

Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm March 19, 2012



Attending: Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Kathleen Heitman, *Vice-Chairman*, Walter Bernheimer, Andrew Stern, Peter Johnson, Richard Tucker, Jack Neville (sitting in for Mr. Rice), Michael Clarke (sitting in for Ms. Charkoudian), Don Fishman, Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary*

Absent: Commissioner DeRubeis, Fran Rice, Bethel Bilezikian Charkoudian, Peter Kastner

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm

- 1. Meeting Minutes February 27, 2012- accepted 7-0
- 2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance
 - No Report

3. Susan G. Komen 3Day Event - Public Hearing

- The 3Day event is requesting the use of McGrath Park on Friday, July 27, 2012 from 9:00am to 5:00pm for a lunch stop. The Susan G. Komen 3Day event representative, Jennifer Ricker appeared before the Commission on February 27 for an informational meeting. The original request included the use of West Newton Playground as a rest stop, and McGrath Park as a lunch stop. The request for the use of West Newton Common has been withdrawn due to budget cuts. The request is for the use of McGrath Park only. Public hearing notification was sent out to abutters on March 5th 2012.
- Michelle Harper, Susan G. Komen 3Day Event Representative, is present to address any concerns or questions from the public.
- Chairman Magni asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns.
- Kathleen Heck, 32 Oldham Rd, commented she supports the event, but is concerned for the safety of the park users because of the tree debris caused by tropical storm Irene.
 Chairman Magni stated the information will be passed along to the Director of Forestry.
- An e-mail was sent by Joan McGrath, 1617 Washington St. supporting the event.

Mr. Johnson made the motion to approve the Susan G. Komen 3Day Event request to use McGrath Park for the event, as proposed. Mr. Clarke seconded the motion. The motion passed 7-0.

4. St. Mary of Carmen Festival – Public Hearing

 Chuck Proia, representative for the St. Mary of Carmen Festival appeared before the Commission on February 27, 2012 for an informational meeting for the festival that is scheduled in July. Public hearing notification letters were sent to abutters on March 5, 2012. Mr. Proia is present to respond to any questions or concerns from the public regarding the festival. • Chairman Magni asked if there were any comments, question or concerns. There were none.

Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to approve the request for the St Mary of Carmen Festival as proposed. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. (Chairman Magni recused himself from the vote because he is a member of the St. Mary of Carmen Society)

5. Tennis fees 2012- Mike Lewitt

- Mr. Lewitt submitted the 2012 rules regulations and fees for the Newton Centre clay courts (attached). Mr. Lewitt stated the rules and regulations have not changed from last year.
- There are two modest changes to the fees due to court maintenance cost increase.
 - o Resident Adult fee went from \$140.00 to \$155.00
 - Non-Resident adult went from \$175.00 to \$ 185.00
- Mr. Johnson asked how many permits were purchased in 2011. Mr. Lewitt replied 9 non-resident and 88 resident permits. Mr. Stern asked if the fees are low compared to other areas. Mr. Lewitt replied yes.
- Mr. Stern asked if the courts will be open early due to the spring weather. Mr. Lewitt said no, the maintenance is scheduled for the end of April and the courts are scheduled to open May 1st.
- Mr. Stern asked if the courts are under contract. Mr. Lewitt responded the clay courts
 and tennis lessons are included in one Request for Proposal (RFP). The City receives a
 percentage of the income from tennis lessons and the clay courts. The RFP is renewed
 every three years. The current contract was renewed about a month ago.

Mr. Tucker made the motion to accept the clay court tennis rules, regulations and fees as submitted. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-1 (Bernheimer).

6. Lyons Field Concession Stand-NWLL- 2nd Informational Meeting

- Melissa Summer of Newton West Little League distributed a revised plan for a concession stand at Lyons Field (attached). Ms. Summer appeared before the Commission for an informational meeting on February 27, 2012. The Commission requested a revised plan including ADA compliance options.
- The Plan includes options for a handicap accessible path with two parking spaces. The
 concession stand footprint was reduced. The storage area went from 250 sq. ft. to 150
 sq. ft. The concession area and the bathroom cannot be reduced because they are
 following the Health Departments guidelines. A defibrillator is also being installed on
 the premises.
- Mr. Bernheimer suggested NWLL settle on a final plan. Mr. Stern suggested an operating budget including utilities and maintenance would be helpful.
- Mr. Clarke recommended NWLL present the plan to the neighbors before the Commission has a public hearing.

Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to schedule a public hearing for the Lyons Field concession stand at the May 2012 Commission meeting. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

7. New Business

- **100**th **Anniversary** Mr. Clarke stated the P & R Commission's 100th anniversary is in April. A celebration should be scheduled. Chairman Magni recommended celebrating the 100th anniversary when the P & R Department has the open house for the new location.
- Alms House- Nahanton Park- Mr. Clarke will be appearing before the Historical Commission with the Alms house presentation on Thursday night.
- **Open Space Meeting-** Mr. Clarke reminded the members the open space meeting is Wednesday night at the Senior Center.
- Crystal Lake Conference Committee report— The committee was appointed by the Commission in February to have a discussion on the swim at your own risk proposal with the P & R Department, Alderman, Police and the Law Department. Commission member Stern was appointed the Chairman.
 - Mr. Stern reported the group met on Thursday, March 15th. The first topic was establishing an enforcement mechanism. Ms. Lawlor stated the City is bound by a 1924 statue of a \$20.00 fine. The group agreed to seek a home rule petition. Alderman Danberg, Alderman Blazar, Marie Lawlor will work to create a home petition & update the City ordinance with a credible \$100.00 fine.
 - Ms. Lawlor also stated if there are changes to the P & R Rules and regulations the changes must be approved by the state wildlife & Fisheries Department.
 - The updated ordinance must also include language listing the consequences if a person does not show an ID.
 - In summary the ordinance is in process, the home rule petition is in process and the conference committee recommended establishing a working group similar to OLAWG (off-leash area working group) to discuss the issues.
 - Mr. Fishman attended the conference committee meeting and stated there was a good discussion with a police perspective and an Alderman's perspective, but the discussion touched on the issues a more detailed discussion is needed to move forward and make a decision.
 - Mr. Stern asked the Commission if a working group should be created. This is different from the dogs. There is only one lake and no neighborhood support and the different groups that swim in the coves will be represented, such as non-residents.
 - Mr. Bernheimer stated yes, it is best if the Commission participates in the process. Mr. Bernheimer recommends Mr. Stern meet with conference committee and report to the Commission.
 - Mr. Cahill, P & R Aquatics Director, stated what he understood from the conference committee meeting was the groups looking for options for more swim time. As the City of Newton Aquatics Director and the Chairman of Health & Safety for the Mass Bay Red Cross, safety comes first.
 - o Mr. Fishman stated the issue of insufficient swim resources is a big issue.
 - Ms. Heitman commented the bottom line is illegal swimming is life threatening, and until an ordinance is in place no changes should be made. Put the ordinance in place and build up from there.

 Mr. Stern commented he will follow-up with the Aldermen and the Law Department and facilitate a discussion.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:44pm Respectfully Submitted Robin McLaughlin, Secretary

Lyons Field Concession Stand – Newton West Little League (NWLL) Updated Proposal to address comments/concerns:

Changes need to be made - as directed by the Health Department.

- We feel strongly that a concession stand is a convenience for families.
- The families of NWLL and other Newton Leagues have grown to expect this service.
- These changes include important safety measures and landscape beautification

Benefits: Remove 4 temporary structures and replace with ONE:

- New structure will be ADA compliant (less than 5% grade) 2 options
- ADA parking will make entire park/cove area more accessible
- · Will contain an AED (automated electronic defibrillator) unit
- · Installed security system with camera
- Unisex bathroom clean and well-lit
- Remove concrete slab
- Compare to the stand at NNLL our proposed concession section footprint is smaller (160 SF vs 180 SF)
- Reduce "storage footprint" (from 240 SF to 150 SF)

Finance plan:

- Healthy Balance sheet (\$60K positive)
- · Secured financing from the Village Bank
 - o Paid off previous Village Bank loan of \$95k within a two years
- · Active Fundraising committee

