



Setti D. Warren
Mayor

Newton Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
City Hall, Room 204
7:00 p.m. –Monday, March 16, 2015



Robert J. DeRubeis
Commissioner

Attending: Arthur Magni, Chairman, Richard Tucker, Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Robert DeRubeis, Peter Johnson, Don Fishman, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Byron Dunker, Andy Stern, Peter Kastner, Pat Palmer, Sam Figler, Michael Clarke, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

Meeting began at 7:06 pm

1. **Meeting Minutes – February 23, 2015 – accepted 8-0**

2. **Commissioner’s Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance**
 - Currently the department is working with contractors to clear the turf fields to prepare for the season. The MIAA has already pushed back their season, the leagues are in discussion about how to handle the season, waiting for the snow to melt and the fields to be ready.
 - Other issues will need to be addressed when the snow melts, such as damaged fences.
 - NNHS netting- Commissioner DeRubeis met with Alderman Norton, Alderman Crossley, Athletic Director Tom Giusti to discuss the plan to put netting up on 60 foot poles, behind the backstop, on the corner of Hull St and Lowell Ave. The cost would be around \$325,000.00. The project is tentatively scheduled for 2016.
 - Waban Hill Reservoir- the full Board of Alderman will vote tonight on the purchase of the Waban Hill Reservoir. A two thirds vote is needed to purchase the area.
 - The RFP was put out to bid for the Farlow Park pond/bridge project. There were no bidders.
 - The Departments budget presentation is scheduled for Thursday April 23rd.
 - The Newton Tab printed an article on the Nahanton Park Alms House History and there was also a public tour of the building. The Friends of Nahanton Park have voted 4-1 to demolish the building. Alderman Sangiolo is submitting paperwork to nominate the building as an historic landmark. Mr. Kastner stated the committee has not decided what should be done with the building. The committee needs a deadline to submit a proposal to the Commission. Mr. Clarke stated an RFP should be sent out for ideas of what to do with the building. Chairman Magni held the conversation until the **New Business** agenda item.

3. **Nonantum Village Day – Informational – Lois Dominique**
 - Ms. Dominique stated this is the 4th year of the Nonantum Village Day. The event will be the same as last year and will take place on Watertown Street between Adams Street and Chapel Street and there will be activities in the Magni-Coletti Park (see attached) the event will take place rain or shine.
 - Mr. Stern asked if there were any issues with the bounce house safety or wind. Ms. Dominique replied the children are watched carefully, and the bounce house is secured.

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

4. **St. Mary of Carmen Festival** – Informational – Chuck Proia

- Mr. Proia stated this is the 80th Anniversary of the festival. The dates are July 15th – July 19th (see attached). Fiesta Shows will be managing the festival this year. This is a family friendly event.
- Chairman Magni asked if there were any issues last year. Mr. Dunker thought there were issues with the breakdown times last year. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the company was within the permit rules, and commented that Mr. Proia and Fiesta Shows do a great job every year managing the festival.
- Mr. Dunker asked where the money goes that is raised during the festival. Mr. Proia stated approximately twenty thousand goes to Police details, thirteen thousand is spent on entertainment, any remaining money is donated to the church, the Boys & Girls Club and other organizations in the community.

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

5. **Auburndale Cove** – Alcohol

- Commissioner DeRubeis explained the current parameters of the Auburndale Cove alcohol policy are difficult to enforce.
- Questions/Comments:
 - If alcohol is banned will this prohibit alcohol during the St. Mary of Carmen Festival?
 - The difference between cove permits and the festival permit:
 - The festival attends a two meeting process with the P & R Commission, including a public hearing, the cove permit holders do not.
 - The festival has a constant police detail, the cove permits rarely have police details assigned to the picnics.
 - The festival restricts alcohol consumption to a roped off area. At the cove people are not restricted to a specific area, it is impossible for police to enforce.
 - The concerns are:
 - Unsupervised consumption of alcohol around children and the river in a secluded location
 - P & R staff managing the cove and trying to enforce the policy have a difficult time with permit holders. The weekends are booked 9am-8pm during the season, with a minimum of 300+ people occupying the sites all day long (this number does not include people using the park who do not have a permit).
 - Commissioner DeRubeis will ask a member of the Law Department for input on this issue.
 - This item will be tabled until there is more clarity on how the ban of alcohol at the cove will affect the St. Mary of Carmen festival.

