



Setti D. Warren  
Mayor

**Newton Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**City Hall - Room 209**  
**7:00 p.m. –Monday, March 18, 2013**



Robert J. DeRubeis  
Commissioner

**Attending:** Arthur Magni, Chairman, Commissioner Robert DeRubeis, Richard Tucker, Vice- Chairman, Fran Rice, Peter Johnson, Andrew Stern, Michael Clarke, Peter Kastner, Jack Neville, Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

*Meeting began at 7:06 pm*

**1. Meeting Minutes –February 25 2013 – Accepted 6-0**

(Mr. Clarke & Mr. Stern were not present during the vote)

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

- The Boston Marathon is on April 15. Linda Plaut has added a Heartbreak Hill race the day before the Marathon.
- April Vacation camp is scheduled the week of April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- April 24<sup>th</sup> is the P & R Department budget presentation to the Aldermen.
- One hundred and nine garden plots have been rented at Nahanton Park Community Gardens.
- Commissioner DeRubeis and Carol Schein, Open Space Coordinator appeared before the Community Preservation Committee for a review of the CPA projects.
- Commissioner DeRubeis met with Larry Smith, Charles River Canoe & Kayak, and Don Swire to discuss a plan to deal with the water chestnut growth in the Charles River.
- Currently the Recreation leaders are interviewing for summer camp staff.
- A couple of the summer camp locations have been changed to accommodate construction in the schools.
- Carol Schein continues to meet with the neighborhood group from Kennard Park. Currently the group is discussing having a management plan completed, similar to the plan completed at Nahanton Park.
- The Crystal Lake Working Group continues to move forward. The group is proposing filtration canisters for the drains, and rain gardens in homes along the watershed.
- The Maintenance Division has been dealing with the snow and prepping for the spring.
- The Forestry Division has taken down 28 trees, pruned 15 and will be working on removing stumps.

**3. Susan G. Komen – 3Day Event–Public Hearing**

- The Commission received an application from the Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure Event for permission to use the fields at McGrath Park as a Lunch Stop on Friday, July 26, 2013 from 9:00am to 5:00pm. A representative of the Susan G. Komen 3Day event appeared before the Commission on February 25<sup>th</sup> for an informational meeting.
- Chairman Magni asked if there were any comments or issues regarding the event. There were none.

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

#### 4. **St. Mary of Carmen Society Festival-Public Hearing**

- St. Mary of Carmen Society submitted a proposal to sponsor the St. Mary of Carmen Fiesta Show, July 17, 2013 through July 21, 2013, at the JoAnne C. Pelligrini Memorial Playground. Mr. Chuck Proia appeared before the Commission on February 25<sup>th</sup> for an informational meeting.
- Chairman Magni asked if there were any comments or issues regarding the event. There were none.
- Mr. Proia did address an e-mail received by Mr. & Mrs. Antonellis. The concerns were:
  1. Fireworks – There are no fireworks from the festival
  2. Access to Lothrop St – Lothrop street is not used for the festival
  3. Liquor – The laws have changed in the past couple of years – there is a designated corralled area for the consumption of alcohol.
  4. Having a police officer present- there is a police detail posted at the entrance.
- Mr. Tucker asked if anyone has responded to Mr. & Mrs. Antonellis' e-mail. Mr. Proia stated he will respond to the e-mail.

*Mr. Rice made the motion to accept the proposal as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0. (Chairman Magni recused himself from the vote because he is a member of the St. Mary of Carmen Society)*

#### 5. **Angier School/George Angier (Waban) Playground- Public Hearing**

- Angier School is in the preliminary feasibility study phase to be rebuilt to accommodate the student population growth. Ms. Young and Mr. DiNisco made a presentation at the January 28<sup>th</sup> P & R Commission meeting and appeared again at the February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting for an additional informational meeting. Mr. DiNisco made the presentation (attached) Ms. Young commented she spoke with a representative from the soccer league and little league. The little league representative was pleased the little league field will be in operation during construction. The soccer league representative was unconcerned about the soccer field; the field is not a primary field used by the soccer league.
- Mr. Kastner asked how tall the wall will be on the slope. Mr. DiNisco stated the wall will be 18' at the highest point. Mr. Kastner stated the MBTA Riverside line is a visual indicator for a lot of people and suggested the wall could vines or ivy.
- Mr. Tucker asked if the plan indicates where the trees will be planted. Mr. DiNisco stated not yet, there could be 60 trees to be replanted and the committee is in contact with Marc Welch, Director of Urban Forestry.
- Mr. Stern asked what type of surfacing will be used for the parking area. Mr. DiNisco stated there are several options depending on paving, how the area is plowed and where the snow will go.
- Mr. Clarke commented at the top of the diagram there is a triangle shaped area that is currently a fenced off wood lot, could this area be turned into a natural playground. Mr. DiNisco commented the suggestion could be put on the project committee's agenda for discussion.
- Mr. Clarke asked about the site of the infirmary building which was on the playground prior to the 1900s. He was concerned about disturbing that foundation, Ms. Young responded that they would not be working in the same area so they would miss it.
- Mr. Stern asked if there will be lighting included in the plan. Mr. DiNisco stated yes the proper cut off lighting for safety of night time parking will be included and the lighting would be LEED-compliant.
- Chairman Magni asked those present if there were any concerns or comments. One resident had a concern about parking and asked if there really will be 35 additional spots added. Mr. DiNisco said yes.
- Mr. Tucker asked if they would appear before the Commission with any changes to the current plan. Ms. Young stated yes.

