



Setti D. Warren  
Mayor

**Newton Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**City Hall - Room 209**  
**7:00 p.m. –Monday, March 17, 2014**



Robert J. DeRubeis  
Commissioner

**Attending:** Arthur Magni, Chairman, Richard Tucker, Vice-Chairman, Commissioner Robert DeRubeis, Peter Johnson, Don Fishman, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Byron Dunker, Andrew Stern, Michael Clarke, Peter Kastner, Jack Neville, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

*Meeting began at 7:06 pm*

*Francis J. Rice recognition ceremony: Mr. Rice was honored for his service of over 40 years on the Commission. A proclamation from the Mayor and plaque from the Commission were presented to Mr. Rice's family.*



*Jamie Rice ( son), Arthur Magni, Chairman*



*Jamie Rice, Chairman Magni,  
Commissioner DeRubeis, Vice-Chairman Tucker*

**1. Meeting Minutes**

- February 24, 2014 - Approved 8-0

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

- Kevin Clancy Basketball Tournament- successful, fun filled event this past weekend with over 30 teams participating
- Badminton Tournament at NSHS this past weekend, continues to be popular and continues to grow each year.
- Farmers Market relocation- Executive Office meeting with West Newton merchants this week.
- Kennard Park discussions with C. Kraft & other city departments. Mr. Clarke asked if the current lease is due to expire. Commissioner DeRubeis replied yes, the NPS has had one year grants and utilized the building at Kennard Park to operate the program. Mr. Clarke stated Kennard Park needs a sustainable plan. Commissioner DeRubeis agrees.
- Crystal Lake Working Group continues to meet
- OLAWG continues to meet and have been discussing possible areas at NSHS and Thompsonville Playground.
- Building issues at Hawthorne and Emerson this month. Public Buildings doing major repairs.
- Newton Serves meeting- tonight.
- Marathon Preparation
- Playground Projects continue
- Cabot Off-leash Area to be renovated starting August 1 and will be closed from August 1 through spring of 2015.
- CPA meeting for the Farlow Park project and the Newton Highlands Project this Thursday at 7pm in room 209.
- Upper Falls Greenway signs ready to be installed.
- Mayor & Department Meet Up March 30, 2:30- Hyde Center
- Budget Review with Aldermen - April 30th
- April Vacation Camps are filling up.
- Field Renovation Plan moving forward

**3. Nonantum Village Day- June 1-Informational Meeting**

- Nonantum Village Neighborhood Association representatives presented a proposal to hold the 3rd annual Nonantum Village Day on June 1st. The Association is requesting the use of Coletti-Magni Park.

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

**4. Newton Centre Rally - Christians & Jews Unite for Israel- Public Hearing**

- Laurence D. Koplan, of 1131 Commonwealth Ave, and Ana Kolodner both representatives of the non-profit organization Christians and Jews Unite for Israel, Inc. (CJUI) request the use of Newton Centre Green on Sunday, June 1, 2014 to hold its annual Jerusalem Day Festival. CJUI is planning on having games, contests, face painting, dancing and singing to Israeli music. CJUI will also invite several speakers to attend the event.
- Abutters of Newton Centre Green have been notified of this event and were given the opportunity to voice any concerns or comments at tonight's meeting. There were no abutters present.

*Ms. Charkoudian made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Dunker seconded the motion.  
Motion passed 8-0.*

**5. Relay For Life- Informational Meeting – Sharon Stout**

- The Relay for Life has taken place at Forte Park for the last 6 years. The event is an overnight event with 30-40 teams. Commissioner DeRubeis commented this has been a great event and the department endorses the event. Chairman Magni commented last year there was a complaint about the noise from an abutter on Rustic Ave. Ms. Stout stated the issue was addressed immediately.

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

**6. St. Mary of Carmen Festival-Informational Meeting – Chuck Proia**

- Mr. Proia commented there are no changes to the festival this year. Everyone seems happy with what's gone on last year. Chairman Magni asked Commissioner DeRubeis if there were any issues last year. Commissioner DeRubeis stated there were no issues, they do a great job.

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

**7. Tennis Fees- Mike Lewitt**

- Mr. Lewitt presented the 2014 Tennis fees, rules and regulations (attached). The only changes are: Resident Adult from \$165.00 to \$185, Non-Resident Adult from \$195.00 to \$215. Mr. Lewitt explained even with the increase these rates are well below other local tennis fees, such as Brookline.
- Ms. Charkoudian asked if seniors are given a discount. Mr. Clarke stated the issue has never been addressed. Commissioner DeRubeis commented if a senior approaches the department and requests a discount the department will work with the individual to accommodate the request. There have been no requests to date.
- Mr. Stern commented if repair and maintenance is assumed by the contractor does any of the money go to the city. Mr. Lewitt replied 25% goes to the city.
- Mr. Lewitt stated the clay courts are a gem and only a few know about and appreciate the clay courts.