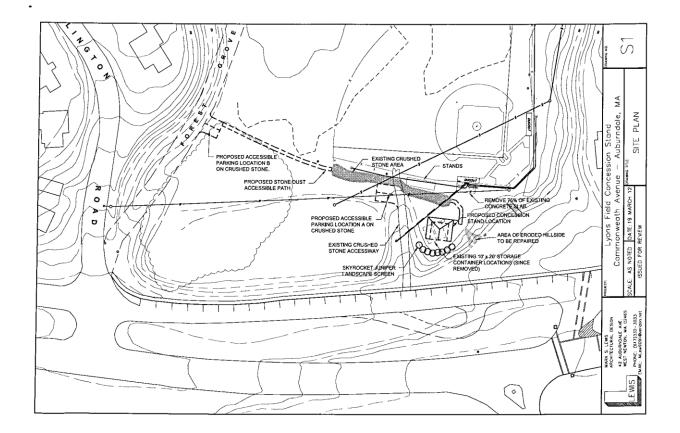
Maintenance Plan:

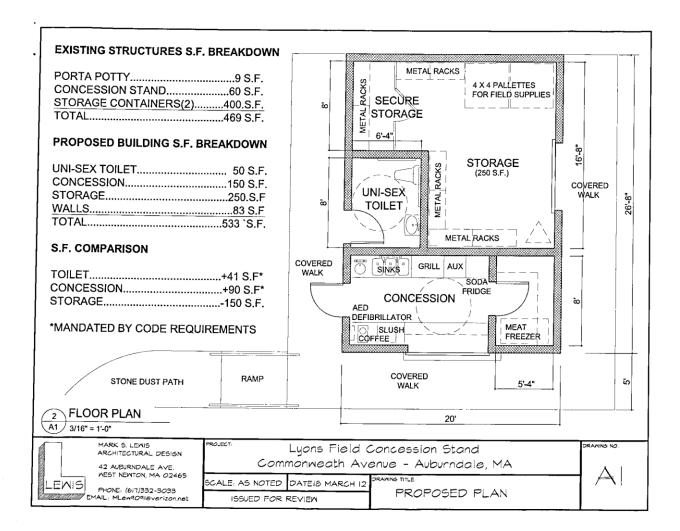
• We plan to fund the annual maintenance through league registration fees and fundraising

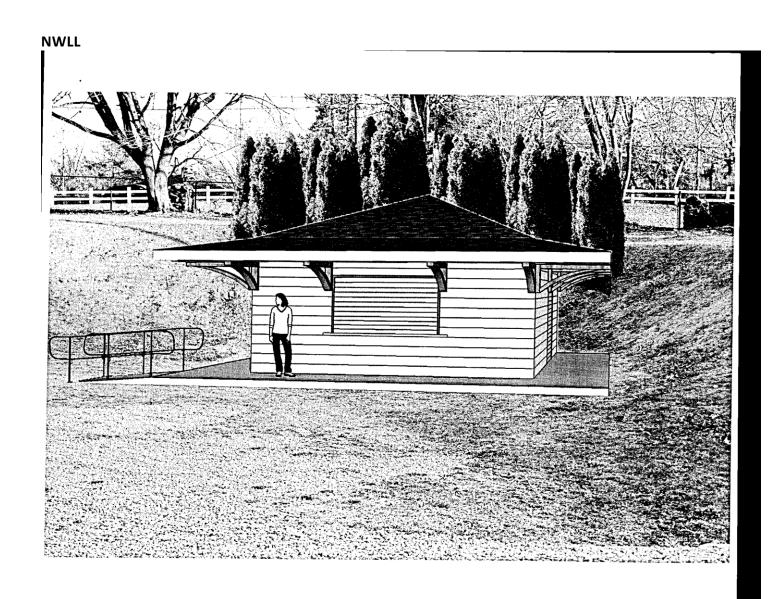
Concession Finances:

