

Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2018
7:00pm Francis O'Brien Meeting Room

Present:

Chairman James Maher
Charles Dello Iacono
Salvatore Ledda
John Maida
Jonathan Briggs
Robert Stanley, Director
Debra Anderson, Program Director
Tracey A. White, Admin. Assistant

Chairman Maher called meeting to order at 7:05pm

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Dedham Four on the Fourth Discussion and Vote

Rob Nassar & John McGurty requesting a field permit for the annual Four on the Fourth – Rally for Sally road race that will begin and end on Freitas field, Wednesday July 4, 2018. Would like to put up the tents on Sunday, July 1, 2018, as that is when they are able to get volunteers to assist with the set up.

S. Ledda made a motion to allow the event to take place on Wednesday, July 4, 2018, and place the tent up on Sunday, July 1, 2018, a second was made by J. Briggs, all voted in the affirmative, with C. Dello Iacono abstaining from the vote

Easter Egg Drop-Discussion and Vote

Kelly Whiffenn representing Encounter Church, seeking a field permit for March 24, 2018, with a rain date of March 31, 2018 to hold the helicopter Easter Egg Drop on Memorial Field. She, as well as the pilot has met with the Director, Fire Chief & Police

Chief. Kelly Whiffen has gone before the Board of Selectman, on February 1, 2018 and received their approval.

J. Maida commented that it was a wonderful event and ran very smoothly, he made a motion to accept the request of Encounter Church to hold the Easter Egg Drop on Memorial Field on Saturday, March 24, 2018, with a rain date of Saturday, March 31, 2018. With a second by S. Ledda, all voted in the affirmative to allow the event, and wished them much success.

Discussion regarding Complaint to Board of Selectmen and Vote

Chairman Maher read from the Report of Investigation, of the complaint against the Parks & Recreation Dept. that the process for the assignments of Town fields was undertaken in violation of the Open Meeting Law or in violation of the Conflict of Interest Law. Chairman Maher stated he would like to take a vote and stated that he would like to take a vote on such. J. Briggs asked why a vote would be necessary, and discussion took place, it was decided to take all recommendations under advisement.

Spring Permits-Discussion and Vote

Steve Traister the Athletic Director for the Dedham Public Schools,
Brian O'Connell from Dedham Youth Lacrosse,
Dan Maher, from Dedham Youth Baseball,
Paul Yandrisevits, from Dedham Youth Soccer,
Frank Bollette, from Dedham Girls Softball,
Mike O'Connor from Ursuline Academy,
Jean Downey & Lisa Spada representing Womans Soccer Program
all attended meeting to ask for various field permits.

The Director handed out tentative schedules to the Commissioners, and discussions on field times was lengthy. After much conversation about field times and assignments, there were various changes to organizations original requests, all organizations schedule of Field Assignments, with notes as needed.

Director's Report

Robert Stanley reported that the pool had to be closed for a few days, due to a broken chemical control panel the cost for repairing the panel will be paid out of the Revolving Fund

IT Department was able to work the cameras so that the Director can see in real time at the pool

Capitol meeting was very long, but there were no issues, items requested were some things for the pool and a Gator as well as a few others

Master Plan Committee is moving along, hope to have all action items on our side done in the next few days

C. Dello Iacono asked if there is a punch list of items that still need to be done at Gonzalez

R. Stanley answered that there are still items that need to be taken care of, however they are being worked on

J. Maida asked about the netting that seems to have fallen down, R. Stanley explained that he spoke to Activitas about that and they said that is good that it drooped and didn't snap, that is how it is made

J. Maher stated that the Parks employees need to be trained on the equipment and how to properly maintain Gonzalez Field

J. Briggs asked if higher ticket items should be built into the budget, he also asked if there was something more effective than a Gator to be used on the fields. R. Stanley answered that a Gator was very practical and will serve a lot of needs of the Department.

Asst. Director's Report

D. Anderson gave a rundown of the amount of participants in various programs comparing various years

J. Maher asked about the Field Hockey Program and if it was a Parks & Recreation Program, D. Anderson answered that it is our program, and last year it was a partnership

J. Maher stated that he had heard from a gentleman in town and would like to start a Judo Program he had told the gentleman to reach out to the Assistant Director

J. Maher asked what had become of the Volleyball Program, S. Ledda answered that a resident was now running a Volleyball group,

Minutes

No minutes were presented

Old/New Business

S. Ledda met with R. Stanley and D. Anderson to discuss Pathfinders, and we have hired someone to run the Pathfinders Program

S. Ledda stated he has met with Dan Hart, Amy Black, Georgio Petruziello to discuss a concession stand at Gonzalez field, they are now waiting for G. Petruziello to meet with Pat McQuire of Activatus

J. Briggs stated he would like a to come up with a schedule for the Strier property, so that residents are made aware of where the Board stands and what the timetable might look like

J. Maida asked Dan Hart, Chairman of the Master Plan Committee (as he was in the audience), were things stand with the report, D. Hart stated that he has not spoken to the vendor in over a month and they had been in contact with the Director and the Open Space Committee

Chairman Maher stated that Department of Public Works, Director Joseph Flanagan Commissioner wanted to speak on behalf of the contractor, that wanted to use part of Strier Property as a staging and storage area

J. Flanagan stated that Giosi would like to rent space at Manor Strier for the cost of \$5,000. per month to store equipment.

Discussion followed regarding who would receive the funds, how it would be paid and a myriad of questions

S. Ledda asked J. Flanagan if he had spoken to the Town Manager or the Finance Director about this and if they felt like it was something we could do, J. Flanagan stated that he had met with both the Town Manager and the Finance Director and they both agreed it could be done

J. Briggs made motion to accept the offer of \$5000 per month from Giosi for rental of Strier to store equipment as long as it is ok with Town Council, second by C. Dello lacono. J. Maida would like an amendment to state the Chairman J. Maher be at all meetings and discussions, motion was made by J. Briggs with the amendment to state that J. Maher was to be at all meetings and discussions second by C. Dello lacono, all voted in the affirmative, with Chairman Maher abstaining from the vote.

C. Dello lacono asked if we will we have a satellite office at the new Town Hall, R. Stanley stated there will be a small area, with a desk and computer for us to use when we are at the Town Hall

J. Maida stated that he will not be running for another seat on the Board he stated that he was so upset about the Complaint against the Board and is upset about the Rail Trail dividing the Town. He feels that this is the best decision at this time.

Motion by S. Ledda to adjourn the meeting with a second by C. Dello lacono. Meeting closed at 9:50pm

Respectfully submitted by Tracey A. White