



Setti D. Warren  
Mayor

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



Robert J. DeRubeis  
Commissioner

**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 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.
- 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 & Livingston 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 self-policing, 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:
  - People will be endangering themselves
  - 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

City of Newton Performance Management Scorecard  
January 2012

### Traffic Light Key

Green = actual value meeting or exceeding the target  
Yellow = actual value within 10% of meeting target  
Red = actual value worse (more than 10% away from meeting target)

### Trend Key

Green = cumulative Year-to-Date better than Last Year-to-Date  
Yellow = cumulative Year-to-Date the same as Last Year-to-Date  
Red = cumulative Year-to-Date worse than Last Year-to-Date

Metrics measured monthly unless otherwise noted

Metric	Yearly Goal	Avg.	Target	Actual	Result	LYTD	YTD	Trend
<b>1. Develop and provide a rich array of cultural, recreational and educational programs</b>								
Total Programs per Month	Keep total programs per month at or above their monthly average	66	66	33	<span style="color:red">●</span>	121	219	<span style="color:green">●</span>
Total Program Participants	Keep total program participants at or above their monthly average	9794	9794	12847	<span style="color:green">●</span>	56316	188276	<span style="color:green">●</span>
Total Program unique Participants	Keep total program unique participants at or above their monthly average	685	685	1260	<span style="color:green">●</span>	6898	37296	<span style="color:green">●</span>
Total Program Revenue	Keep total program revenue at or above the monthly average	\$122,928	\$122,928	\$60,133	<span style="color:red">●</span>	\$573,195	\$727,515	<span style="color:green">●</span>
<b>2. Maintain parks and recreation land and facilities</b>								
Grounds Maintenance workorders Received	Keep Work Orders received at or below the monthly average	37	35	46	<span style="color:red">●</span>		250	<span style="color:red">●</span>
Grounds Maintenance Work Orders Completed	Keep Work Orders completed at or above the monthly average	13	13	46	<span style="color:green">●</span>	1032	208	<span style="color:red">●</span>
% of routine maintenance workorders completed on schedule	Keep % at or above the monthly average	96	96	100	<span style="color:green">●</span>		97	<span style="color:green">●</span>
% of grounds maintenance requests completed within 5 days	Keep % at or above the monthly average	94	94	100	<span style="color:green">●</span>		96	<span style="color:green">●</span>
<b>3. Ensure a sustainable and community forest for the future of Newton</b>								
Forestry Service Requests Received	Keep service requests received at or below the monthly average	154	154	94	<span style="color:green">●</span>	200	411	<span style="color:red">●</span>
Forestry Service Requests Completed/ Closed	Keep requests completed/closed at or above the monthly average	148	148	72	<span style="color:red">●</span>	1264	2629	<span style="color:green">●</span>
Tree Maintenance Requests Backlog - Tree Prune/ Tree Remove	Keep maintenance requests backlog at or below the monthly average	376	376	1031	<span style="color:red">●</span>	3392	6197	<span style="color:red">●</span>
% of Tree Maintenance requests inspected within 3 days	Keep % at or above the monthly average	97	97	100	<span style="color:green">●</span>		98	<span style="color:green">●</span>
% of Down tree, limb, or hanger requests inspected within 24 hours	Keep % at or above the monthly average	98	98	100	<span style="color:green">●</span>		98	<span style="color:green">●</span>
% of Tree Related Emergencies inspected and made safe within 3 hours	Keep % at or above the monthly average	92	92	100	<span style="color:green">●</span>		88	<span style="color:red">●</span>

### 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](mailto:gillian.baudreau@cancer.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gillian Baudreau".

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](http://cancer.org) [RelayForLife.org](http://RelayForLife.org)



# SAINT MARY OF CARMEN SOCIETY

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## 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

February 12, 2012

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 9<sup>th</sup> to begin set-up on that day through Wednesday afternoon, July 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Carnival will operate:

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

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

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

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

July 15<sup>th</sup> - 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 16<sup>th</sup> - Removal will commence no sooner than 8AM and conclude by 10PM

July 17<sup>th</sup> - Final cleanup & removal will be finished by 12 Noon.

Entertainment for the festival will be as follows:

• Wednesday, July 13<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM - 10 PM, Seabreeze (Italian Orchestra) *legit Band (Agreement)*

• Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM - 10:30PM, The Reminisants (Oldies Band)

• Sunday, July 17<sup>th</sup> 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

Tax Exempt # 20-4035392

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



# SAINT MARY OF CARMEN SOCIETY

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## 77TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

**Saint Mary  
of Carmen  
Society**

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Michael Leone  
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Robert DeRubeis  
Commissioner  
124 Vernon Street  
Newton, MA 02458

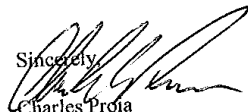
February 6, 2012

Dear Commissioner DeRubeis,

The St. Mary of Carmen Society will celebrate its Annual Fiesta on July 11, 2011 through July 15, 2012. This is our 77<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup>, 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!

