel will be allowed to set-up no sooner than Monday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. All rides and booths are to be cleared off the field by Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> at noon. The Society will be responsible for the damages to the grounds. The Carnival operates Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, July 15th, 2011.
- All rides to be inspected by the State of Massachusetts prior to opening.
- Carnival personnel to meet with the Recreation Commissioner and Police Dept.
- Amount of rides & games to be the same as 2011.
- Closing time will be 11:00pm for the entire week.
- The operator will furnish certificates of insurance with the limits specified in the permit naming the city as an additionally insured party.
- All food vendors will be in compliance with the Board of Health requirements and licenses.

The St Mary of Carmen Society would like to again thank the City of Newton for its cooperation with this great community event!

Charles Proia Festival Chairman

Tax Exempt # 20-4035392

ST. MARY OF CARMEN SOCIETY PO BOX 95094 NEWTON, MASS 02495



February 2, 2012

Parks Commission Newton Parks & Recreation 70 Crescent Street Newton, MA 02466

#### Dear Parks Commission

This is a request for the use of the West Newton Park on Elm Street as a Pit Stop and McGrath Park as a Lunch Stop for the Boston Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure<sup>®</sup>. The support we received last year from the City of Newton helped our event to be successful. I hope we can return to your city with as much success this year as last

The Susan G. Komen 3-Day is an incredibly special event. Thousands of women and men will unite for three days, July 27-29, 2012, and walk 60 miles in a bold display of courage and commitment. It's a weekend of hope, as we honor lives lost, celebrate survivors, promote breast cancer research, and help bring breast cancer care to those who so desperately need it. 100% of the net proceeds from the 3-Day® benefit Susan G. Komen™ and fund innovative global breast cancer research and local community programs supporting education, screening and treatment. In its 30 years, Komen has funded more breast cancer research than any other non-profit organization while providing screenings, treatment assistance and social and financial support to women and families facing the disease.

We would like to request the use of fields at West Newton Playground & McGrath Park on Friday, July 27, 2012 from 9:00am to 5:00pm as a rest stops for our 2,000 participants (NOTE: Only approximate 100 to 150 people on-site at any given time). At West Newton Playground, we would create a Pit Stop with three 15'x15' non-staked tents for our staff and volunteers who will offer food, drink and medical attention to the Walkers who elect to stop. All food and drink are provided by the event. Nothing will be sold on site. In addition, we would place several portable toilets on the premises. Trash boxes will be provided to collect trash and debris. Once the site is a closed, all trash will be disposed of in our dumpsters located off-site.

We would also like to set-up a Lunch Stop at McGrath Park on Friday, July 27, 2012 from 9:00am to 5:00pm. This stop would include six 15'x15' non-staked tents for our staff and volunteers who will offer food, drink and medical attention to the Walkers who elect to stop. The food would be stored in a 24' refrigerated truck until served. All food and drink are provided by the event. Nothing will be sold on site. In addition, we would place several portable toilets on the premises. Dumpsters will also be placed on-site to collect trash and debris. The dumpsters will be removed following the event.

Safety is the number one priority of the 3-Day. All of our walkers, volunteer crew members and paid staff watch a mandatory safety video before the event begins. Participants are required to follow all safety rules and regulations of the event.

Attached is more detailed information about our event, beneficiaries, and insurance for your review. I will also be happy to submit a Special Event Permit Application, should that be necessary. If you have any questions feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from your department, and finding out what is the procedure for this request.

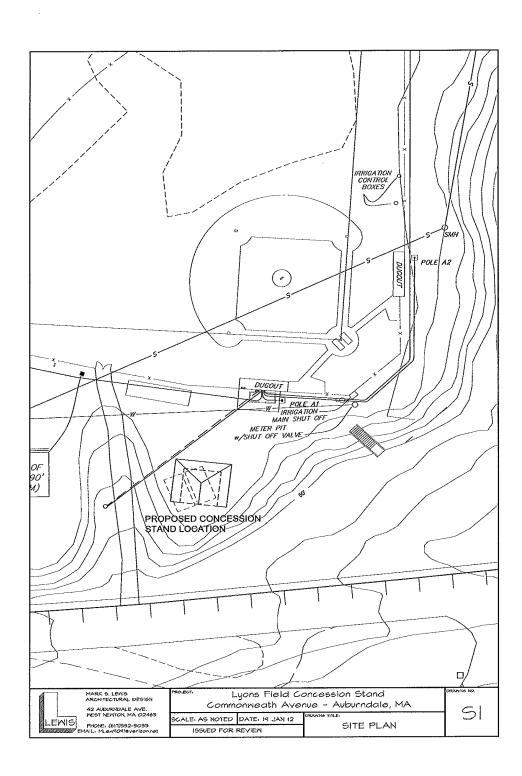
Thank you for your consideration,

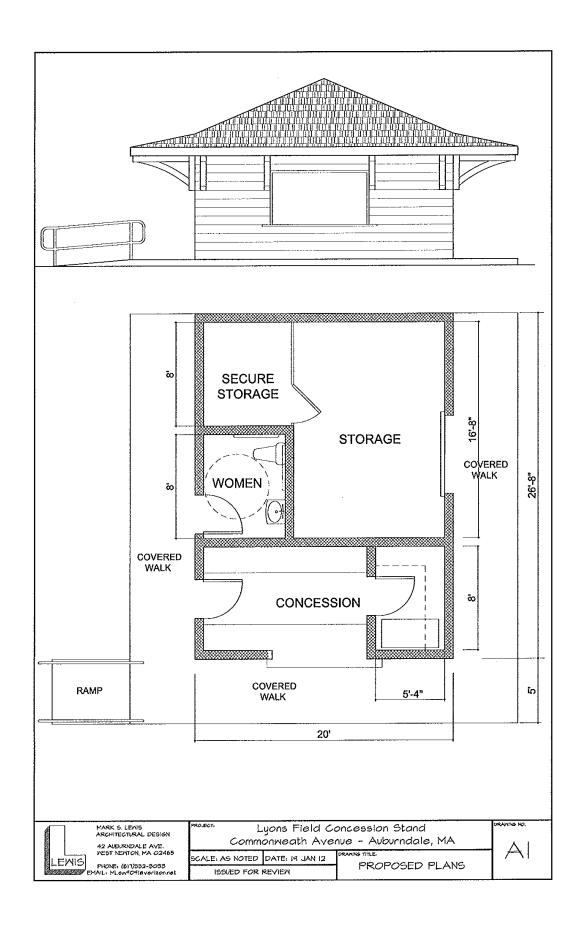
Jennifer Ricker Event Production Manager

Event Production Manager Phone: 215.966.1496/Fax: 888.373.6980

Email: jricker@event360.com

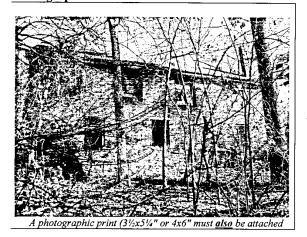
Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure® 205 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 2630 Chicago, IL 60601-5927 p: 800-996-3DAY f: 888-646-5823 The3Day.org



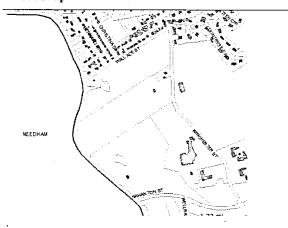


#### FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125 Photograph



#### Locus Map



Recorded by: Michael J. Clarke

Organization: Newton Parks & Recreation Commission

Date (month / year): February, 2012

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

| 83/035/003 | Boston, South | | | |

Town/City: Newton, MA

Place: Newton Highlands, Ward 8 (neighborhood or village):

Address: 525 Winchester St.

Historic Name: Newton City Home Toolhouse

Uses: Present: Carpentry Shop

Original: Toolhouse

Date of Construction: 1938

Source: Building Permit of 12/10/37

Style/Form: Utilitarian

Architect/Builder: City of Newton

**Exterior Material:** 

Foundation: Field Stone

Wall/Trim: Brick

Roof: Pitched, Asphalt Shingle, Wooden gutters

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

This is an outbuilding of the Newton Almshouse, which was destroyed by fire and demolition around 1976.

Major Alterations (with dates): Asphalt roof shingles, probably around 1998. Rear window replaced.

Condition: Fair/poor. Rotted gutters, broken floor joist,

minor fire damage, some masonary problems.

Moved: no X yes 

Date:

.

Acreage: 25.15 acres

Setting: Park/woodland. On almshouse/poor farm

landscape, now in Nahanton Park.

4/11

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

#### INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

ADDRESS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSIO	N
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS	0212

RD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)	Form No.

X Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.	
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form,	

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

#### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community. The City Home Toolhouse was built as a storage building, probably in 1938 (building permit 12/10/37)1 and is an example of depression-era public works construction. The one story, rectangular (50'x20'x30') building is unusual in that it has one foot thick brick walls and sits on a 12 ft high field-stone foundation almost 1.75 feet thick. The façade facing Winchester St. has a wooden door, a covered window, an aluminum garage door and another shuttered window. One of the rear windows has been replaced. The wooden gutters are largely rotted off and the cornices are also rotted.<sup>2</sup> A second, probably tractor, entrance in the foundation is boarded over with a wooden door now as the lower entrance. The grounds have a driveway supported by a thick, recurved, tapering, field stone retaining wall curving from the Winchester St. front down to the tractor entrance.

#### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

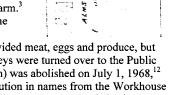
Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.



"On Monday, January 29, 1900, the inmates, sixteen in number, all in good health, were moved to the new building on Winchester St.... When we consider the fact that the grounds have been neglected for many years, the superintendent has been congratulated upon his success in bringing them up to their present condition during one season's cultivation." "It was erected at a cost of about \$28,500 and .. is heated by steam, has a laundry and drying room in the basement, and a gas machine to supply light for the entire building. A large barn stands in the rear of the house. The lot contains 25 acres, partly wooded, but with cleared land enough to supply the vegetables for the inmates and food for the stock."4 "It is provided with a large kitchen, laundry, dining room and 28 sleeping rooms for the inmates, also toilet rooms and hospital wards, the central portion

being devoted to the warden's house." The original almshouse was pictured in the frontpiece of a 1911 text on almshouses and set a standard for early 20th century almshouses.

The brick structure at 525 Winchester St. is the last vestige of Newton's supporting an almshouse that began in 1731, when a workhouse was established in Auburndale, and ended in 1964 with the closing of the City Infirmary. 6-8 In 1837, increasing land values coupled with the problem of unruly inmates necessitated the removal of the Auburndale Almshouse and Poor Farm onto 40 acres of land in the "backwaters" of Waban north of the crossroads near the present Angier School. For similar reasons, in 1900, the Almshouse was moved to a still more remote 24-acre site on Winchester Street, which had been purchased in 1890 for the Almshouse and Poor Farm.<sup>3</sup> The complex of buildings was operated as the Almshouse and poor farm until 1909, when the name was changed to the City Home. <sup>10</sup> In 1946, the name was again changed to the City



Infirmary. 11 During the entire period the land was used as the "poor farm" and initially provided meat, eggs and produce, but finally only produce for the inmates.<sup>3,7</sup> When the City Infirmary was closed in 1964, "the keys were turned over to the Public Buildings Commissioner." When the Newton Public Welfare Department (and Commission) was abolished on July 1, 1968, <sup>12</sup> the building and land were transferred to the Parks and Recreation Commission.<sup>13</sup> The evolution in names from the Workhouse to Infirmary and from Overseers of the Poor to Public Welfare Commission, parallel those of other New England almshouses, poor farms and overseeing institutions (see Timeline). 14,15 In 1843, Dorothea Dix used three examples of mistreated insane

Continuation sheet 1

#### INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

ADDRESS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s) Form No.

inmates from the Newton Almshouse to persuade the Massachusetts legislature to establish insane asylums. <sup>16</sup> The Newton City Archives contains three boxes of documents pertaining to almshouse and out-of-almshouse poor: 1) the reports of the Charity and Welfare Departments from about 1894 to 1965, 2) correspondence over approximately the same period, and 3) minutes of the Public Welfare Commission from 1946-1964. There are also two Alms House Registers, one for 1819-1859 and the other for 1865-1889.