6. **New Business**

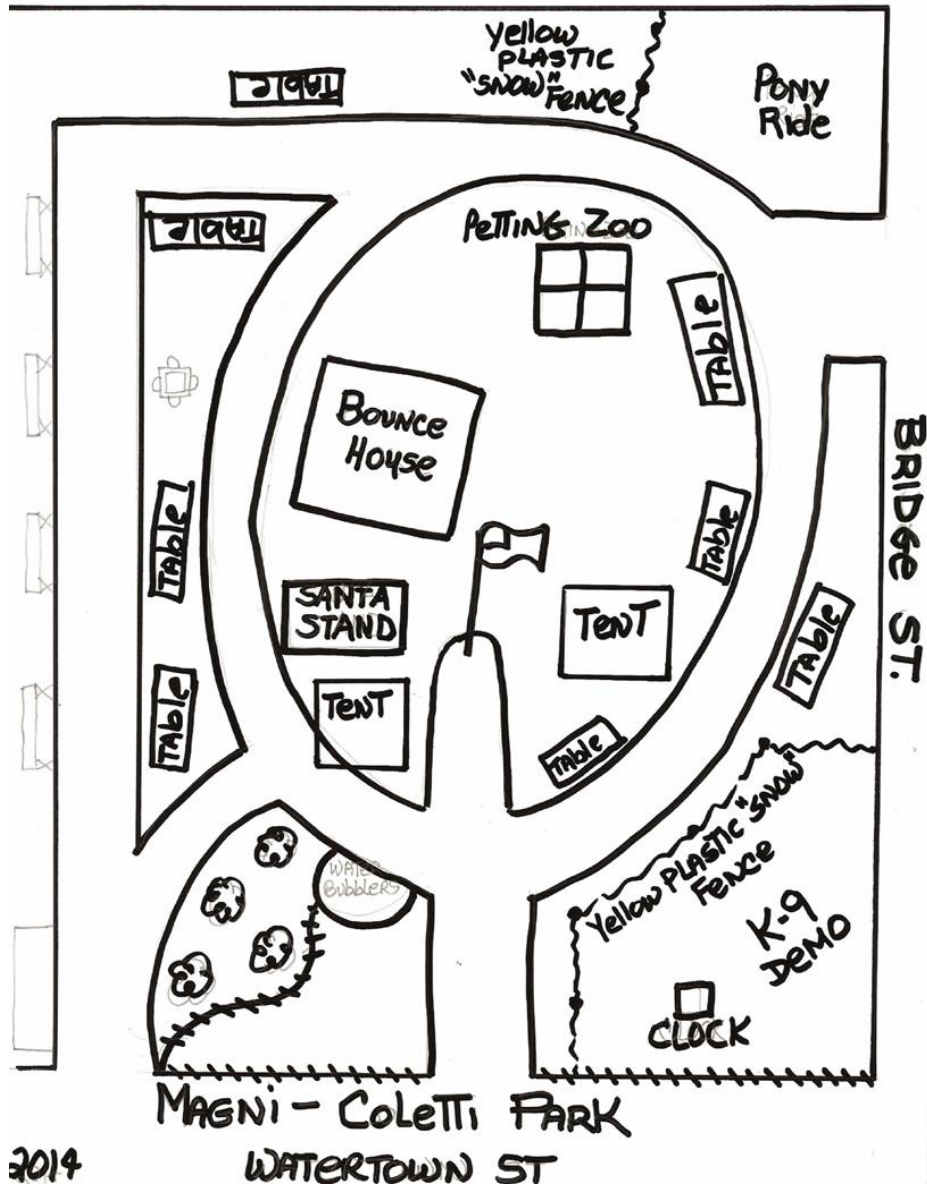
- Nahanton Park Tool Shed
 - The Newton Tab printed an article on the Nahanton Park Alms House History and there was also a public tour of the building. The Friends of Nahanton Park have voted 4-1 to demolish the building. Alderman Sangiolo is submitting paperwork to nominate the building as an historic landmark. Mr. Kastner stated the committee has not decided what should be done with the building. The committee needs a deadline to submit a proposal to the Commission. Mr. Clarke stated and RFP should be sent out for ideas of what to do with the building. Chairman Magni held the conversation until the New Business agenda item.

- Continuing the discussion, Mr. Kastner restated a timeline for a proposal and a chairman should be assigned to the working group. And before landmark status is assigned to the tool shed there are other sites that should be reviewed such as the Newton Centre Hut and the building in Kennard Park.
- Mr. Clarke Public Buildings has used the tool shed since 1964, the structure is solid and a use should be found for the building. Keep the building to remember the history.

Mr. Fishman made a motion to nominate Vice-Chairman Tucker as the chairman of the Nahanton Park Tool Shed Working Group and requested a proposal be submitted to the Commission by the October 2015 P & R Commission meeting (October 19, 2015). Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

- Chairman Magni introduced and welcomed Mr. Sam Figler, the newly appointed alternate member of the P & R Commission.

Meeting Adjourned 8:35 pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Robin McLaughlin





SAINT MARY OF CARMEN SOCIETY
80TH 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

Tax Exempt #
20-4035392

March 2, 2015

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

Dear Commissioner DeRubeis,

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 13th to begin set-up on that day through Wednesday afternoon, July 15th.

The Carnival will operate:

July 15th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Wednesday)

July 16th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Thursday)

July 17th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Friday)

July 18th - 6PM until 11PM - all lights off by 11:30PM (Saturday)

July 19th - 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 20th - Removal will commence no sooner than 8AM and conclude by 10PM

July 21st - Final cleanup & removal will be finished by 12 Noon.

Entertainment for the festival will be as follows:

Wednesday, July 15th 7:00 PM - 10PM, Italian band TBD (Italian American Music)

Thursday, July 16th 6:30PM - 7:30PM, Rock Salt (Local trio pop Band)

7:30 - 10PM, Living on a Bad Name (Bon Jovi Tribute Band)

Friday, July 17th 7:00 PM - 10 PM, The Legit Band (Local Pop Cover Band)

Saturday, July 18th 6:30 PM - 8:15PM, The Reminisants (Oldies Band)

8:30 PM - 10:30PM DK's House Party (J Geils Tribute Band)

Sunday, July 19th 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)

Sincerely,

Charles Proia
Festival Chairman

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