



Setti D. Warren
Mayor

Newton Parks & Recreation Commission
Meeting Minutes
City Hall, Room 209
7:00 p.m. –Monday, December 15, 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, Andy Stern, Jack Neville, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

Meeting began at 7:00 pm

1. Meeting Minutes
 - November 17, 2014 – Approved 8-0
2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance
 - Community Preservation Committee Meeting – December 11
 - Waban Hill acquisition was approved for \$980,000.00 dollars
 - Newton Highlands project construction document cost of \$200,000.00 was approved.
 - Newton North High School netting project may not be done until 2016. Wesson & Sampson created a plan to install 60' netting behind home plate on the corner of Hull St. and Lowell Ave. The cost will be approximately \$320,000.00
 - There is a meeting of the Cabot School renovation working group this Thursday at 6pm. A portion of Cabot field may be used for parking and the field would be reconfigured to include the baseball field and a soccer field.
 - The department holiday party is Wednesday, December 17th 12-2pm. All Commission members are invited.
 - December vacation camps are full and the Summer Camp Fair will be held on Sunday January 25th at NNHS. The state minimum wage is increasing to \$9.00 per hour on January 1st. Camp fees may need to be increased by \$5.00.
 - Nahanton Park Working Group will discuss the tool house, the building located inside the Winchester Street entrance. The members include, Duane Hillis, representative of the Friends of Nahanton Park, Mr. Hillis will ask a member of the Newton Conservators to be part of the group, Commission members, Peter Kastner and Michael Clarke will be invited to be part of the working group.
 - Commissioner DeRubeis and Carol Schein met with Carolyn Kraft to discuss an art show at Kennard Park in 2016. Mrs. Kraft will be before the Commission in January 2015 for an informational meeting.
3. Jerusalem Day- Larry Koplan – Public Hearing
 - Mr. Koplan is requesting permission to hold the 2nd annual Jerusalem Day in Newton Centre on June 7, 2015. The event is sponsored by Christians and Jews United for Israel, Inc. ("CJUI"), a 501C non-profit organization. CJUI is requesting the P & R Commission allow the CJUI to have inflatable rides which will be delivered, set up, and operated by a company familiar to, and approved by the City of Newton, and only operated after a proper safety inspection. CJUI would also like approval by the department to have a few small mechanical rides for younger attendees such as carousal, kiddie fire engine ride, or something of that nature. CJUI also plans to have games, contests, and face painting for the younger kids. There will also be dancing and singing to Israeli music, singers entertaining, and several speakers. Last June, it was estimated the attendance was between, 1,500 to 2,000 people. CJUI will rent chairs, tables, and toilet facilities, which will be delivered and picked up at the location. All will be removed by the end of the day

of the event. For music, as well as the speakers, CJUI will require some sort of amplification system which will need to be rented, set up and dismantled. CJUI would like to end the event with a parade around Newton Center with the Newton Police directing traffic. CJUI will contact the Newton Police Department for their advice as to the best parade route. Mr. Koplan appeared before the Commission on November 17, 2014 for an informational meeting.

- Notification of the public hearing was sent to abutters of Newton Centre Green. No abutters were present at the meeting or contacted the Commissioner with any concerns or comments.

*Mr. Stern made the motion to approve the proposal as presented. Mr. Tucker seconded the motion.
Motion passed 8-0.*

4. Auburndale Cove

- Summer Picnics- Alcohol –After speaking with the Law Department, review of the language & current policy regarding alcohol use at the Auburndale Cove was held, to possibly be discussed at a later date.

5. New Business – no new business

Meeting Adjourned 8:17 pm
Respectfully Submitted,
Robin McLaughlin