The Newton City Home wood shop and toolshed was built on the site of an earlier smaller structure, which probably an ice house and was part of the original (1900) complex of buildings. <sup>17,18</sup> It is referred to as a toolhouse in the 1960 Sanborn map. <sup>18</sup> It is part of an historic landscape, which includes the foundation of the original almshouse, the City Home barn foundation, the Ranney barn foundation, a stone manhole, two unidentified stone structures proximate to the toolhouse, and a circular decorative planting area at the entrance to the almshouse. The Newton City Infirmary, as it was then known, closed in 1964 and the buildings and grounds were transferred to the recreation commission in 1968. <sup>7,13</sup> The original barn and piggery may have been destroyed by fire on 1/10/1956. <sup>19</sup> The barn appears to have been rebuilt in 1957 and razed in 1961. <sup>20,21</sup> It is likely that the almshouse was demolished 1976 following a fire. Only the toolhouse/carpentry shop remains.

The almshouse property is adjacent to the Jewish Community Center that was formerly another charity institution known as the Boston Diocesan (Xaverian Brothers) Working Boys Home, which was built in 1896 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. The Floyd House, which is a Newton Historic Landmark is nearby at 450 Winchester St. as is the 1850 John Veazie house at 383 Winchester St, and the Angino Farm at 303 Nahanton St. The adjacent Thomas Ranney house at 499 Winchester St., which dates from 1866, is also of historic interest to Newton. Consequently, the area including the brick toolhouse/shop and remnant landscape structures is a potential historic district. The almshouse toolhouse/shop relates to a substantial social history of poorhouses in the early twentieth century. 14,15

The building is at risk. Newton Public Buildings Dept., which now controls the structure has used it as a carpentry shop and related storage facility, since probably 1982, <sup>28</sup> which may reflect its prior use. The Public Buildings Dept. feels that it is unusable as a public building and would cost \$255,507 to restore including electrical, mechanical, plumbing, roof and building envelope repairs/improvements. <sup>29</sup> A 2011 Audubon Society report on Nahanton Park states that if an alternative use can be identified, it should enhance the visual appeal of the Winchester St. entrance and contribute to the enjoyment of park users. Alternatively, the building might be demolished and the land restored to a natural state. <sup>30</sup> As other almshouse buildings have been destroyed by fire, it is important to note that this last remaining structure is also susceptible to fire. *The building has accumulated a considerable amount of flammable trash; it is essential that this be eliminated, taking care not to discard any historic artifacts and possible records*.

#### Almshouse Timeline

- 1731 Vote to establish Workhouse
- 1734 Board of Overseers of the Poor established
- 1818 Poorhouse established in Auburndale at the former home of John Pigeon
- 1840 Almshouse & Poor Farm moves to 40 acres in Waban center
- 1880 Poor Department established
- 1898 Poor Department becomes Charity Department
- 1900 Almshouse and poor farm moves to 25 acres at 525 Winchester St.
- 1909 Almshouse becomes City Home
- 1929 Charity Department becomes Department of Public Welfare, Overseer becomes Director of Public Welfare
- 1938 Toolhouse/Shop constructed
- 1946 City Home becomes City Infirmary
- 1964 City Infirmary closes, keys transferred to Public Buildings Commissioner
- 1968 Dept of Public Welfare abolished, Infirmary land and buildings transferred to Recreation Commission
- 1976? Almshouse demolished, possibly following fire.
- 1979 St. Joseph's Noviate purchased by Jewish Philanthropies from the Xaverian Working Boys Home
- 1979 Easements on 32 acres of Jewish Philanthropies land provide basis for Novitiate Park

Continuation sheet 2

Complete Form B and Presentation are available upon request at parks@newtonma.gov.



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm March 19, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Kathleen Heitman, *Vice-Chairman*, Walter Bernheimer, Andrew Stern, Peter Johnson, Richard Tucker, Jack Neville (sitting in for Mr. Rice), Michael Clarke (sitting in for Ms. Charkoudian), Don Fishman, Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary* 

Absent: Commissioner DeRubeis, Fran Rice, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Peter Kastner

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm

- 1. Meeting Minutes February 27, 2012- accepted 7-0
- 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance
  - No Report

# 3. Susan G. Komen 3Day Event - Public Hearing

- The 3Day event is requesting the use of McGrath Park on Friday, July 27, 2012 from 9:00am to 5:00pm for a lunch stop. The Susan G. Komen 3Day event representative, Jennifer Ricker appeared before the Commission on February 27 for an informational meeting. The original request included the use of West Newton Playground as a rest stop, and McGrath Park as a lunch stop. The request for the use of West Newton Common has been withdrawn due to budget cuts. The request is for the use of McGrath Park only. Public hearing notification was sent out to abutters on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2012.
- Michelle Harper, Susan G. Komen 3Day Event Representative, is present to address any concerns or questions from the public.
- Chairman Magni asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns.
- Kathleen Heck, 32 Oldham Rd, commented she supports the event, but is concerned for the safety of the park users because of the tree debris caused by tropical storm Irene.
   Chairman Magni stated the information will be passed along to the Director of Forestry.
- An e-mail was sent by Joan McGrath, 1617 Washington St. supporting the event.

Mr. Johnson made the motion to approve the Susan G. Komen 3Day Event request to use McGrath Park for the event, as proposed. Mr. Clarke seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

#### 4. St. Mary of Carmen Festival – Public Hearing

 Chuck Proia, representative for the St. Mary of Carmen Festival appeared before the Commission on February 27, 2012 for an informational meeting for the festival that is scheduled in July. Public hearing notification letters were sent to abutters on March 5, 2012. Mr. Proia is present to respond to any questions or concerns from the public regarding the festival.  Chairman Magni asked if there were any comments, question or concerns. There were none.

Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to approve the request for the St Mary of Carmen Festival as proposed. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. (Chairman Magni recused himself from the vote because he is a member of the St. Mary of Carmen Society)

#### 5. Tennis fees 2012- Mike Lewitt

- Mr. Lewitt submitted the 2012 rules regulations and fees for the Newton Centre clay courts (attached). Mr. Lewitt stated the rules and regulations have not changed from last year.
- There are two modest changes to the fees due to court maintenance cost increase.
  - o Resident Adult fee went from \$140.00 to \$155.00
  - Non-Resident adult went from \$175.00 to \$ 185.00
- Mr. Johnson asked how many permits were purchased in 2011. Mr. Lewitt replied 9 non-resident and 88 resident permits. Mr. Stern asked if the fees are low compared to other areas. Mr. Lewitt replied yes.
- Mr. Stern asked if the courts will be open early due to the spring weather. Mr. Lewitt said no, the maintenance is scheduled for the end of April and the courts are scheduled to open May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Mr. Stern asked if the courts are under contract. Mr. Lewitt responded the clay courts
  and tennis lessons are included in one Request for Proposal (RFP). The City receives a
  percentage of the income from tennis lessons and the clay courts. The RFP is renewed
  every three years. The current contract was renewed about a month ago.

Mr. Tucker made the motion to accept the clay court tennis rules, regulations and fees as submitted. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1 (Bernheimer).

# 6. Lyons Field Concession Stand-NWLL- 2<sup>nd</sup> Informational Meeting

- Melissa Summer of Newton West Little League distributed a revised plan for a concession stand at Lyons Field (attached). Ms. Summer appeared before the Commission for an informational meeting on February 27, 2012. The Commission requested a revised plan including ADA compliance options.
- The Plan includes options for a handicap accessible path with two parking spaces. The
  concession stand footprint was reduced. The storage area went from 250 sq. ft. to 150
  sq. ft. The concession area and the bathroom cannot be reduced because they are
  following the Health Departments guidelines. A defibrillator is also being installed on
  the premises.
- Mr. Bernheimer suggested NWLL settle on a final plan. Mr. Stern suggested an operating budget including utilities and maintenance would be helpful.
- Mr. Clarke recommended NWLL present the plan to the neighbors before the Commission has a public hearing.

Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to schedule a public hearing for the Lyons Field concession stand at the May 2012 Commission meeting. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

#### 7. New Business

- **100**<sup>th</sup> **Anniversary** Mr. Clarke stated the P & R Commission's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary is in April. A celebration should be scheduled. Chairman Magni recommended celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary when the P & R Department has the open house for the new location.
- Alms House- Nahanton Park- Mr. Clarke will be appearing before the Historical Commission with the Alms house presentation on Thursday night.
- **Open Space Meeting-** Mr. Clarke reminded the members the open space meeting is Wednesday night at the Senior Center.
- Crystal Lake Conference Committee report— The committee was appointed by the Commission in February to have a discussion on the swim at your own risk proposal with the P & R Department, Alderman, Police and the Law Department. Commission member Stern was appointed the Chairman.
  - Mr. Stern reported the group met on Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. The first topic was establishing an enforcement mechanism. Ms. Lawlor stated the City is bound by a 1924 statue of a \$20.00 fine. The group agreed to seek a home rule petition. Alderman Danberg, Alderman Blazar, Marie Lawlor will work to create a home petition & update the City ordinance with a credible \$100.00 fine.
  - Ms. Lawlor also stated if there are changes to the P & R Rules and regulations the changes must be approved by the state wildlife & Fisheries Department.
  - The updated ordinance must also include language listing the consequences if a person does not show an ID.
  - In summary the ordinance is in process, the home rule petition is in process and the conference committee recommended establishing a working group similar to OLAWG (off-leash area working group) to discuss the issues.
  - Mr. Fishman attended the conference committee meeting and stated there was a good discussion with a police perspective and an Alderman's perspective, but the discussion touched on the issues a more detailed discussion is needed to move forward and make a decision.
  - Mr. Stern asked the Commission if a working group should be created. This is different from the dogs. There is only one lake and no neighborhood support and the different groups that swim in the coves will be represented, such as non-residents.
  - Mr. Bernheimer stated yes, it is best if the Commission participates in the process. Mr. Bernheimer recommends Mr. Stern meet with conference committee and report to the Commission.
  - Mr. Cahill, P & R Aquatics Director, stated what he understood from the conference committee meeting was the groups looking for options for more swim time. As the City of Newton Aquatics Director and the Chairman of Health & Safety for the Mass Bay Red Cross, safety comes first.
  - o Mr. Fishman stated the issue of insufficient swim resources is a big issue.
  - Ms. Heitman commented the bottom line is illegal swimming is life threatening, and until an ordinance is in place no changes should be made. Put the ordinance in place and build up from there.