- Ms. Young had distributed a motion for approval by the P & R Commission. The Commission reviewed and edited the motion as follows:

*At the request of the Angier School Building Committee, the Commission approves the following Motion:*

- ✓ *Supports the close relationship between the Angier School and the Waban Playground as it has in the past*
- ✓ *Supports a continued shared parking arrangement between the playground and school users, with approximately 35 new parking spaces located on the playground*
- ✓ *Supports the allowance of an emergency access road along the edge of the school building on the playground*
- ✓ *Supports the removal of the existing play structure and the creation of two new play structures on the playground and restoration of that portion of the playground disturbed by construction activities*
- ✓ *Supports the replanting of new trees on the playground*
- ✓ *Supports the use of approximately 1/3 the playground adjacent to the school site for temporary construction activities*
- ✓ *Supports the incorporation of the fenced wooded triangle at the northwest corner into the architectural landscape of the playground plan.*
- ✓ *The design team shall look into adding planting, such as climbing vines, to the retaining wall facing the MBTA tracks*
- ✓ *The design team should be familiar with historical background of the playground site and have a plan to address any archaeological issues, should they arise*
- ✓ *Authorizes Parks & Recreation Commissioner DeRubeis to work with the design team to implement all of the above items as well as negotiate the integration of the far corner of the playground (which is currently fenced off) into the playground for passive recreational uses and to regularly update the Commission on such integration.*
- ✓ *This Motion to Approve is based on the Proposed Site Plan presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission at its March 18, 2013 meeting, a copy of which is attached to this Motion. The design team shall return to the Parks and Recreation Commission for further review and approval if there are material modifications made to the playground portion of the Proposed Site Plan.*

*Mr. Clarke made the motion to accept the motion as amended. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-0.*

#### **6. Cold Spring Park - Beth Lewinger**

- Chairman Magni reminded all present this is agenda item is not a public hearing. Ms. Lewinger and Mr. McIntyre will each have an opportunity to speak.
- Ms. Beth Lewinger, abutter of Cold Spring Park stated she is a daily user of Cold Spring Park, and the issues at the park include:
  - i. The Exer-Trail is an 18 station exercise trail in Cold Spring Park. Ms. Lewinger passed around pictures of the course. Ms. Lewinger stated the City does not do any maintenance on the stations; it is a disgrace and needs to be updated.
  - ii. There are dogs on and off-leash throughout the entire park. Dog excrement is left along the trails. The off-leash area is a nuisance and safety hazard.
  - iii. The City converted the park to another use (the off-leash area); other than recreational use. The Park was funded by the National Park Service from the Land and Water Funds. The law has been broken and Ms. Lewinger is requesting the off-leash area be closed and to remove all dogs from Cold Spring Park.
- Mr. McIntyre, Resident, member of the Off-Leash Area Working Group and representative of dog owners of Cold Spring Park.
  - i. Mr. McIntyre commented the off-leash program is successful and thriving.

- ii. There are two cultures at Cold Spring Park. Owners who like to use the trails to walk their dog and the dog owners who like to use the field. Mr. McIntyre agrees there should not be off-leash dogs on the trail. A person is being hired to enforce the rules in the off-leash areas and his salary is paid by the off-leash medallion fees.
- iii. In regards to the law being broken, letters received from a representative of the National Park Service and the Land and Water Fund Stateside coordinator did not find the off-leash area in violation of the NPS agreement. (Memo from City of Newton, Law Department to the Mayor, dated November 2, 2009. Available upon request.)
- Mr. Stern asked Commissioner DeRubeis when the Off-Leash Recreation Specialist will be starting and will he be spending time in CSP. Commissioner DeRubeis stated the individual will be starting in a week or two. Right away he will spend time in Cold Spring Park and Cabot Park. He will be in the off-leash areas and all other recreation land. He will not be writing citations until the ordinance is amended. His hours will be varied.
- Commissioner DeRubeis agreed with Ms. Lewinger the Exer-Trail is antiquated. Ms. Schein, P & R Open Space Coordinator is currently looking into options to repair the Exer-Trail. This project will be a private/public partnership.
- Mr. Tucker asked if the Off-Leash Area Working Group will continue to discuss the topics brought up at the meeting. Commissioner DeRubeis replied yes.

