

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Minutes of Meeting  
April 22, 2019**

**PRESENT:** Cynthia J. Chaston, Vice Chairman  
David C. DiCicco, Member  
Michelle S. Geddes, Member  
Matthew M. Toolan, Member  
Patricia M. Carey, Director  
Angela O'Connor, Assistant Director

**ABSENT:** Christopher J. Gerstel, Chairman

Mrs. Chaston called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

- 1. Minutes of Meeting – April 8, 2019:** Mrs. Geddes made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chaston. The minutes of April 8, 2019 were approved unanimously.
- 2. Director's Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report. Mr. Gerstel, Mrs. Chaston, Mr. DiCicco and Ms. Carey will be in the same precinct rooms as last year for the League of Women Voters precinct meeting. Ms. Carey let them know that someone can move into the room without a representative, if needed. The Commission reviewed the draft DeFazio Park signs. Mrs. Geddes appreciated the changes to the synthetic turf sign from the prior draft. Mr. DiCicco asked that the words "when 'field not in use' under designated permit" be added to the sign, so that people understood a field not being used by a permit holder can be used by the general public.
- 3. Program Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report. Ms. O'Connor reported that 685 lbs. of trash was picked up at the Town-Wide Trash Clean-Up.
- 4. Discussion Items:**
  - A. Synthetic Turf Replacement Project:** Ms. Carey reported that the installation bid is out and submitted bids will be opened prior to Town Meeting. At this time, the project is coming in under estimates.
  - B. FY'20 Budgets:** Ms. Carey noted that the Finance Committee voted to support the warrant article for Rosemary staffing. The Community Preservation Committee has recommended the two proposals for funding. Ms. Carey is working on handouts for the three articles.
  - C. CPC Proposals:** Mr. Toolan recommended having a Commissioner prepared to answer questions.

**D. Rosemary Recreation Complex – Construction, Operations, Memberships, Celebrations:** Weston & Sampson will be starting the pre-season work on May 6<sup>th</sup>. It will take a few weeks to do those tasks, as well as some punch item tasks. Lifeguarding staffing has gone well, with one open spot remaining with a few good candidates. Mrs. Geddes will put together an update on the celebration events. The Commission reviewed an update on memberships, seen in Appendix A.

**5. Action Items:**

**A. None Presented**

**6. Issues Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair within 48 Hours:** Mrs. Chaston noted that the study of Emery Grover and School Administration will be starting soon, and the Finance Committee has requested that the study include other town-owned land as options for locating the building. Project Manager Hank Haff will likely attend the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss some possible options to study that are under the Commission's jurisdiction, including part of the Dwight parcel and "Parcel 74" on Greendale Avenue. Mr. Toolan does not feel that "Parcel 74" is an option based on the prior vote at Town Meeting. He suggested that the School Committee look at parcels under their jurisdiction, including what will be the former Hillside School. As Dwight is adjacent to the Charles River Center and Mrs. Chaston is on the CRC board, she may need to recuse herself from discussions on that property. Mr. DiCicco noted that he would not want to see historic funds spent on restoring the current Emery Grover as an option. Mrs. Chaston asked for some mapping information prior to the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**7. Topics for Future Agendas:** None presented.

**8. Adjournment of Meeting:** Mr. DiCicco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM. The motion was seconded by Mr. Toolan and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Carey, CPRP  
Director