*Mr. Tucker made the motion to accept the tennis fees as presented. Ms. Charkoudian seconded the motion.  
Motion passed 8-0.*

## **8. Poetry in Edmands Park- Poetry Review- Grey Held**

- Mr. Held presented the poems to be installed in Edmands Park from the Poetry in the Park Proposal, approved by the Commission at the June 17, 2013 meeting. Mr. Held is requesting approval of the poems from the Commission before installation in the park.
- Mr. Kastner asked who submitted the poems. Mr. Held stated an ad was put in magazines.
- Mr. Tucker asked what happens when the poems are damaged or covered in graffiti. Mr. Held stated the poems are separated by a varnish that protects the poems and can be cleaned if needed.
- Ms. Charkoudian asked if Mr. Held will be checking on the poems condition. Mr. held replied yes.
- Mr. Stern asked if the poets copyrighted the poems. Mr. Held replied yes the poets were asked to sign a waiver for the City.
- Mr. Harry Sanders, Friends of Edmands Park, asked who maintains the poetry in the park. Mr. Held responded there are grants and fees and Mr. Held will monitor the poetry in the park. The poems will age with the natural wear and tear of the stone pillars. If the poetry becomes unsightly, there are funds to replace the poems.
- Mr. Stern asked if the Parks & Recreation Department will handle the funds and maintenance. Commissioner DeRubeis replied, yes the funds and maintenance, graffiti etc. would be handled by the Parks & Recreation Department.

*Mr. Stern made the motion to approve the poetry and recommends the Parks & Recreation Department take control of the funds and maintenance of the poetry in Edmands Park. Ms. Charkoudian seconded the motion.  
Motion passed 8-0.*

## **9. New Business**

- **CIP List-**
  - Mr. Stern asked if there is an internal P & R CIP List. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the previous list was carried forward and revamped under Mayor Warren based on the risk factor.
  - Mr. Dunker asked what the risk factors are. Commissioner DeRubeis commented there are several factors, and example would be the risk factor of a school roof vs. renovation of an athletic field.
  - Mr. Stern asked what the end use of Manet Rd. will be. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the discussion has been to leave as walking trails, paths or a playground. Mr. Stern commented he understands the neighbors want to keep the area passive recreation, has there been any consideration on the best use and it is surprising it is a top priority in the city.
  - Commissioner DeRubeis stated the city does not own the property, if the property does go to the CPA, the Planning Department should lead the charge but Mr. Rooney would like P & R to lead the charge.
  - Mr. Tucker stated there is a neighborhood committee that is aware Boston College (BC) has long range real estate plans. The City can let BC have the land or leave as a reservoir which is a hazard for unsupervised recreation and it is a maintenance issue, why would the city want the land.
  - Mr. Kastner suggested requesting the state sell the land to us in better condition.
  - Mr. Tucker suggested going back to the Planning Department for a plan. Commissioner DeRubeis suggested Planning should go back to the neighbors. Mr. Stern commented this is a city project not a neighborhood project.
  - Mr. Dunker stated this project sounds like the Crescent St re-use issue, and all want one but not the other, what is the difference. Mr. Tucker stated Crescent St is not a reservoir.
  - Mr. Clarke asked if the city could take the top part and not the reservoir. Mr. Fishman commented that is not a coherent plan.

- Mr. Tucker stated the reservoir is a significant amount of land, maybe the berm could be plowed into the water. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the water study is being done now.

*Mr. Fishman made the motion to recommend The Highland Playground Project and Farlow Park pond/bridge project be number 1 & 2 on the CPA list. Mr. Dunker seconded the motion.*

*Motion passed 8-0*

- Chairman Magni asked if it is in the Commissions interest to rearrange the priorities. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the Commission can certainly take a look at the list, prioritize and recommend the action to be taken.
- A sub-committee was formed to review the list including Commissioner DeRubeis, Don Fishman, and Michael Clarke.
- Mr. Dunker asked if permission is required to replace a temporary structure in a park. The Little league would like to replace an old metal building with a wooden shed. Commissioner DeRubeis replied no permission is required if the structure is temporary and is the same size and being used for the same purpose.
- Mr. Duane Hillis commented the Bullough's Pond Association called him and requested he write a letter in support of returning the land back to nature where the current building is standing.
- Ms. Charkoudian asked if the gas company has answered for the trees damaged by the gas leaks. Commissioner DeRubeis has not heard from the gas company. Mr. Dunker suggested calling the hot line daily. Eventually the issue will be fixed.

Meeting Adjourned 9:02 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

*Robin McLaughlin*

NEWTON CENTRE CLAY TENNIS COURTS 2014

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 1**

Mon. – Fri. 9:00 – Noon 3:00 – 8:00PM

Sat. & Sun. 9:00– 1:00 3:00 – 6:00PM

**Post season: September 1– 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

Resident Adult \$165.00 (~~\$185~~)

Resident Student (under 18) \$75.00

Non-Resident Adult \$195.00 (~~\$215~~)

Non-Resident Student \$125.00

HOURLY RATES\*

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**  
(can reserve at the courts or phone in)

FOR PHONE IN COURT RESERVATIONS  
(MEMBERS ONLY)  
857-488-0890

Phone Operation Hours:  
Monday-Friday 3:00pm -8:00pm  
Sat/Sunday 9:00am -1:00pm & 3:00 -6:00p

**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 RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SURE HOURLY FEE IS PAID TO ATTENDANT BEFORE STEPPING ON COURT.
- ALL PLAYERS MUST CHECK IN WITH COURT ATTENDANT 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 AT 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.
- 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.
- IN THE LAST 45 MINUTES OF A SHIFT, IF THERE ARE NO PLAYERS ON COURT, COURTS WILL CLOSE AND MAINTENANCE WILL BEGIN. FROM THAT POINT ON NO PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE COURTS.
- 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.**