 Mr. Stern commented he will follow-up with the Aldermen and the Law Department and facilitate a discussion.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:44pm Respectfully Submitted Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

# Lyons Field Concession Stand – Newton West Little League (NWLL) Updated Proposal to address comments/concerns:

#### Changes need to be made - as directed by the Health Department.

- We feel strongly that a concession stand is a convenience for families.
- The families of NWLL and other Newton Leagues have grown to expect this service.
- These changes include important safety measures and landscape beautification

# Benefits: Remove 4 temporary structures and replace with ONE:

- New structure will be ADA compliant (less than 5% grade) 2 options
- ADA parking will make entire park/cove area more accessible
- · Will contain an AED (automated electronic defibrillator) unit
- · Installed security system with camera
- Unisex bathroom clean and well-lit
- Remove concrete slab
- Compare to the stand at NNLL our proposed concession section footprint is smaller (160 SF vs 180 SF)
- Reduce "storage footprint" (from 240 SF to 150 SF)

#### Finance plan:

- Healthy Balance sheet (\$60K positive)
- · Secured financing from the Village Bank
  - o Paid off previous Village Bank loan of \$95k within a two years
- · Active Fundraising committee

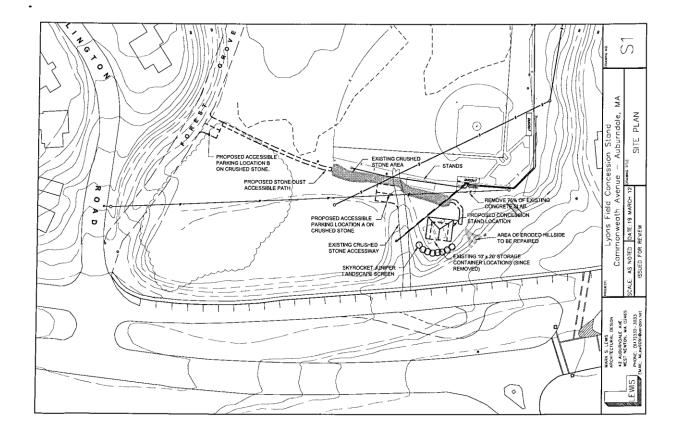
#### Maintenance Plan:

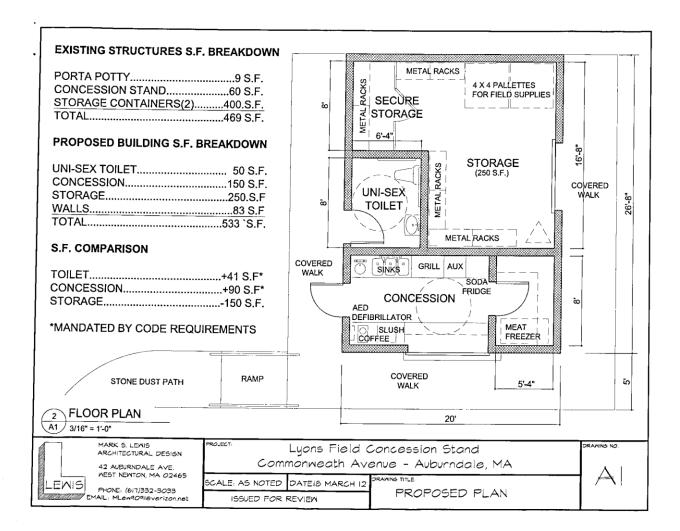
• We plan to fund the annual maintenance through league registration fees and fundraising

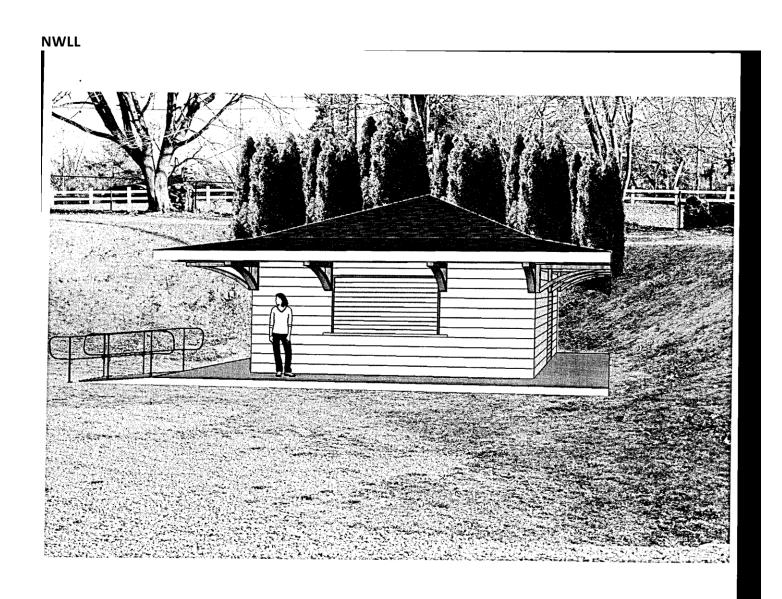
#### **Concession Finances:**

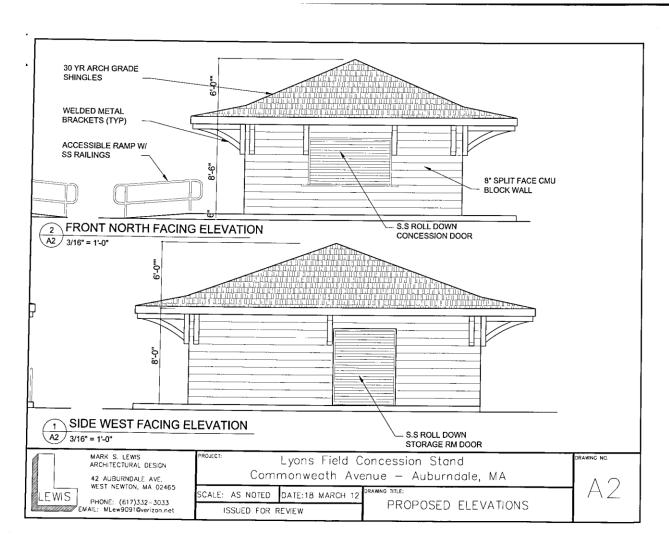
Net Income 2011: \$2080

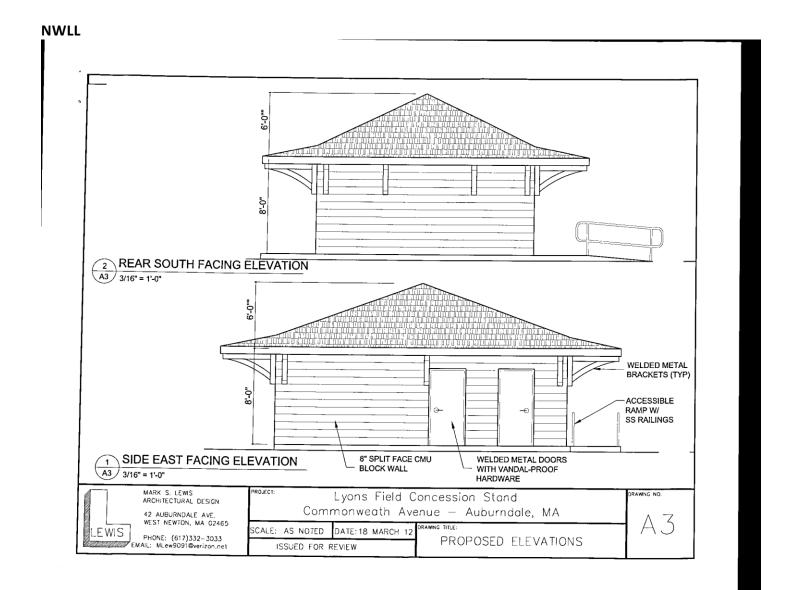
2010: \$3043











# **NWLL**

## **Construction Estimates:**

Site prep and Pad	\$2000 - \$3000
Landscaping	\$2000 - \$3000
Electrical	\$3000 - \$4000
Plumbing	\$4000 - \$6000
Security	\$500
CMU block walls	\$6000 - \$8000
Welded Metal brackets	\$1800
Railings	\$2000
Doors & Hardware	\$3000
Wood framing for roof/ceiling	\$7000
Food Service Equipment	\$4500 - \$5500
Stone Dust Paths	\$1500 - \$2000
Crushed stone parking area	\$3000 - \$4000
with wood rails (see photo	
attached)	
GRAND TOTAL	\$40,300 - \$49,800

#### **Tennis**

#### NEWTON CENTRE CLAY TENNIS COURTS 2012

- A) No Proposed Rule changes or Schedule Changes
- B) Two modest rate increases

#### All hours are subject to change. Permit holders reserve times:

Pre-season: May 1 - May 31

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 - Noon 3:00 - 8:00PM Sat. & Sun. 9:00 - 1:00 3:00 - 6:00PM

Regular season: June 1 – September 6

Mon. – Fri. 9:00 – Noon 3:00 – 8:00PM Sat. & Sun. 9:00– 1:00 3:00 – 6:00PM

 Post season:
 September 7 – October 15

 Mon. – Fri.
 9:00 – Noon
 3:00 – 6:00PM

Sat. & Sun. 9:00-1:00 3:00-6:00PM

Closed for daily maintenance Mon – Fri. Noon to 3:00; Sat & Sun. 1:00PM – 3:00PM. Regular maintenance times may change or additional maintenance times will be required occasionally and courts will be closed. SPECIAL EVENTS AND CLINIC TIMES WILL BE POSTED AT THE COURTS

Pre-bookings for Clinics and special events will be posted.

NON-RESERVED COURT PLAY: is on a strict first come first serve basis. Court changeover will be on the hour except where a doubles booking produces and open court at the half hour.

**SEASON PERMIT RATES** 

# SEASON PERMIT FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE (2 changes underlined)

2011 RATES

**2012 RATES** 

Resident Adult \$140.00 **\$155** 

Resident Student (under 18) \$75.00 No Change

Non-Resident Adult \$175.00 \$185

Non-Resident Student \$125.00 No Change

#### **Tennis**

#### **HOURLY RATES\*** (no changes)

Resident Adult \$10.00 Resident Student (under 18) \$7.00 Non-Resident Adults \$12.00

\* Non Permit holders, if courts are available – reservations are not permitted (Advance Reservations for Permit Holders Only).

#### RESERVE COURT PLAY:

- · ALL PLAYERS MUST PURCHASE A SEASON PERMIT OR PAY THE HOURLY FEE TO PLAY ON THE NEWTON CENTRE CLAY COURTS. Permits/applications may be obtained from the attendant at the courts during court time hours.
- · PERMIT HOLDERS WHO BRING A GUEST, (NON-PERMIT HOLDER) ARE RESPONIBLE FOR MAKING SURE HOURLY FEE IS PAID TO ATTENDANT BEFORE STEPPING ON COURT.
- · ALL PLAYERS MUST CHECK IN WITH COURT ATTENDENT PRIOR TO ENTERING THE COURTS. PERMIT AND DRIVERS LISCENSE MUST BE SHOWN AT THIS TIME OR GUEST FEE MUST BE PAID.
- PERMIT HOLDERS MAY RESERVE A COURT UP TO SEVEN DAYS IN ADVANCE. NON PERMIT HOLDERS MAY NOT RESERVE A COURT.
- · A PERMIT HOLDER MAY HAVE ONLY ONE COURT RESERVATION ON THE BOOKS A' A TIME. PERMIT HOLDERS MUST FINISH USING THAT TIME BEFORE THEY MAY BOOK ANOTHER COURT.
- · A MAXIMUM OF ONE (1) HOUR MAY BE BOOKED FOR SINGLES. ONE PERMIT HOLDERS NAME IS REQUIRED TO BOOK THIS COURT. A MAXIMUM OF 1.5 HOURS MAY BE BOOKED FOR DOUBLES PLAY. TWO PERMIT HOLDERS NAMES ARE REQUIRED TO BOOK THIS COURT.
- PLAYERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE A 1.5 HOUR DOUBLES BOOKING FOR SINGLES PLAY. IF ONLY 2 PLAYERS SHOW UP FOR A DOUBLES BOOKING, THEY FORFEIT THE LAST 1/2 HOUR.