Sincerely,  
  
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®. 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 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.

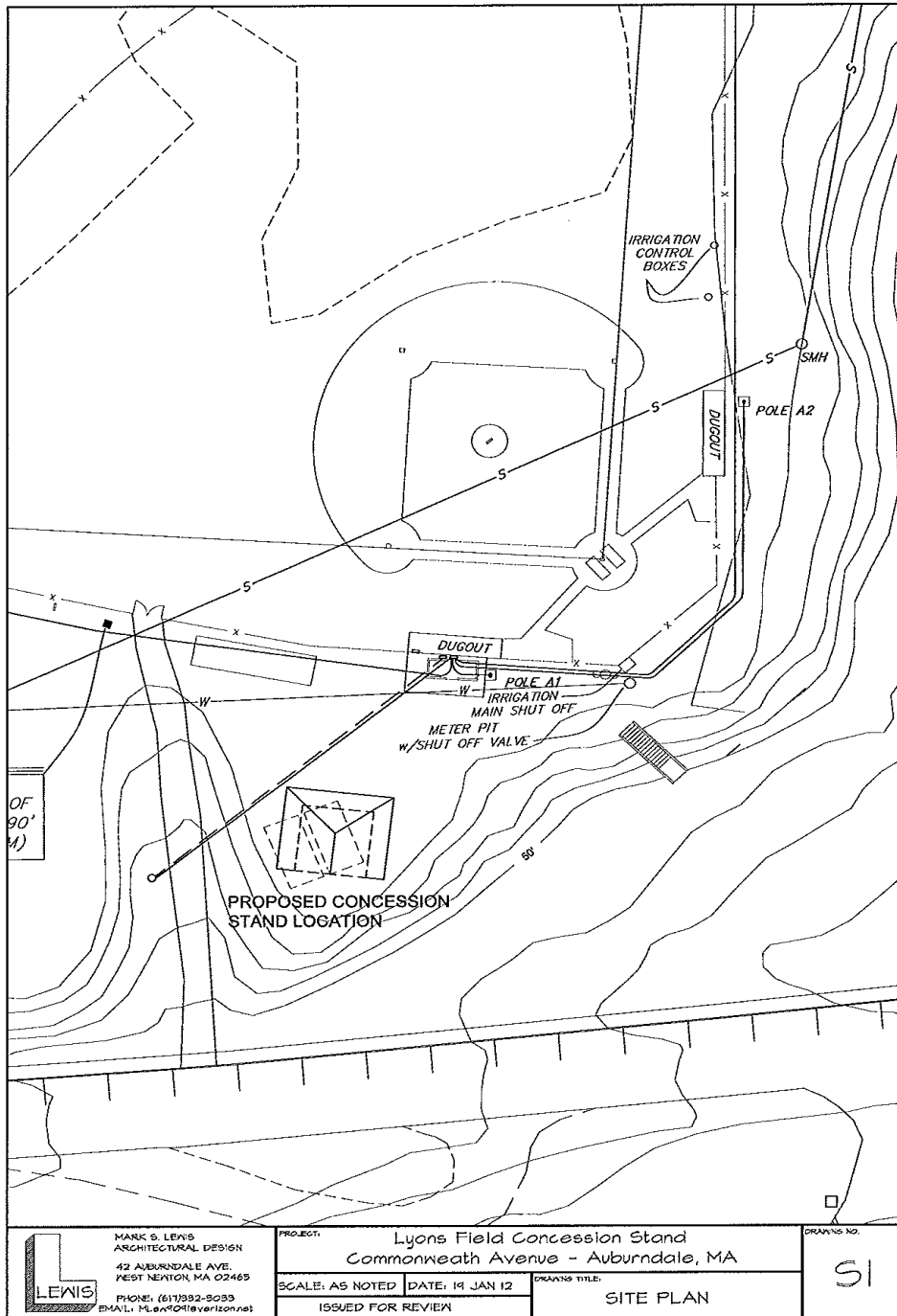
Safety is the number one priority of the 3-Day. All of our walkers, volunteer crew members and paid staff watch a mandatory safety video before the event begins. Participants are required to follow all safety rules and regulations of the event.

