

**Town of Needham
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for March 5, 2013
Needham Town Hall**

6:45 p.m. Informal Meeting with Citizens: No Activity.

7:00 p.m. Call to Order:

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Vice Chairman Daniel P. Matthews. Those present were John A. Bulian, Maurice P. Handel, Matthew D. Borrelli, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt.

A moment of silence was observed to remember Chairman Gerald A. Wasserman who passed away on February 28, 2013.

7:00 p.m. Recognition of Needham High School Soccer Team:

The Board offered its congratulations to the Needham High School Boys Soccer Team who won the Division 1 State Championship. Mr. Matthews recognized Head Coach Don Brock and Assistant Coach Jay Steeves. Mr. Matthews presented Mac Steeves with the Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Soccer Player of the Year Award.

7:08 p.m. Consent Agenda:

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board vote to accept the Consent Agenda and Appointments as presented.

APPOINTMENTS: There are no appointments this meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approve Minutes of February 2, 2013 and February 12, 2013.**
- 2. Accept donation in the amount of \$200 made to the Needham Health Department's Gift of Warmth Fund from Mrs. Shahin Sagafi, a Needham resident.**
- 3. Sign the Warrant for the Annual Town Election Warrant scheduled for April 9, 2013.**
- 4. Approve a Special One Day Wines & Malt Beverages license for Robert T. Timmerman II, of the Needham Knights of Columbus to hold a St. Patrick's Day Party on Saturday, March 16, 2013 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. at Needham Knights of Columbus, 1211 Highland Avenue, Needham.**
- 5. Approve a Special One Day All Alcoholic Beverages license for Jennifer McGrady of the Greene's Field Committee to hold a "Go Greene St. Patrick's Day party" on Saturday, March 16, 2013 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. to be held in Powers Hall at Town Hall, 1471 Highland Avenue, Needham.**

Second: Mr. Handel. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:10 p.m. Proclamation - Needham Free Public Library 125th Anniversary:

Mr. Matthews read a proclamation recognizing the Needham Free Public Library on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to sign a proclamation recognizing the Needham Free Public Library on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

Second: Mr. Handel. Unanimously approved 4-0.

7:10 p.m. Amend Sign By-law:
Devra Bailin, Director of Economic Development, Mark Gluesing, Design Review Board, Bob Hentschel, Council of Economic Advisors, and David Roche, Building Commissioner appeared before the Board to discuss an amendment to the sign by-law.

Ms. Bailin explained the sign by-law changes proposed for Town Meeting. She said the purpose of the proposed sign by-law is to focus on items which the Design Review Board, the Planning Department, and citizens could agree upon. She noted part of the proposed change will correct the process with respect to special permits. Ms. Bailin said a street banner by-law has been added, as well as a blade sign by-law, and criteria for establishing appropriate size and look for consistency regarding sandwich boards.

The Board thanked the committee for their work.

7:22 p.m. Town Manager:
Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager appeared before the Board with 1 item to discuss:

1. 2013 Annual Town Meeting

Ms. Fitzpatrick told the Board presentations on incomplete warrant articles will occur at the next Board of Selectmen meeting on March 19, 2013. Ms. Fitzpatrick said presentations will also be made on April 10, 2013 and April 23, 2013. She asked the Board if they wanted additional information on any other warrant articles to let her know.

7:25 p.m. Recess to Attend Planning Board Hearing:
The Board recessed to attend the Planning Board public hearing in Powers Hall. Mr. Matthews said following the completion of the Board of Selectmen's participation at the Planning Board hearing, the Board will return to open session in the Selectmen's Chambers.

Mr. Matthews spoke with the Planning Board on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, sponsors of Zoning By-law - Interim Regulations for Medical Marijuana Uses. He explained the purpose is to ask for a moratorium, to the extent the Town is authorized to do so by law, on siting and other activity under the new statute pending development of state regulations and Town considerations. Mr. Matthews noted that members of the Board of Health and Police Chief Phil Droney are in attendance and support a moratorium. Mr. Matthews stated the Board of Selectmen and other Town Boards who support a moratorium recognize the November 2012

referendum was strongly supported state-wide and the petition is now law. Mr. Matthews said it is reasonable to say the intent of most voters had to do with the principle of medical marijuana use, rather than details contained in the statute. He noted the statute is detailed, with a lot of ambiguity, particularly regarding zoning, and other rules affecting implementation of the statute at the local level. He said it is of particular concern in Needham as the layout of the business district is a long thin rectangle where most businesses are close to residential neighborhoods. Mr. Matthews noted the request by the Board of Selectmen for a moratorium is not to do nothing, but rather to allow thoughtful consideration and to see how other communities handle the issue. Mr. Matthews asked the Planning Board for a favorable recommendation to Town Meeting.

8:30 p.m.

Board Discussion:

1. Committee Reports

Mr. Matthews told the Board he attended a statewide economic development event, held at the Sheraton Hotel, Needham. He said the meeting was well attended and the Governor spoke, saying additional revenue is needed for a variety of purposes.

Mr. Matthews reported he attended a meeting regarding the Minuteman school district, working on questions related to their regional agreement.

2. Personal Comments

Mr. Bulian commented on his friendship with Jerry Wasserman. He said Jerry was a nice person who touched many lives in Town. He said his sense of humor, wit, and concern for the people of Needham made him someone who will always be remembered. Mr. Handel concurred with Mr. Bulian's sentiments. Mr. Borrelli said it is a big loss to family, friends, and colleagues. Mr. Matthews thanked the Board of Selectmen, Ms. Fitzpatrick, and Town staff for the help they gave Mr. Wasserman and the Board during this difficult time.

8:40 p.m.

Executive Session (Exception 3):

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to enter into Executive Session.

Exception 3 - To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the the chair so declares.

Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.

Second: Mr. Handel. Mr. Matthews polled the Board. Unanimously approved 4-0.

A list of all documents used at this Board of Selectmen meeting are available at:

<http://www.needhamma.gov/Archive.aspx?AMID=99&Type=&ADID=>

(Note: The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.)