ANY PLAYER WHO INTENTIONALLY OR REPEATEDLY MAKES A 1.5 HOUR DOUBLES BOOKING, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PLAYING SINGLES WILL HAVE BOOKING PRIVILAGES TERMINATED WITHOUT A REFUND.

· IF AT LEAST ONE PLAYER IS NOT PRESENT AT THE START OF THE HOUR FOR WHICH A COURT IS BOOKED, COURT IS IMMEDIATELY GIVEN TO WAITING PLAYERS. BY FIVE MINUTES PAST THE HOUR TWO PLAYERS MUST BE ON THE COURT, OR BOOKING IS FORFEITED AND COURT IS GIVEN TO WAITING PLAYERS.

#### **Tennis**

ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO SWEEP THE COURT AFTER USE IN A MANNER THAT IS APPROVED BY COURT ATTENDANT.

WHEN GATES ARE LOCKED, OR WHEN NETS ARE DOWN, NO PLAY IS PERMITTED AND NO PLAYER IS ALLOWED ENTRY INTO THE COURTS.

- ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A SHIRT ON THE COURTS..
- · ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO INTERACT WITH OTHER PLAYERS IN A COURTEOUS AND CONSIDERATE MANNER. YELLING AND USE OF PROFANITY ARE PROHIBITED.
- · ALL PLAYERS ARE REQUIRED TO ABIDE BY ANY DECISION TAKEN OR DIRECTION GIVEN BY THE COURT MONITOR.
- I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH RULES WILL RESULT WITH IMMEDIATE TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP OR PLAYING PRIVILEGES.

PLEASE NOTE: APPLICATION AND PAYMENT FOR THE CLAY COURTS ARE TAKEN AT THE CLAY COURTS ONLY DURING COURT MONITOR HOURS. PLEASE DO NOT SEND YOUR APPLICATION INTO THE NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT. YOU WILL RECEIVE A MEMBERSHIP BADGE AT THE TIME OF PAYMENT.



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm April 23, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Kathleen Heitman, *Vice-Chairman*, Andrew Stern, Peter Johnson, Richard Tucker, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Peter Kastner (sitting in for Mr. Bernheimer, Jack Neville (sitting in for Mr. Rice), Michael Clarke, Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary* 

**Absent:** Fran Rice, Walter Bernheimer, Don Fishman

Also Attending: Carol Stapleton, Recreation Manager

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

1. Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2012- accepted 8-0

#### 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance

- Commissioner DeRubeis thanked everyone for the support and well wishes while he was out the past few weeks.
- Budget report- Commissioner DeRubeis will be presenting the FY13 budget to the Programs & Services Committee on Wednesday, May 25. The budget format has changed to statistical analysis or outcome based budgeting. Commissioner DeRubeis reviewed the budget. The only cut from the budget was \$115,000.00 from seasonal wages. A three man tree crew has been added to the budget.

# 3. Nonantum Neighborhood Association-Lois Dominique

- Ms. Dominique is proposing the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Village Day run for the Nonantum Neighborhood Association on June 3<sup>rd</sup> (rain date June 10<sup>th</sup>). The police would be closing off Watertown Street from Adams St. to West St. The Association will be using the sidewalks, street, Coletti-Magni Park and Pelligrini Park. There will be Balloon Rides at Pelligrini Park.
- Ms. Dominique is following the guidelines used by the Waban Neighborhood Village Day.
- Chairman Magni asked if the group has applied for all the required permits. Ms.
   Dominique said yes.
- Mr. Kastner asked how high the balloon ride will go into the air. Ms. Dominique did not
  have that information. Commissioner DeRubeis stated there have been balloon rides
  previously in Newton Centre, but the Law Department should be contacted.
- Mr. Tucker asked if the Association has received any opposition. Ms. Dominique has only received positive feedback.

Mr. Tucker made the motion to move the proposal to a public hearing. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

#### 4. Crystal Lake & Gath Pool Swim Fees

- Ms. Stapleton stated Crystal Lake & Gath Pool will be open on June 11. The fees have not changed from last year. The fees are:
  - Season Permits are issued to residents only
  - Adults- 18 and up=\$45.00
  - Students(ages 6-17) & Seniors(ages 62 & up)=\$20.00
  - o Resident Adult daily fee= \$6.00
  - Resident Student/Senior daily fee=\$4.00
  - Non-Resident daily fee= \$10.00
- Chairman Magni asked if the fees go into the revolving account. Commissioner DeRubeis responded the swim lesson fees go into the revolving account and permit fees go into the general fund.
- Mr. Stern asked why the fees have not been raised. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the Executive Office requested fees not be raised.

#### 5. Policy Committee – Update

No update

#### 6. Vote on public hearing for Swim at Your Own Risk

- Chairman Magni asked if the sub-committee has made a decision on swim at your own risk (SAYOR) at Crystal Lake to guide the Alderman.
- Mr. Stern commented the sub-committee had met in February and reported to the Commission in March. The decision was made to create an ordinance before authorizing other lake use.
- Mr. Kastner stated the fine is a separate issue than the SAYOR proposal.
- Mr. Tucker commented the Commission is mandated to care for the property. If people were trespassing on private property the property owner would go after the trespassers. Even if a law suit is frivolous the process would still cost the City money. If we cannot stop the disaster we can stop the lawsuit. Mr. Tucker is in favor of fines, it is unacceptable to break the rules. The Police Departments hands are tied. The SAYOR proposal was presented by a tri-athlete we are not worried about him but about kids misbehaving and that would haunt us forever. The police do what they can, the off-leash areas are self-policing. Crystal Lake would have to be self-policing, they cannot avoid the responsibility.
- Mr. Kastner commented the sequence of events should be the ordinance and then the public hearing.
- Ms. Charkoudian commented the report from the Health Department was disturbing and a great concern regarding the condition of the water draining into the lake at the coves.
- Mr. Neville commented The Aquatics Director for the City is also a Red Cross representative who is against swim at your own risk. We should listen to our staff.
- Chairman Magni commented the irony of the 4 deaths at the lake occurred in the authorized swim area but what about all the lives that have been saved that we do not hear about. Ms. Stapleton stated two of those deaths were outside the authorized area.

- Chairman Magni commented he can embrace reform within the bath house area but it is hard to embrace SAYOR.
- Ms. Heitman commented the Commission cannot risk the environment, ecosystem, Crystal Lake being overrun with outsiders and parking issues in the neighborhood. Ms. Heitman is concerned about a person dying and does not want the responsibility of putting a person in jeopardy.
- Mr. Clarke commented the State should be OK with the recommendation of an increase to the fine. Mr. Stern agreed.

#### Motion #1

Ms. Heitman made the motion not to accept the proposal for Swim at Your Own risk at Crystal Lake. Mr. Stern seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

#### Motion #2

Mr. Stern made the motion to approve a proposed ordinance be formulated by the Law Department for the initial \$20.00 civil fine per violation. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

#### Motion #3

Mr. Stern made the motion to recommend to the Board of Aldermen they seek Home Rule Authority to increase the civil fine from \$20.00 up to \$500.00. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

#### 7. New Business

- Mr. Clarke stated the Historic Commission has submitted the Alms House at Nahanton Park to be included on the states register of historical places. The Public Buildings Department does not have a good use for the building. The Commission needs to develop a proposal.
- Chairman Magni suggested Mr. Clarke work with the Parks & Recreation Department staff to develop a proposal.
- Ms. Heitman announced she will be stepping down from the Commission. Ms. Heitman
  is retiring from her job and moving out of Newton. The May 21<sup>st</sup> Commission meeting
  will be her last meeting.
- Commissioner DeRubeis announced the P & R Department will be having an Open House On May 10<sup>th</sup>, 11am-7pm to celebrate the departments move to 124 Vernon St and the Commissions 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm Respectfully Submitted Robin McLaughlin, Secretary



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, War Memorial, 7:00pm May 21, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Kathleen Heitman, *Vice-Chairman*, Commissioner DeRubeis, Andrew Stern, Peter Johnson, Richard Tucker, Fran Rice, Jack Neville (sitting in for Mr. Bernheimer), Don Fishman (sitting in for Ms. Charkoudian), Peter Kastner, Michael Clarke, Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary* 

**Absent:** Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Walter Bernheimer,

Meeting called to order at 7:08pm

#### 1. Meeting Minutes -April 23, 2012- accepted 8-0

#### 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance

 Commissioner DeRubeis distributed the budget book presented to the Alderman, and reviewed current events:

#### This past weekend:

- 1. Hoops For Our Troops
- 2. Relay For Life
- 3. Veterans Day parade
- 4. Open Studios
- 5. Birds & Bugs Festival at Nahanton Park
- 6. Community Gardens -
  - Upper & Lower levels are rented to 90% all is going well
  - Compost bins built by volunteers, DPW picking up trash 5 bee hives on site
- 7. Charles River Canoe & Kayak is open

#### Coming Up:

- 8. Youth Awards- June 18th Commission Meeting
- 9. Mayor's Prayer Breakfast- Wednesday May 23rd
- 10. Update on Forestry crew
- 11. Job posted- RFP for equipment is out
- 12. Swim Lesson registration beginning of June
- 13. Over 55 Summer Programs & Trips beginning

#### Maintenance & Projects

- 14. Cabot Park Off-leash Area has been reseeded & will re-open on Friday May 25.
- 15. LFCC window project progressing slowly
- 16. Upper Falls Tennis Courts
- 17. Horace Mann Community Classroom-concrete poured-should be done this week

#### 3. Nonantum Neighborhood Association-Public Hearing

- Nonantum Neighborhood Association appeared before the Commission in April for an informational meeting for a Nonantum Village Day on June 3, which will include balloon rides at Pelligrini Park. Notification was sent to abutters of the neighborhood.
- Chairman Magni asked if there were any comments, questions or concerns. There were none.

Mr. Rice made the motion to approve the proposal by the Nonantum Neighborhood Association for a Village Day as proposed. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0.

#### 4. Newton West Little League (NWLL)- Concession Stand-Public Hearing

- Alderman Sangiolo commented there was a presentation made to the neighbors of Lyons Field on May 13.
- Ms. Somers, of NWLL commented on the following issues brought up at the neighborhood meeting:
  - 1. Having a building on park land.
  - 2. ADA parking within the park the proposed parking has been pulled from the proposal. All parking will be on the street.
  - 3. Sewerage NWLL is working with the Engineers.
  - 4. Landscaping- NWLL has doubled the budget to work with the City's Adopt-a-Space program to include appropriate plantings.
- Chairman Magni opened the floor for comments. All comments are limited to a three minute time limit and all comments be directed to the Commission.
- Jane Sender, 47 Kingwood Rd. and a representative of the Newton Conservators is against buildings on park land. Currently there are buildings in Kennard Park and Nahanton Park originally intended for park use which are now being used for non-park use. Ms. Sender is also concerned about the maintenance issue, being a low part of the City there are sewerage issues. The proposed parking on park land is a safety issue. If the Commission moves forward there should be compensation for plantings and not just decorative plantings but plantings to enhance the natural habitat.
- Sally Rudicel, 19 Islington Rd, commented eighteen years ago this was a neighborhood park. NWLL started small and now there are lights, loud speakers, increased traffic and now a concession stand, it is more like an amusement park then a neighborhood park.
- Ms. Abernathy of Islington Rd read a letter from a neighbor who could not attend the meeting. Ms. Rossi stated in the letter it is nice having the games at night. She is concerned with having junk food available to the kids.
- Mr. Abernathy of Islington Rd asked if NWLL really needs a concession stand. Port-a
  potties come in different styles, the money should be used for port-a-potties. A
  building for private use, on public land, is against what he knows of park land. Mr.
  Abernathy supports little league, but enough is enough.
- Amy, a direct abutter does not support parking on the Marty Sender path. Getting rid of the port-a potty is a good idea.
- Lisa, of the Fessenden School commented that NWLL has improved the park and they have been receiving a lot of backlash which is disappointing.
- John Fitzpatrick, 30 Eden Ave stated he has a son in the little league program. In regards to the junk food concern, there are other options of food besides junk food. All the improvements have been exciting for the kids.