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  
Phone: 215.966.1496/Fax: 888.373.6980  
Email: jricker@event360.com

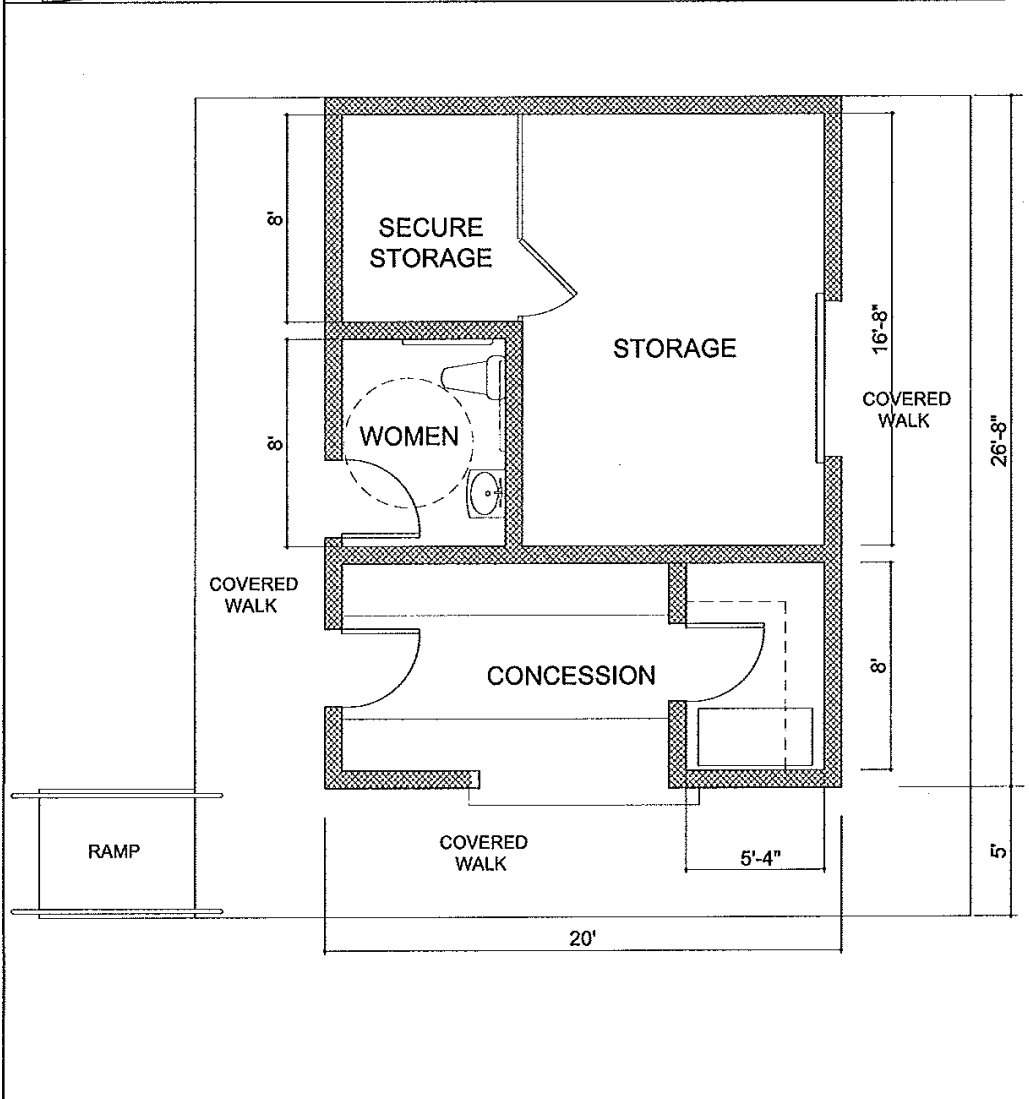
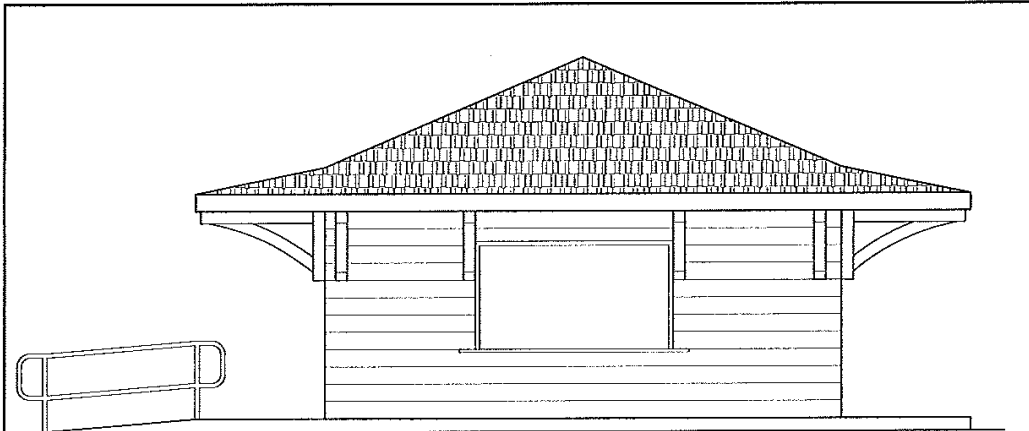
Susan G. Komen 3-Day for the Cure® 205 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 2630 Chicago, IL 60601-5927  
p: 800-996-3DAY f: 888-646-5823 The3Day.org