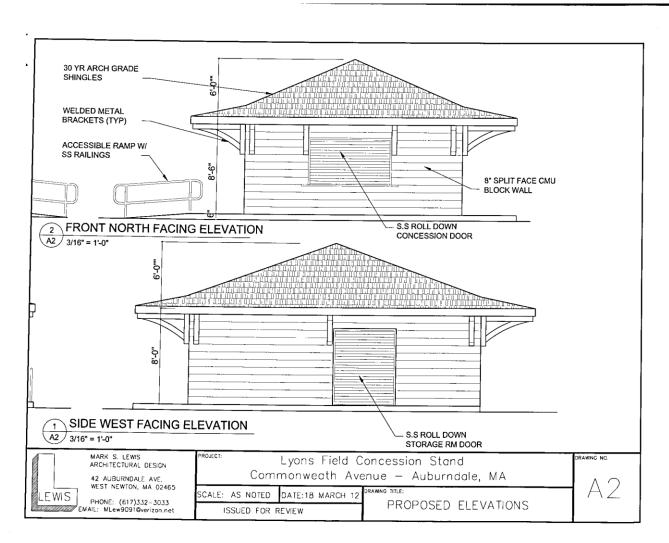
Net Income 2011: \$2080

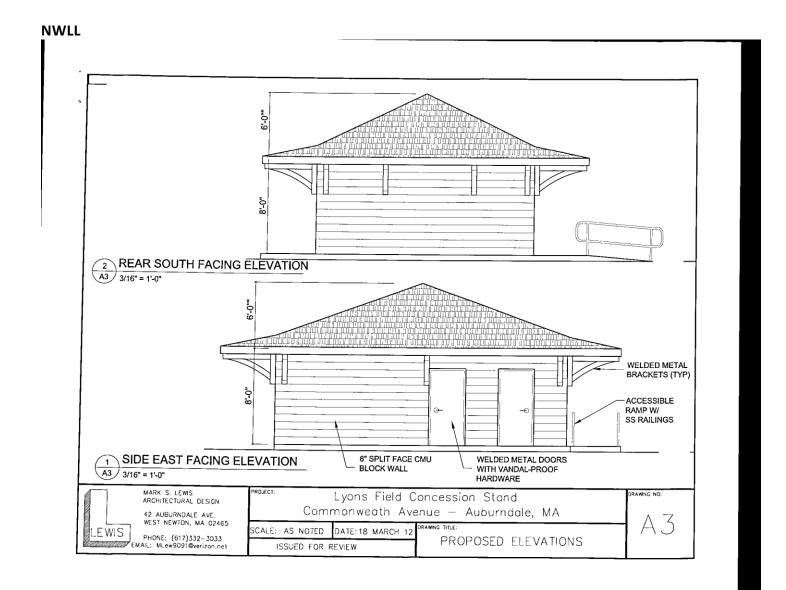
2010: \$3043











Construction Estimates:

Site prep and Pad	\$2000 - \$3000
Landscaping	\$2000 - \$3000
Electrical	\$3000 - \$4000
Plumbing	\$4000 - \$6000
Security	\$500
CMU block walls	\$6000 - \$8000
Welded Metal brackets	\$1800
Railings	\$2000
Doors & Hardware	\$3000
Wood framing for roof/ceiling	\$7000
Food Service Equipment	\$4500 - \$5500
Stone Dust Paths	\$1500 - \$2000
Crushed stone parking area	\$3000 - \$4000
with wood rails (see photo	
attached)	
GRAND TOTAL	\$40,300 - \$49,800

Tennis

NEWTON CENTRE CLAY TENNIS COURTS 2012

- A) No Proposed Rule changes or Schedule Changes
- B) Two modest rate increases

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 6

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

 Post season:
 September 7 – 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 (2 changes underlined)

2011 RATES

2012 RATES

Resident Adult \$140.00 **\$155**

Resident Student (under 18) \$75.00 No Change

Non-Resident Adult \$175.00 \$185

Non-Resident Student \$125.00 No Change

Tennis

HOURLY RATES* (no changes)

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).

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 RESPONIBLE FOR MAKING SURE HOURLY FEE IS PAID TO ATTENDANT BEFORE STEPPING ON COURT.
- · ALL PLAYERS MUST CHECK IN WITH COURT ATTENDENT 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 A' 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.

Tennis

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.