- Tom Enselek, President of NWLL thanked the neighbors and commented the concession stand also includes storage and bathrooms. NWLL is trying to beautify the area and there are healthy options at the concession stand. There was an issue with the lights being on early this year for maintenance. There is a strict policy that the lights go out at 9:30pm.
- Galen Boyer, 305 Cherry St., seconded Mr. Fitzpatrick's' comment about what the improvements mean to the kids. The Conservators are concerned about what will happen to the building in ten years, NWLL will be around for a long time.
- Susan Regan, Kingswood Rd commented her family has all played little league at Lyons Field. And it has been a wonderful experience for the kids. Ms. Regan had a letter from her neighbor Alison Charmer who supports the concession stand.
- Rich Lee, Board Member of NWLL commented this proposal is about improvement, and safety and security are an added benefit.
- Chairman Magni concluded the public comment portion of the hearing and requested Commission member's comments.
- Mr. Tucker is concerned if this proposal is approved a precedent will be set that would be problematic with other leagues.
- Mr. Stern echo's Mr. Tuckers comment and stated if more structures are put in the parks will this limit the department's flexibility with future opportunities. The City will need to establish stewardship.
- Mr. Fishman stated the Commission is careful about permanent structures. Approval of this structure would not set a precedent. And as a father with kids on the field all day, this is a good idea.
- Mr. Johnson commented each proposal would be looked at on a case by case basis. Lyons Field is unique and likes the idea.
- Ms. Heitman agrees. This proposal is well thought out and would bring joy to the children.
- Chairman Magni asked if there is a maintenance plan. Mr. Enselek stated NWLL has a strong and healthy budget and the same process will be followed as with the lighting at Lyons Field. A contract will be signed with the City. Commissioner DeRubeis commented the license agreement would be done by the Law Department.
- Mr. Stern requested NWLL post a letter of credit.

Mr. Johnson made the motion to approve the proposal by NWLL for a concession stand as proposed. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-1 (Stern).

Mr. Stern made an amendment to the motion, Mr. Johnson seconded the amendment: A license agreement between NWLL & the City for use of the concession stand is condition upon NWLL maintaining a letter of credit for future demolition, landscaping and capping off of utilities. Motion passed 7-1 (Rice).

#### 5. New Business

- Commissioner DeRubeis reminded the group the Youth Awards will take place before the June meeting in the Aldermanic Chambers.
- Commission Member Heitman, Vice Chairman, is resigning from the Commission. Chairman Magni presented Ms. Heitman with a gift for her years of service. Ms. Heitman will be missed.

- A new vice-chairman must be elected to replace Ms. Heitman. Ms. Heitman made the motion to nominate Mr. Tucker as vice-chairman. Mr. Stern seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented the Off-leash Area Working Group is working with Newton Youth Soccer to locate off-leash areas.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented the vote to open the Braceland Playground offleash area being contingent on having a cross walk installed is more difficult than expected. A study must be done in the area before a crosswalk is considered by the Traffic Department. Ms. Stapleton commented the Newton Highlands Area Council is requesting the off-leash area at Braceland Playground be opened.
- Mr. Clarke commented a proposal is required for the Alms House to be considered for the historical register.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25pm Respectfully Submitted, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, War Memorial, 7:00pm June 18, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Richard Tucker, *Vice-Chairman*, Commissioner DeRubeis, Andrew Stern, Peter Johnson, Fran Rice, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Jack Neville, Don Fishman (sitting in for vacant Ward 8 position), Peter Kastner, Michael Clarke (sitting in for Mr. Bernheimer), Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary* 

Absent: Walter Bernheimer

7:00pm

The Youth Service Awards were presented in the Aldermanic Chambers. The following individuals were recognized with an award:

Judge Franklin N. Flaschner Award

Recipient: Philip S. Levoff

**Judge Julian Yesley Young Adult Award** 

Recipient: Michaela Regehr

Officer Robert Braceland Award

Recipient: Jay Sobel

**Irene Bickelman Junior Youth Award** 

Recipient: Emma Luce

Russell J. Halloran Lifetime Achievement Award

Recipient: Helen Murphy

Certificate of Recognition for Extraordinary Personal Action

Recipient: Kristin Luce

Commission meeting called to order at 7:45pm

1. Meeting Minutes -May 21, 2012- accepted 8-0

#### 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance

- Commissioner DeRubeis reported
  - The department is preparing for summer camps. The camps are full and two additional camps have been added this year to meet the needs of the residents.
    - Mr. Stern asked if there is ever an issue with kids not attending camp because they require a scholarship. Commissioner DeRubeis

commented all who apply for a scholarship will receive some scholarship money. Nobody is declined. Mr. Stern asked how the scholarships are affected with the addition of NCSC participants attending P & R camps. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the scholarships are not affected.

- o Gath Pool & Crystal Lake are open
- This past weekend 57 of the special athletes participated in the Special Olympics held at BU and Harvard University.
- Commissioner DeRubeis thanked the Commission members for attending the Youth Service Awards. This is the 34<sup>th</sup> year of the awards.

#### 3. Off-Leash Area Working Group-Informational (OLAWG) (presentation attached)

- Commissioner DeRubeis reported the group has been working with Newton Youth Soccer to locate additional off-leash areas. Weeks Park was presented previously, a representative from Newton Youth Soccer offered assistance in locating other areas. Weeks Park has the premier soccer fields for Newton Youth Soccer. Neighbors of the area also met with OLAWG. The meetings have been very productive meetings.
- Mr. Stern asked how the open off-leash areas are running. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the areas are running well. Currently over 900 off-leash permits have been purchased.
- Ms. Charkoudian asked the status of the dog licensing. Commissioner DeRubeis commented dog licensing has increased since the implementation of the off-leash permits. An off-leash permit is not given out without a current dog license.
- The following areas are under consideration as off-leash recreation areas. There will be meetings with neighbors of each of these areas over the summer and then possible public hearings with the Commission in the Fall.
  - Thompsonville (upper level)
  - NSHS –area near tennis courts
  - Forte park area near tennis courts
  - o Edmands Park

#### 4. New Business

- a. Mr. Stern requested Commissioner DeRubeis to explain the process of acknowledging landscape vendors who provide service to P & R green space. Commissioner DeRubeis commented the Adopt-A-Space program has a standardized sign for vendors who adopt and care for an area. Occasionally when a vendor is working at the site they may post a larger sign, but they would not be allowed to leave the larger sigh at the site.
- b. **Docks in Crystal Lake** Mr. Clarke would like the Commission to create a plan to standardize docks permitted on Crystal Lake. According to "An Act Relative To The Control of Crystal Lake in the City of Newton, Massachusetts Legislature chapter 243, Acts of 1924" the Parks & Recreation Commission,

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The City of Newton, through it 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Approved April 12, 1924

- A consensus was reached to establish a sub-committee to create a policy for docks on Crystal Lake. The members of the committee are Michael Clarke, Richard Tucker and Carol Stapleton, Recreation Manager.
- c. Crystal Lake- illegal swimming
- Mr. Stern commented that after reviewing An Act Relative To The Control of Crystal Lake in the City of Newton, Massachusetts Legislature chapter 243, Acts of 1924 he believes the Commission has the authority to request the \$20.00 fine be enforced for illegal swimming at Crystal Lake. Mr. Stern asked the members if the "No Swimming" rule should be enforced.
- Mr. Tucker commented there is no reason we should not give it a try but asked if the Commission should check with the City's Law Department.
- Mr. Fishman commented this is a political process; we should have representatives
  of the different groups around a table to talk through the issues. This is a simmering
  issue and the group should handle what comes up from a discussion. Similar to the
  off-leash issue.
- Mr. Stern commented this should be removed from the political process.
- Chairman Magni commented the off-leash issue is a little different. Swimming at your own risk is a life or death debate, there is more at stake. Chairman Magni believes having a fine will help.
- Mr. Clarke agreed but will the police sign on to enforce the fine without an ordinance. Mr. Stern stated the ordinance is not required, there is a law.

Mr. Stern made the following motion: For Furtherance of public safety for the City of Newton, the Parks & Recreation Commission requests the Newton Police Chief promptly enforce the 1924 Control of Crystal Lake Statute, Chapter 243. Motion passed 7-0-1(Rice)

- Commissioner DeRubeis recommended the Commission send a letter to the Police Chief.
- **d. Nahanton Park-** Mr. Kastner commented the Community Gardens are in great shape. Commissioner DeRubeis stated Judy Dore, Carol Schein and Robin McLaughlin have worked together on the improvements at the Community Gardens.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05pm
Respectfully Submitted, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

# Thompsonville Playground



- Ward 6
- Upper level of Bowen School
- Has a dedicated entrance
- Ample parking
- Fenced
- Closed Mon-Fri

  - 7:30am-9:00am 2:30pm-4:00pm

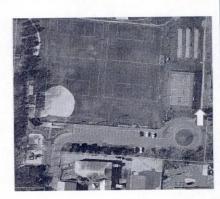
# **Edmands Park**

- Ward 2
- Heavily used by dog owners as an off leash recreation area
- Almost completely fenced
- Work toward shared usage
- Possible hours restriction
- Possible Seasonal usage



# Forte Park

- Ward 1- 229R California St
- Area on the right side of the basketball court
- Fenced



# NSHS – Tennis Court Area

- Ward 8
- Area by south side of tennis courts, unused green space area.
- Fenced



2



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, War Memorial, 7:00pm September 24, 2012



Attending: Arthur Magni, Chairman, Bob DeRubeis, Commissioner, Walter Bernheimer, Fran Rice, Andrew Stern, Bethel Charkoudian, Richard Tucker, Peter Kastner, Jack Neville, Carol Stapleton, Acting Secretary

- Meeting Minutes June 18, 2012 accepted 8-0
- 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance:
  - Department sponsored camps were very successful this past summer; in addition, there
    were new camps and incorporating of the dissolved NCSC camp. A meeting will be
    scheduled with Newton Public Schools on new inclusion items which will affect the
    Department's existing summer camps.
  - The Farmers Market has flourished again with both the Tuesday and Friday Markets and the introduction of a Winter Market at the Hyde Center.
  - The Over 55 programs flourished including ballroom dancing, pickle ball, Zumba, kayaking and Golf and the fall trips are filling up fast.
  - Other Department Fall programs include Horseback Riding Program, Fencing, Golf, Puddle stompers, Funtastic Fridays and the ever popular Haunted House.
  - The Newton North Indoor Program is scheduled to open on October 8th.
  - Paddy's Road Race to benefit the Special Athletes will be on October 14th as well as Harvest Fair which is held in Newton Centre on the Green.
  - The Commissioner noted that a copy of the Department's Fall Newsletter is enclosed in each member's packet as well as Department Flyers of all programs.
  - The newly acquired Forestry Equipment has arrived and is ready to go. Two of three positions have been filled to date. Northern Tree Service will begin to work on removals and stumps will be grinded out at a later date. Members asked that Marc Welch be invited to a future meeting to give a progress update on trees.
  - Swim Season at Crystal Lake was cut short by an early in the season algae bloom which forced a total shut down of the entire program on July 30th. The Health Department as well as the City's Environmental Engineer and the State's DEP continuously monitored the water. The bloom did subside for about one week but then returned and is currently present. The Commissioner also reported on the formation of a new working group for Crystal Lake issues. Combining representatives from the Crystal Lake Conservancy, The Friends of Crystal Lake and the Swim At Your Own Risk groups as well as representatives of the Health Department and Public Works and Engineering Departments. This working group is now meeting monthly with a focus on identifying the Lake's Watershed with signage and notices sent out to homeowners as well as tagging street drains. The Commissioner will keep Commission Members updated on the progress of the working group. Gath Pool had a successful swim season however the building itself experienced structural issues as well as the need to manually feed the pumps on a daily basis. The Pool

- also picked up swimmers from Crystal Lake all of August and a portion of September. The Commissioner also reported that he has placed Gath Pool into the CIP Program for a new facility. The facility as it stands today is 50 Years old and showing its age on a daily basis. We will begin the design phase and recommendations for a new facility and will keep the Commission updated on the progress of the project. He also noted that the City's Summer Swim Team numbers have topped over 250 participants.
- Off-Leash Working Group continues meeting weekly on Fridays. Braceland has now opened and so far has been well received. The group continues to work on Off Leash Area Specialist position with Human Resources and Police Department. This position would be able to issue citations if necessary as well as outreach at all off leash areas that are open for use. Over 1,200 medallions have been sold. The Commissioner also noted that there has been a report of a bite incident at Cold Spring Park and the Committee is awaiting a formal report from NPD. The Group is now working with residents of the Edmands Park area as Edmands is now in the cue for a new off leash area. The Law Dept. is presently reviewing the deed.
- The Upper Falls Heritage Day was celebrated on September 22nd and a grateful acknowledgment was received by the Department for the competition of the tennis courts, walkway, cross walk, benches, trees and work done in the parking lot.