 MARK S. LEWIS  
 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN  
 42 AUBURNDALE AVE.  
 WEST NEWTON, MA 02465  
 PHONE: (617)892-9039  
 EMAIL: M.Lewis@verizon.net

PROJECT:	Lyons Field Concession Stand Commonwealth Avenue - Auburndale, MA	
SCALE: AS NOTED	DATE: 19 JAN 12	DRAWING TITLE:
ISSUED FOR REVIEW		SITE PLAN

DRAWING NO.  
 SI



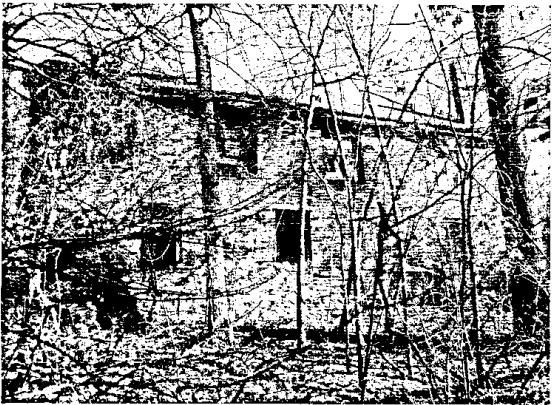
 MARK S. LEWIS ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN 42 AUBURNDALE AVE. WEST NEWTON, MA 02465 PHONE: (617)932-9099 EMAIL: M.Lewis@verizon.net	PROJECT: Lyons Field Concession Stand Commonwealth Avenue - Auburndale, MA		DRAWING NO. AI
	SCALE: AS NOTED	DATE: 19 JAN 12	DRAWING TITLE: PROPOSED PLANS
	ISSUED FOR REVIEW		

Alms House

FORM B – BUILDING

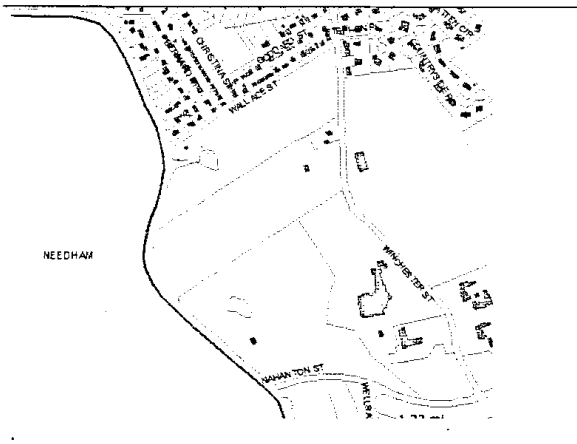
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



A photographic print (3 1/2 x 5 1/4" or 4 x 6" must also be attached

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.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TOWN

ADDRESS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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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)<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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.

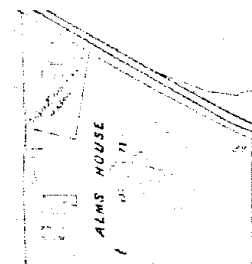
## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*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.”<sup>3</sup> “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.”<sup>4</sup> “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.”<sup>4</sup> The original almshouse was pictured in the frontpiece of a 1911 text on almshouses and set a standard for early 20<sup>th</sup> century almshouses.<sup>5</sup>

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.<sup>6-8</sup> 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.<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup> 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.”<sup>7</sup> 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).<sup>14,15</sup> 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.

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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.<sup>22</sup> The Floyd House, which is a Newton Historic Landmark is nearby at 450 Winchester St.<sup>23,24</sup> as is the 1850 John Veazie house at 383 Winchester St, and the Angino Farm at 303 Nahanton St.<sup>25</sup> The adjacent Thomas Ranney house at 499 Winchester St., which dates from 1866, is also of historic interest to Newton.<sup>26,27</sup> 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.<sup>14,15</sup>

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](mailto:parks@newtonma.gov).**