#### **7. Newton Tennis- Clay Court Fees, rules & regulations**

- Mr. Lewitt, Newton Tennis presented the 2013 fees, rules and regulations to the Commission (attached). The following changes have been made this year:
  1. Resident Adult                      2012: \$155.00    2013: \$165
  2. Non-Resident Adult                2012: \$185.00    2013: \$195
  3. FOR PHONE IN COURT RESERVATIONS (MEMBERS ONLY)  
857-488-0890  
Phone Operation Hours:  
Monday-Friday    4:00-7:00pm  
Sat/Sunday        10:00am-12:00pm,3:30-5:00pm
  4. IN THE LAST 45 MINUTES OF A SHIFT, IF THERE ARE NO PLAYERS ON COURT, COURTS CLOSE AND MAINTENANCE BEGINS. FROM THAT POINT ON NO PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE COURTS.
- Mr. Tucker asked when the last time the fees were raised. Mr. Lewitt responded last year. These fees are well below the cost of a private club.
- Mr. Johnson noted the non-resident fee is not much higher than the resident fee. Mr. Lewitt stated non-residents are needed.
- Mr. Stern asked, how much below capacity the program is. Mr. Lewitt responded that is a good question. The clay courts attract a select group of people and most do not want to pay to play.

*Mr. Stern made the motion to accept the 2013 Clay Court fees, rule & regulations as presented. Mr. Kastner seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0*

#### **8. New Business**

- Chairman Magni commented that at the last two meetings individuals have requested to be on the agenda. After a discussion the members present came to a consensus to use the following process:
  1. The individual contacts the P & R Commissioner
  2. The Commissioner will discuss the issue with the appropriate staff or working group to resolve the issue
  3. The individual may be invited to the P & R office or working group to further discuss a solution

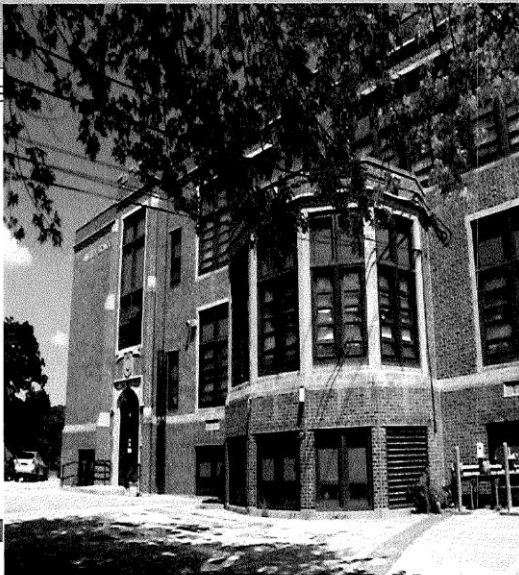
4. The individual may send an e-mail to the Commission Secretary (parks@newtonma.gov) and the Commissioner requesting the e-mail be forwarded to the Commission members. The Commission Secretary will forward the e-mail to all Commission members
  5. The Commissioner will report to the Commission during the monthly commission meeting.
  6. If further remediation by the Commission is required the Commission will make that determination after the Commissioners report. The individual would be invited to the next Commission meeting.
- Mr. Harry Sanders, Resident, asked Commissioner DeRubeis if the Off-Leash Specialist will visit Edmands Park. Commissioner DeRubeis stated yes Edmands Park is Recreation land.
  - Mr. Stern asked how the locations of the emergency snow dumps are determined. Commissioner DeRubeis stated, in the Fall, the Board of Aldermen approves a list submitted by Public Works and Parks & Recreation. Commissioner DeRubeis commented Public Works is looking into purchasing a snow melting machine.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:01

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Robin McLaughlin, Secretary*

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# Angier Elementary School



## Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

March 18th, 2013

DiNisco Design [www.dinisco.com](http://www.dinisco.com)