#### 3. Poetry in Edmands Park.

- The Commission was joined by Mr. Grey Held and Ms. Wendy Drexler.
- This is the second meeting for informational purposes of the project. Mr. Held reported that they had met with members of the Edmands Park Friends Group and proceeded to hand out photos of the locations of the 20 sites in the proposal. Ms. Drexler also passed around samples of the recommended types of plagues that would be installed. Examples were of a hand painted tile, an etched granite stone and a stainless steel plate. Commission Members asked that if the project were to be moved forward to a public hearing that items such as a long-term maintenance plan, provisions for vandalism such as graffiti and a notation be made on each pillar of the WPA project be incorporated into the proposal. Members also requested that the project also be presented by Mr. Held and Ms. Drexler to the Newton Historical Commission as well as the Newton Conservation Commission for their review of the project. The Commission voted 8-0 to move the project to a public hearing with a date set when Mr. Held and Ms. Drexler are ready for a presentation. The Department will notify all abutters to Edmands Park of the date and time of the hearing. Another requirement of the project would be a review of all content on each plaque before any installation would be granted. Details of the formation of the Committee for the selection process would be discussed at the next meeting.

#### 4. Other Business:

- Kennard Estate: Commissioner DeRubeis reported that the sign on the Estate Grounds is still up and he is working with the School Department on this item. Perhaps in the future a subcommittee would be formed as to the future plans of the building and land.
- The Alms House: No discussion. Michael Clarke was unable to attend the meeting.

#### 5. New Business:

• Andy Stern reported that he had a phone conversation this past summer with City Solicitor Kahn and Assistant Solicitor Lawlor regarding Crystal Lake. He was informed that the Board of Alderman must enact a civil fine ordinance as a statutory prerequisite to the Parks and Recreation Commission being able to enforce it rules and regulations regarding illegal swimming in the Lake. Mr. Bernheimer suggested that, as a first step, Commissioner DeRubeis ask newly appointed Police Chief Mintz whether the Police Department would support an Aldermanic enactment of a civil fine ordinance.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Stapleton



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm October 15, 2012



Attending: Arthur Magni, Chairman, Bob DeRubeis, Commissioner, Fran Rice, Andrew Stern, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Richard Tucker, Vice-Chairman, Don Fishman, Michael Clarke, Jack Neville, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm

- 1. Meeting Minutes September 24, 2012 accepted 6-0 (2 members arrived after the vote)
- 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance
  - Paddy's Road Race took place on Sunday. The event was very successful, 2,300 runners registered; due to the rainy weather about 1,600 ran the race. Mark Kelly, Special Needs Director did a terrific job. Mr. Johnson commented he tried to drive into the CVS parking lot in West Newton during the event and the parking lot was full cars from event participants. Commissioner DeRubeis acknowledged that parking in the area is an issue and will be part of the discussion for next year's event.
  - The Harvest Fair also took place this past weekend.
  - Fall programs include; NNHS Indoor Recreation, Ice Skating and Horseback riding
  - Commissioner DeRubeis took a boat tour on the Charles River with the Mayor and Representative Khan to inspect the invasive plants in the river.
  - A dumpster will be placed in Nahanton Park near the Community Gardens. There is a group cleaning out invasive species in the park.
  - Judy Dore has an Exhibit of the history to the Farmers Market at the Jackson Homestead and Museum. The Exhibit will be at the museum through January. There was a reception last week that was well attended. Judy Dore is the key in making the Farmers Market a success, on the city level and the state level. Mr. Tucker commented he has attended the Cold Spring Market and was very impressed with the variety of items.
  - A winter Farmers Market will begin on Tuesday, November 13 at the Hyde Community Center.
  - Two, of the three, forestry crew has started working this week; a third crew member is close to being hired.

#### 3. New Business

- Commissioner DeRubeis commented the construction for the 911 memorial has begun at Fire Department Headquarters.
- Mr. Bernheimer's term is expired on the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) and another member should be appointed. Commissioner DeRubeis stated an alternate commission member can be appointed to the CPC. Mr. Clarke stated he is on the CPC representing Open Space, a different Commission member would need to be appointed to represent the P & R Commission.

Regulations for Newton's Waterways: The sub-committee appointed on 6-18-12 to create a policy for docks on Crystal Lake submitted its report. Mr. Clarke distributed a document (see attached) Draft Regulations for Newton<sup>1</sup>s Waterways. Mr. Clarke combined the current waterway rules from 1929 and updated the regulations with current information from the state and by looking at what other cities & towns do to regulate waterways. While the Control of Crystal Lake act of 1924 appears to give the Parks and Recreation Commission the ability to make rules for crystal lake, the state official (David Slagle, Waterways Protection Program, DEP) was not sure how to interpret the act, particularly with regard to docks and advised Mr. Clarke to see what other towns had done under Massachusetts 310 CMR 9.07(3), which requires that, if a town assumes regulation, all the waterways (rivers and great ponds) be regulated by the town. The state office also indicated that it was likely than none of Newton<sup>1</sup>s current docks (public and private) were in keeping with 310 CMR 9.07. In addition to the existing rules of 1929, 1992 and 2005 for Crystal Lake, Mr. Clarke also looked at the regulations of towns such as Concord, Sharon, Gloucester, Lowell, Newburyport and Harvard. Consequently, the Regulations presented include the Charles River, Hammond Pond, and Crystal Lake. At the suggestion of Schulyer Larabee (Crystal Lake Conservancy) Bullough<sup>1</sup>s pond (which is public, but not a great pond) was also included. The resulting draft regulations are very preliminary and will need the involvement of a number of other groups (Law Office, Conservation Commission, community groups such as the Crystal Lake Conservancy, and abutters) in order to be adequate. Mr. Clarke feels these rules are important to update and standardize for the sustainability of the waterways in Newton. The members present agreed and came to a consensus to move forward with the document and to begin involving other groups, such as the Conservation Commission. Commissioner DeRubeis suggested forwarding the document to the Law Department for review. Mr. Clarke commented the Conservation Commission and the State would also be required to review the document.

Meeting Adjourned 7:46pm

Respectfully submitted,

Robin McRaughlin

#### **Regulations for Newton's Waterways**

As indicated in Newton's Heritage Landscape Plan: 1

Water has been a common theme in shaping the land use patterns of Newton, and its importance to the community is reflected in three of the priority landscapes. The Charles River surrounds and defines the western half of Newton. The Charles was used for transportation, while also acting as an impediment to travel. Construction of dams, bridges, alterations to the channel and even water diversions are critical to telling the story of Newton and establishing a background for the selection of priority heritage landscapes. It is no coincidence that many of the parks and conservation areas in Newton are associated with waterways or water bodies, as are some of the remaining large tracts of privately-owned "open space."

The City of Newton endeavors to preserve the natural beauty and ecology of Waterways within its jurisdiction under MGL Ch 91 §10A and 310 CMR 09.07, and enable both recreational and commercial uses of these waterways.

#### **Definitions:**

City: The City of Newton

Waterways: The navigable waters within the City of Newton, such as Crystal Lake, Hammond Pond, Bullough's Pond, and the right descending portion of the Charles River, including all rivers, streams, coves, lakes, ponds and waterways made temporarily non-navigable by reason drought or seasonal weather or water conditions.

Harbormaster: The Harbormaster of the City of Newton duly empowered by the general laws of the Commonwealth, or any assistant Harbormaster duly appointed. This position is to be held by the Commissioner of Inspectional Services or his designee.

City Docks: The docks located at Cronin's Cove and the bathhouse area in Crystal Lake and at Nahanton Park on the Charles River.

Mooring: An arrangement of an anchor or anchor device made to affix a floating object to the waterway bottom. It may include chain and floating buoy to which a boat may be tied for extended periods. It may also include any type of anchor or ground tackle used to secure a float or docks

*Mooring Dock*: A floating section of dock that is affixed to the waterway bottom and not directly accessible from land and capable of tethering one or more boats.

Pier: A dock connected to land by a walkway.

Person: Includes individuals, corporations, associations, societies, partnerships, trusts and any other legal entity.

#### City Docks, Floats, Piers, Moorings, Landings and Shorelines

- 1. The City shall not be responsible for any loss or damage to boats or equipment at the publicly owned docks, floats, piers, moorings or landings.
- 2. Boat owners and operators shall be responsible for any damage caused by themselves or their boats when made fast to any of the piers, docks, floats or moorings, public or private.
- 3. Except in an emergency, no boat shall be made fast to any public pier, float, mooring or dock for a period of time in excess of posted time limits without the permission of the Harbormaster.
- 4. No boat shall be permitted to moor in Newton waters or to make fast to any public pier, dock or float, if the boat is determined by the Harbormaster to be unseaworthy, deteriorated, likely to cause damage to property, personal injury or which might become a menace to navigation. This shall not apply to boats in immediate distress as a result of a current emergency.

- 5. No person shall leave any boating or fishing equipment, fish or any other personal property upon any public pier, dock, float or landing for longer than is necessary to load or unload said property to and from any boat or vehicle.
- 6. There shall be no scaling or cleaning of fish or shellfish on any public piers, docks, floats or ramps, or adjacent public parks.

#### Floats, Rafts, Docks and Moorings.

Hammond and Bullough's Ponds: Permanent or temporary floats, rafts, piers, docks, moorings and walkways on the water are not permitted on Hammond Pond and Bullough's Pond.

Charles River: All floats, rafts, docks, mooring docks, or moorings on the Charles River must have a permit consistent with a notice of intent and an order of conditions issued by the Conservation Commission and a permit from the Department of Environmental Protection or the Harbormaster (in accordance with M.G.L. Ch 91 §10A).

Crystal Lake: The Harbormaster may authorize by permit the mooring on an annual basis of floats, rafts, and docks held in place solely by the means of anchors or bottom moorings (in accordance with M.G.L. Ch 91 §10A and 310 CMR 09.07) on Crystal Lake. The applicant must file a Notice of Intent and secure an Order of Conditions from the Conservation Commission and obtain approval from the Parks and Recreation Commission (under the 1924 Act Relative to the Control of Crystal Lake in Newton) before obtaining a permit from the Commissioner of Inspectional Services. Such structures shall be made of wood or materials having the appearance of natural native wood, shall not be more than 5'x5' and one foot high, and are permitted to be on the water from May 1 to October 15. Permits must be renewed March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year by request to the Parks and Recreation Commission, which shall forward the request to the Commissioner of Inspectional Services by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

City Docks: Exception is made for the City Docks, which may be of larger size, and are exempt from annual renewal.

#### Boat Operations in Ponds, Lakes, Streams and Rivers

The following regulations, in addition to applicable general regulations, apply to all fresh water ponds, lakes, streams and rivers within Newton.

1. Internal Combustion Engines - Restrictions. The use of internal combustion engines

is prohibited on Crystal Lake, Hammond Pond, Bullough's Pond and all waterways less than thirty (30) acres in size.

2. Use of Aircraft - No aircraft adapted to land on water shall be allowed to operate from or upon any pond, lake or river in Newton except upon an emergency basis.

#### General Rules for the Use of Crystal Lake, Hammond Pond and Bullough's Pond

- 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 Parks and Recreation 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 of abutters, their guests and servants on their own respective beaches.
- 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 lie down upon a bench or go to sleep thereon; or play any musical instrument except by written authority from the Newton Parks and Recreation Commission.
- 3. No person shall dig up, cut, break, remove, deface, defile or ill-use any building, structure, fence, sign, bush, plant or rock, or any other thing belonging to the City of Newton, or have possession of any part thereof.

- 4. No person shall-post, paint or affix any sign, notice, placard or advertising device; or, except with written authority from said Newton Parks and Recreation 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 ne st or eggs; or drop or place and suffer to remain any piece of paper or other refuse, except in the receptacles designated therefor.
- 5. No person shall ride or drive any animal or vehicle on the city reservation or the beach of Crystal Lake; or bring dogs to the lake except on leash.
- 6. No person shall refuse or neglect to obey any reasonable direction of a Parks and Recreation official or police officer.
- 7. No person shall throw, drop or place any waste paper, rubbish or refuse in or on Crystal Lake, Hammond Pond, Bullough's Pond or upon any public land bordering thereon.
- 8. 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.
- 9. 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.
- 10. No person shall, in or on Crystal Lake or upon any public land bordering thereon, have possession of or drink any alcoholic beverage.
- 11. 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.

#### Bathing.

Swimming or bathing is not permitted in Hammond Pond or Bullough's Pond.

Rules Regarding Swimming or Bathing in Crystal Lake.

- 1. All bathing in Crystal Lake will be limited to pass holders. The passes 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.
- 2. Each bather is restricted to one hour's use of the dressing room and bathing facilities in Crystal Lake, per day. A shower bath must be taken before entering the waters of the lake.
- 3. No person entering Crystal Lake from the bathhouse beach for the purpose of swimming may swim out of or otherwise exit the protected swimming area; nor may any person accessing Crystal Lake from the bathhouse beach swim in any area other than the designated, protected swimming area.
- 4. All persons bathing in the lake shall use the bathing facilities provided by the City of Newton. The fees for swimming will be set annually (in April) by the Parks and Recreation Commission. For exception read Rule 1.
- 5. 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 persons come in charge of children.

#### Rules and Regulations for Boating on Crystal Lake and Hammond Pond

Use of Crystal Lake and Hammond Pond for boating and fishing is permitted year-round from dawn to dusk subject to the following rules and regulations:

#### 1. Types of Boats

The following boats are permitted: Car top boats, including canoes, kayaks, rowboats, wind surfers and inflatable boats that have sides, oar locks and a rated carrying capacity of at least 300 lbs.

All persons using the above permitted boats must wear a coast guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) at all times. (see rule 7a below)

- 2. Types of Motors a. Electric motors not exceeding 3 horsepower or 30 lbs. of thrust.
- 3. The Following Are Prohibited:
- a. Jet skis, crew sculls, water skiing;
- b. Internal combustion engines on or in the water. (exception emergency vehicles)
- 4. Access Points on Crystal Lake
- a. All boats must be put in the water by hand carrying at the designated area on Cronin's Cove. Boats may not be put in Crystal 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.
- b. Outside of swim season, boaters may park in the Gil Champagne Bathhouse parking lot and put boats in by hand carrying to the lake through the adjacent park area.
- 5. Launching and Landing
- a. Boaters are prohibited from landing their boats on private property on Newton Waterways, except that the foregoing restriction shall not apply to abutters landing boats on their own property.
- b. 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.
- c. 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.
- 6. Parking
- a. Boaters may park in the designated zones on Lake Avenue at Cronin's Cove for five (5) minutes while loading and unloading boats. At all other times, boaters' vehicles must be legally parked in appropriate spaces.
- b. The maximum number of boats permitted on Crystal Lake or Hammond Pond in active use at any one time is limited to twenty (20) boats on a first-come/first-served basis.
- 7. 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)
- 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 and Levingston Coves.

- c. No person shall operate a boat or other craft that exceeds the recommended carrying capacity or recommended number of persons on board. Any person operating a boat in the aforesaid manner shall be ordered to remove such boat from the lake.
- d. No person under age 12 shall operate a boat on the lake, unless accompanied by another person (in the same boat) who is at least 12 years of age.
- e. Boating is not permitted inside the buoyed swimming area, the buoyed area surrounding the high voltage aerator or within one hundred and fifty (150) feet of the bathing beach. 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.)
- g. All boaters use the lake at their own risk.

#### Fishing

- 1. All persons who fish from boats, piers, floats, shore, etc. must have a valid fishing license as required.
- 2. Scuba fishing and spear fishing are prohibited.
- 3. Ice fishing or any other activity on the lake is prohibited at any time when the ice is determined by the City of Newton Safety Officer and Parks and Recreation Department to be unsafe for skating and is prohibited at all times in areas planed for skating.

#### **Skating**

Skating is not permitted on Hammond Pond.

No persons shall skate on the ice except on the Charles River, Crystal Lake, Bullough's Pond or any other Newton waterway, 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 deposit snow on any part of the reservation for skating, or within fifty yards of this reservation; or skate in the reservation when 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.

#### **Enforcement**

- 1. No person shall refuse or neglect to obey any of these rules when directed to do so by any official authorized to enforce these rules as specified in Rule 9(b) below.
- 2. The 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.)
- 3. The Director of the Division of Law Enforcement of the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Law Enforcement; Environmental Police Officers, and State Police are authorized to enforce applicable state laws, which may also include a \$50 fine for violations. (M.G.L. c.90B, §12, §14.)
- 4. 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 over-utilization of this cherished natural resource. These Rules will normally be reviewed annually in April at a formal Parks and Recreation meeting, and as deemed necessary by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

#### **Prior Rules**

The Rules and Regulations for The Government and Use of Crystal Lake (City of Newton Playground Commission – 1929) and the Rules and Regulations for Boating on Crystal Lake (City of Newton Playground Commission – 2005) are hereby amended and superseded by these regulations. Except as specifically set forth herein, these rules are not intended to displace or supplant existing law.

(1) Newton's Heritage Landscapes: A Community-Based Reconnaissance Report, Newton Planning & Development Department, Newton Community Preservation Committee 2010 <a href="http://www.newtonma.gov/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=30750">http://www.newtonma.gov/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=30750</a>



# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm November 19, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, Chairman, Richard Tucker, Vice-Chairman, Bob DeRubeis, Commissioner, Fran Rice, Walter Bernheimer, Peter Johnson, Don Fishman, Peter Kastner, Jack Neville, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

1. Meeting Minutes – October 15, 2012 – accepted 8-0

#### 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance

- Hurricane Sandy:
  - o The department received 975 phone calls
  - 50 trees fell on homes
  - o 182 streets were blocked
  - Urban Forestry Director Marc Welch and the new tree crew did a great job
  - Northern Tree, the City's tree contractor provided great response
  - NSTAR continues to be an issue- NSTAR did not show up in Newton until three days after the storm
  - There are two piles of debris. One at Rumford Ave and one at Eliot St DPW yard.
- The Indoor Farmers Market began November 13 at the Hyde Community Center on Lincoln St. The market will be held every Tuesday, 1:30 pm-6:00pm through June 18, 2013. There were some concerns from the local merchants, the issues are being addressed.
- The Craft Fair was a success over the past weekend
- Camp Scholarship year-end report- (attached). Mr. Bernheimer asked how this report
  compares to last year's report. Commissioner DeRubeis commented the report is similar
  to last year and the department is anticipating additional requests next year because NCSC
  has closed.
- Currently Recreation Manager Stephanie Lapham is working on the current playground projects; Underwood School, Emerson Community Center, Newton Highlands and Burr School.
- The Waban Hill Reservoir is being offered to Newton for possible use by the MWRA.
- Coming up: December Vacation Camp, Camp Fair on January 27 at NNHS, Skiing & Snowboarding registration
- Commissioner DeRubeis congratulated Mr. Fishman for receiving the Phi Beta Kappa award from Boston College. The award is given to an outstanding teacher who has positively influenced the BC experience.

#### 3. Crystal Lake Kiosk- Schuyler Larrabee, Crystal Lake Working Group

 Commissioner DeRubeis commented the Crystal Lake Working Group has had a very successful beginning. Action items move forward quickly. There are different interest groups represented but all agree the water quality of the lake is the priority. Signs have been posted to identify watershed areas and some of the sewers have been marked. One of the recommendations from the group is to install a kiosk at the lake to provide information to the public.

- Mr. Larrabee presented a drawing of the proposed kiosk (attached). The kiosk would be 4 sided, made of artificial lumber with a standing seam metal roof.
- Mr. Kastner asked who would incur the cost. Commissioner DeRubeis commented he has spoken with the Inspectional Services department and they do not need to be involved.
   The P & R Department would cover part or all of the cost with the swim lesson revolving account funds, depending on the price of the kiosk.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented he received an e-mail from Mr. Stern asking who
  would monitor the kiosk and the material posted to the kiosk. The P & R Department
  would monitor the kiosk.
- Mr. Kastner asked why the information cannot be posted in the bath house. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the bath house is not open year round.
- Chairman Magni asked who would maintain the kiosk. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the P & R Department will handle the maintenance.

Mr. Tucker made the motion to approve the proposal to a public hearing. Mr. Bernheimer seconded the motion. Motion approved 8-0.

• Chairman Magni stated the public hearing for the Crystal Lake kiosk will be held at the January 28, 2013 Commission meeting.

## 4. Relay For Life-1st Meeting –Informational, Sharon Stout

- The American Cancer Society would like to formally request the use of Forte Park in Newton for its annual Relay for Life event, taking place on Saturday and Sunday June 1st & 2<sup>nd</sup> 2013. The request is for use of the entire park beginning at 11:00 am on June 1<sup>st</sup> ending at 10:00 am on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The event itself will run from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented this is a terrific event and the department has never received any complaints about the event.

Mr. Johnson made the motion to approve the proposal for a public hearing. Mr. Kastner seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

Chairman Magni stated the public hearing will be held at the December 17, 2012
 Commission meeting.

#### 5. CPC Appointment

- Mr. Bernheimer stated he has been a member of the Community Preservation Committee (CPC), as a representative of the P & R Commission, and his term has expired. This is a worthwhile committee; there is approximately \$3million/year to spend on historic preservation, open space, and affordable housing. The Commission needs to appoint a member to the committee.
- Mr. Kastner asked what is involved in being a member to the CPC. Mr. Bernheimer stated the meetings are once/month, occasionally there are special meetings. There are materials to read prior to the meetings. Mr. Bernheimer stated he has enjoyed being on the CPC. The CPC actually gets things done.