# Angier Playground - Property Lines

from South



# Angier Playground - Property Lines

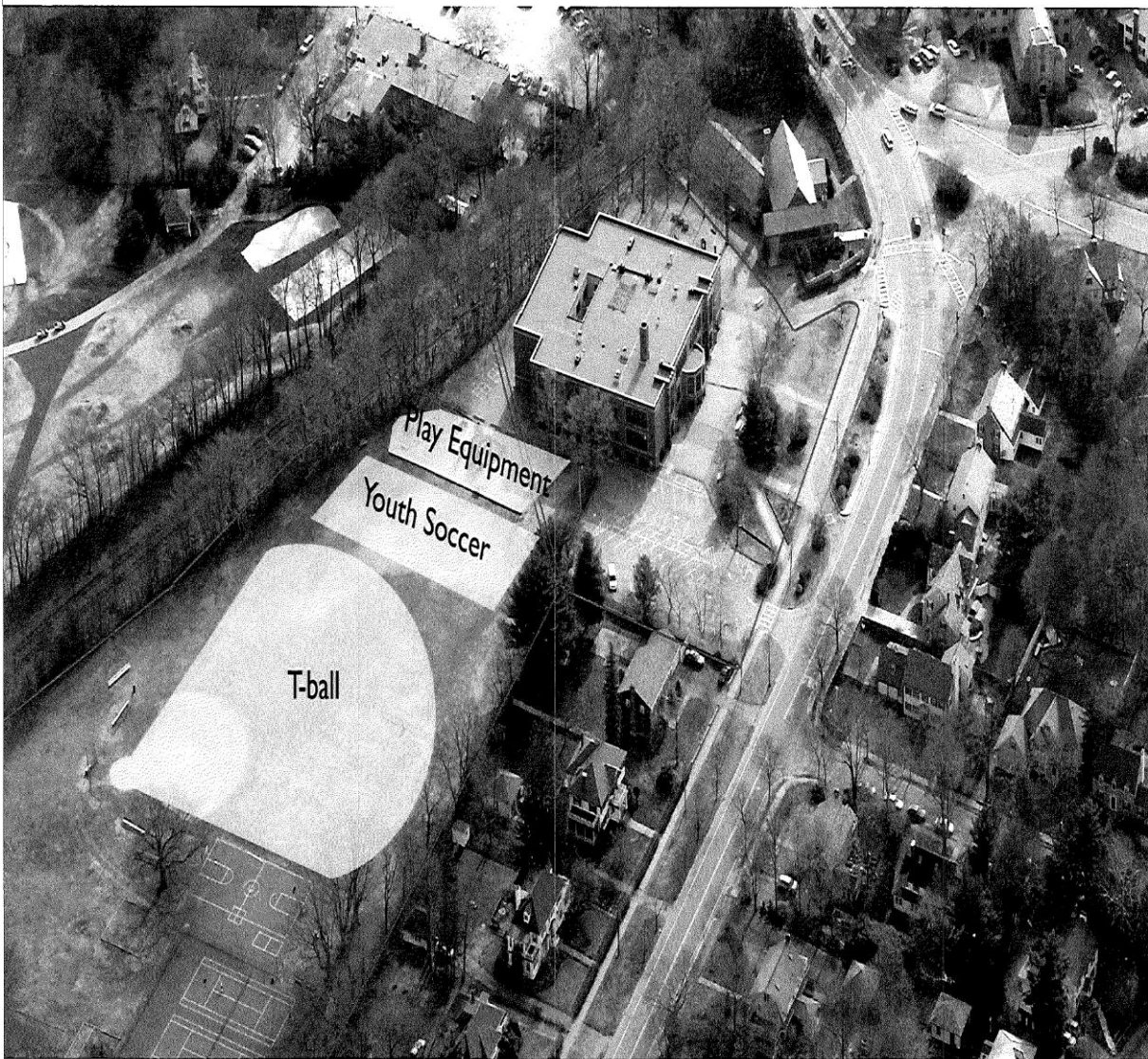
from West





# Angier Playground - Existing Usage

from West



# Angier Playground - Embankment

from West



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# Angier Playground - Embankment



# Existing Site



# Proposed Site Design



End of Angier School Presentation

## 2013 - TENNIS

# CLAY COURTS

*(Changes and additions in red font)*

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

### May 1 – Sept 2

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

### September 3 – 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 \$155.00 new: **\$165**

Resident Student (under 18) \$75.00

Non-Resident Adult \$185.00 **\$195**

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**

**4:00-7:00pm**

**Sat/Sunday**

**10:00am-12:00pm 3:30-5:00pm**

**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 LICENSE 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.

• 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.**

IN THE LAST 45 MINUTES OF A SHIFT, IF THERE ARE NO PLAYERS ON COURT, COURTS CLOSE AND MAINTENANCE BEGINS. FROM THAT POINT ON NO PLAYERS ARE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE COURTS.

End of Tennis Rules and Regulations