 Mr. Fishman volunteered to take the position on the CPC representing the P & R Commission.

## 6. Outdoor Ice Skating Rules & Regulations-

- Commissioner DeRubeis presented the Outdoor Ice Skating Rules & Regulations for the 2012-2013 seasons (attached). There are no changes from last year.
- Commissioner DeRubeis commented the water chestnuts along the Charles River, near the Auburndale Cove are growing out of control. The State must make a push to get the water chestnuts under control and then the City could maintain the area.
- Several of the villages have sponsored outdoor ice skating rinks; Newton Centre, Newton Highlands, Lower Falls and Newtonville.

Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to accept the 2012-2013 outdoor ice skating rules as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.

#### 7. New Business

No New business

Meeting Adjourned 7:59pm Respectfully submitted, Robin McLaughlin

# SETTI D. WARREN MAYOR

# NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

124 Vernon St, Newton, MA 02458 Office: (617) 796-1500/Fax: (617) 796-1512 TDD/TTY: (617) 796-1089 parks@newtonma.gov



October 2012

To: Commissioner DeRubeis and Kathy

From: Stephanie Lapham, Recreation Manager

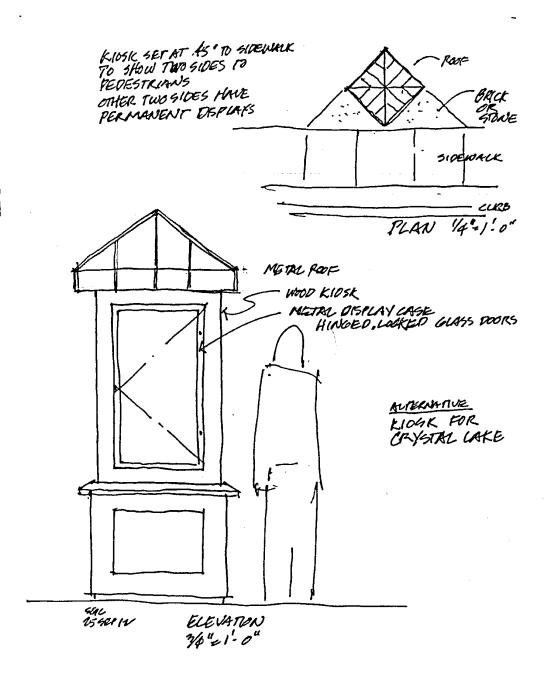
Newton Parks and Recreation Department Scholarship – 2012 Final Report

Money available for the summer of 2012 was \$64,786.00. The number of applicants increased from 2011 to 2012 by 28 with a total of 90 in 2012. This was due in part of a partnership with Newton Community Service Center where we provided camp opportunity and scholarship to 22 participants. Of the 90, 85 applicants accepted the scholarship at a total of \$55,999.00 and attended camp some going to two or more of our camps. The remaining 5 applicants did not qualify or declined our offering and did not attend. The amount awarded to each participant was based on need and number of weeks attending camp. Every applicant whom applied was awarded approximately 80% in scholarship per week toward their tuition. Below please note the list of camp offerings, scholarships awarded to each with the amount, and the amount of money raised by each camp for the scholarship program.

•		Amount awarded	Amount raised	<u>Difference</u>
Camp	#of scholarship awarded	\$14.239.00	\$ 4,235.00	\$10,004.00
Albemarle Acres	34		\$ 1,310.00	\$ 1,122.00
Acres in the Falls	10	\$ 2,432.00	\$ 2,280.00	\$ 4,543.00
Auburndale Station	13	\$ 6,823.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 6,462.00
Camp Brunen Brook	15	\$ 8,962.00		\$ (1,015.00)
Camp Echo Bridge	3	\$ 2,955.00	\$ 3,970.00	\$10,368.00
Centre Acres	27	\$14,718.00	\$ 4,350.00	\$ 720.00
CIT Albemarle	2	\$ 900.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 720.00 \$ 675.00
	2	<b>\$</b> 910.00	\$ 235.00	-
CIT Echo Bridge	5	\$ 800.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 250.00
Extreme/Outdoor Advents	те э	\$ 1,890.00	\$ 1,155.00	\$ 735.00
Kids Korner	1	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,055.00	\$ (755.00)
Thundercats	1	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,845.00	\$ (1,845.00)
T-Ville Trails	U	\$ 200.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Funtastic Summer	2 .	\$ 200.00 \$ 670.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Newton Adventure Camp	8	•	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Vacation Camp at Burr Pa	<u>ırk 2 </u>	\$ 200.00	\$23,375.00	\$32,624.00
Totals	127	\$55,999.00	0.00 د ، د ودعه	- · - <b>,</b> · · ·

Please note that the money in the difference line should be awarded to the individual camps or the scholarship fund as noted. A positive number means that the amount of scholarship awarded exceeds the amount the camp made with the \$5.00 per person, therefore the dollar amount as indicated should be put into the camp account. Any amount with a negative () dollar amount means the amount raised exceeds the amount awarded for scholarship and this money should be taken from the camp account and put into the scholarship account.

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# NEWTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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#### **OUTDOOR SKATING**

#### 2012 - 2013

The following standards are used in determining sufficient ice thickness for safe skating:

Auburndale – Ware's Cove Newtonville – Bullough's Pond 6" Black Ice, 6" Black Ice,

9" Snow Ice 9" Snow Ice

Newton Centre - Crystal Lake

\*\*6" Black Ice,

9" Snow Ice

vewton centre - crystal band

Note: Due to the varying water depths, unevenness of freezing, and an inability to contain the skating areas, the entire Lake must be frozen in order for safe skating to occur.

\*\*Black Ice is formed by the freezing of water without a snowcap on it; thus creating a non-porous ice that is strong in consistency. Snow Ice is formed when a snow covers, over a thin layer of black ice melts and re-freezes to form a white porous ice.

#### HOURS OF OPERATION

1. At the outset of the coming skating season, it is recommended that the hours of operation for Auburndale Cove, be as follows:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

3:00 - 9:00 PM

Tuesday

2:00 - 9:00 PM

Saturday, Sunday, Holidays\*, Vacations

10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

2. At the outset of the coming skating season, it is recommended that the hours of operation for Bullough's Pond and Crystal Lake be as follows:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday

3:00 - Dusk

Tuesday

2:00 - Dusk

Saturday, Sunday, Holidays\*, Vacations

10:00 AM - Dusk

If attendance does not warrant keeping the facility or facilities open during operation hours, it is then
recommended that a cutback of program hours be instituted on an as needed basis with Managers approval.

\*HOLIDAYS: Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day and President's Day. The facilities will open for regular vacation hours only if we are able to procure adequate staff for safe operation. If the facilities will be closed, notification will be made to the Public and Safety Personnel at least 24 hours in advance. Exception: All facilities will close at 5:00 PM on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve.

Fees are no longer charged for outdoor skating as per recommendation of the City's Law Department (2/5/92)

COMMISSION

WARD 1 – BETHEL CHARKOUDIAN WARD 2 – ARTHUR MAGNI, CHAIRMAN WARD 3 – PETER JOHNSON WARD 4 - FRANCIS J. RICE WARD 5 - WALTER S. BERNHEIMER II WARD 6 - ANDREW STERN WARD 7 – RICHARD TUCKER, VICE-CHAIR WARD 8 – DONALD FISHMAN SECRETARY-ROBIN MCLAUGHLIN

ALTERNATES: MICHAEL CLARKE, JOE FRASSICA, PETER KASTNER, JACK NEVILLE,

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# Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm December 17, 2012



**Attending:** Arthur Magni, Chairman, Richard Tucker, Vice-Chairman, Bob DeRubeis, Commissioner, Fran Rice, Walter Bernheimer, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Peter Johnson, Andrew Stern, Don Fishman, Peter Kastner, Jack Neville, Michael Clarke, Joe Frassica, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:01pm

Chairman Magni introduced Joe Frassica, alternate member from Ward 8

1. Meeting Minutes – November 19, 2012 – accepted 8-0

#### 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance

- What's going on:
  - December Vacation Camp next week
  - NNHS Indoor Recreation
- Forestry Update- the new crew is doing a great job; the process to hire the third person is on-going. Marc Welch, the Urban Forestry Director has identified 600 trees for removal, 125 of the worst will be removed this month.
- Budget first meeting with Executive Office today, Commissioner DeRubeis will keep the Commission updated.
- Off-leash Area Working Group The plan for 2012 was to establish 2-4 additional areas. That has not happened; there have been issues with a few of the open areas and the group has been addressing the issues.
- Projects Playgrounds- Underwood, Emerson, Highlands, Burr
- Coming up in winter 2013:
  - NSHS Indoor Recreation
  - Skiing/snowboarding
  - Camp Fair- January 27
- The outdoor rinks in Newton Centre, Lower Falls, and Newton Highlands have license agreements being reviewed by the Law Dept. At this time, the Newtonville group has not submitted a license agreement for review.

## 3. Relay For Life-2nd Meeting -Public Hearing, Sharon Stout

 The P & R Commission received an e-mail regarding noise and parking issues during the Relay for Life event. There was no representative for the Relay for Life event in attendance. There were no abutters of Forte Park in attendance. The Commission held this item for the January 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### 4. Nahanton Park - Temporary Fire Station location

• Commissioner DeRubeis, Chairman Magni and Robert Rooney met with the Friends of Nahanton Park (Friends) last week. The Friends, in order to allow the temporary fire station at Nahanton Park, requested a conservation restriction on the park once the

temporary fire station left the park. The Law Department discovered the State would warrant intervention due to Article 97 and the federal government would be involved due to the Urban Self-Help grant received in the 80's to renovate the park. This would be at least a two year process and that is too long to wait for the temporary fire station. The temporary fire station will not be housed at Nahanton Park.

- Mr. Tucker asked where the fire station will be housed. Commissioner DeRubeis commented the locations being reviewed are:
  - Charles River Golf Course
  - Jewish Community Center (JCC)
  - Hartman Park on Country Club Rd
- Mr. Clarke stated there will most likely be a fee involved with the golf course and JCC, the fire station could end up in Nahanton Park. Commissioner DeRubeis stated that is doubtful.

#### 5. Kennard Estate

- Commissioner DeRubeis commented the Newton Public Schools is renting Kennard Estate for the Newton Partnership non-profit organization. The lease is coming up for renewal and wanted the Commissions input on how to proceed with the property.
- Mr. Kastner stated the Newton Partnership has been in the building for a year, the rent does not cover the cost. The lease should not be renewed.
- Mr. Clarke commented the Kennard Estate is a nice property and should be rented at market value. The building is falling into disrepair and there is historic value to the location.
- Mr. Stern asked Mr. Bernheimer if there are any proposals before the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Bernheimer stated not currently a proposal would have to be presented.
- Mr. Kastner suggested putting out a request for proposal. Mr. Clarke stated the Commission needs to determine how the building should be used, what is the vision. Is it a good site for affordable housing?
- Mr. Bernheimer commented the lease should be extended for a year while the Commission researches the options.
- Commissioner DeRubeis agrees with Mr. Bernheimer and commented he will research the deed, speak with Josh Morse of the Public Buildings Department about the cost of the building.

#### 6. New Business

No New business

## 7. Update

• Mr. Clarke commented the Law Dept. contacted him regarding the *Regulations for Newton's Waterways proposal* (see October 2012 meeting minutes). Mr. Clarke will be attending the Conservation Commission on Thursday to present the proposal.

Meeting Adjourned 7:42pm Respectfully submitted, Robin McLaughlin