

Parks & Recreation Department

Dedham Recreation Center

269 Common Street

781-751-9250



Robert Stanley
Director

Debra Anderson
Assistant & Program Director

Tracey White
Administrative Assistant

August 16, 2021

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present:

Absent

Lisa Moran - Chairman
Chuck Dello Iacono – Vice Chairman
Alix O’Connell – Secretary
Jonathan Briggs
Lisa Farnham
Robert Stanley – Director
Debra Anderson – Asst. Director
Tracey White – Assistant to the Director

Chairwoman Lisa Moran asked for a Roll call vote as the meeting was via Zoom
Commissioner Dello Iacono stated present
Commissioner Briggs stated present
Commissioner O’Connell stated present
Commissioner Farnham stated present
Chairwoman Moran stated present

Chairwoman Moran read the Governor Statement regarding Zoom Meetings.

Public Comment

James Maher, former Commissioner stated that he received an email from Attorney Goldberg, he was disappointed to hear that he was not able to access those Executive Session minutes. That he has no rights as a former Commissioner to those minutes.

Chairwoman Moran stated that he should bring that up with Town Attorney Goldberg.

Mr. Maher stated that the Commissioners has the final say to release those minutes, not the Attorney.

Chairwoman Moran stated that Mr. Maher should reach out to the Town Attorney.

James Maher stated that it was upset that the six people interviewed had more rights than someone's reputation that has been destroyed.

Mr. Maher stated that Town Council does not represent the Commissioners, has the Board made a vote to request the Select Board to allow Town Council to represent them. Chairman Moran stated that Personnel Issues could not be discussed, and he can request the information from Town Council.

Maher stated that he will have to appeal to the State Attorney General again.

Maher asked has the if the Commissioners go to the Selectboard for approval for Council?

Chairman Moran stated that Mr. Maher should reach out to Attorney Goldberg.

Minutes

Motion by C. Dello and a second by L. Farnham to accept the July Minutes

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell stated yes

Commissioner Farnham stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Permits

Chairwoman Moran stated that the goal of the Commissioners was to see that all children had the opportunity to play as much as possible on the fields that they can permit.

C. Dello Iacono stated that as a Dedham Youth Football coach he will not be speaking about or voting on their permit request.

L. Farnham stated that as she is involved with Soccer she will not be discussing or voting on Dedham Youth Soccer requests.

L. Moran stated that as she is involved with Baseball she will not be discussing or voting on Dedham Youth Baseball requests.

Steve Traister the Athletic Director requested on behalf of the High School and Middle School to use Gonzalez and Lower Memorial on various days, after school, with Youth groups understanding that there are times that run later into their requested times.

C. Dello Iacono made a motion to accept the permit as written with a second by L. Farnham made a second to the motion.

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell stated yes

Commissioner Farnham stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Ursuline Athletic Director requested Rustcraft Field and Sugrue after school hours.

C. Dello Iacono made a motion to accept the permit as written with a second by J. Briggs.

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell stated yes

Commissioner Farnham stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

C. Dello thanked the Athletic Directors from both schools and the Administrative Assistant.

EMWSL - Eastern Mass Woman's Soccer League asked for Sunday mornings at 8:00 am. The Soccer Sistas & Vikings teams share the field.

C. Dello Iacono made a motion to accept the permit as written with a second by L. Farnham made a second to the motion

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell abstained from the vote

Commissioner Farnham stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Dragonfly Theatre - Rebecca Gates requested Paul Park September 18th & 19th and 25th & 26th, with a request to leave their staging at the field, which is four pieces of staging. Mrs. Gates stated that she will leave the Park as she found it.

Commissioner O'Connell asked to explain the program

R. Gates stated that it has been a theatre program in Dedham for thirteen years.

L. Farnham asked about a rain date.

R. Gates stated that they have played in the rain, they have tents and tarps, however they are hoping for great September weather. They may be able to use a church.

J. Briggs asked if they plan to serve refreshments.

Mrs. Gates said that there would be no refreshments or snacks sold.

C. Dello Iacono made a motion to accept the permit as written with the understanding that the Parks & Recreation Department would not be responsible for their equipment being left at the Parks, a second by J. Briggs.

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell stated yes

Commissioner Farnham stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Dedham Youth Football represented by Robert Dugan, asking to extend their permit through November 30, 2021. Game schedule is not sure Saturdays at 3:00pm or possible some night games at Rustcraft.

Motion made by L. Farnham, second by A. O'Connell to approve Dedham Youth Football permit.

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono abstained from the vote

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell stated yes

Commissioner Farnham stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Dedham Youth Baseball has no issues with any requests for their permits, we can make it work for Davis, Heaphy and Sullivan field, when football needs to use the field. Will work with the Administrative Assistant to schedule 50/70 field games.

Heath Purdy discussed having a movie night at Capone, R. Stanley stated he would work with Baseball on the Movie night.

Motion made by C. Dello Iacono with a second by J. Briggs to accept the permit as written, to approve Dedham Youth Baseball permit

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes
Commissioner O'Connell stated yes
Commissioner Farnham stated yes
Chairwoman Moran abstained from the vote.

Dedham Youth Lacrosse represented by Brian O'Connell Tuesday 6:30pm – 8:30 on Tuesdays, having moved his practices and games to accommodate other programs

Motion made by C. Dello Iacono with a second by J. Briggs to accept the permit as written, to approve Dedham Youth Lacrosse permit.

Roll Call vote:
Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes
Commissioner Briggs stated yes
Commissioner O'Connell stated yes
Commissioner Farnham stated yes
Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Dedham Youth Field Hockey is a new league program in town, they have for Sugrue field Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays.

Gonzalez from 10:00 – 12:00, there are four games to 3:00 – 4:30 on Saturdays, and Gonzalez on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5:00 – 6:30.

A. O'Connell asked if it was a conflict as they had just voted on Dedham Youth Lacrosse permit.

It was answered that it was not, due to Field Hockey asking for the same day and soccer and lacrosse working together for having Tuesdays.

J. Briggs asked about the conflict, was it only Tuesday & Thursdays?

It was stated that that it was only the Thursdays and Saturdays.

George Carafiolis stated that they could work with and accommodate Field Hockey if they could move their games later.

Chairwoman Moran stated that they had blanket permitted every field.

Administrative Assistant stated that if soccer would move to Lower Memorial on those four days it would solve all those scheduling conflicts

A. O'Connell asked if soccer could you move the games to another field.

George stated that is very difficult to do so.

C. Dello Iacono stated that Field Hockey playing at Rustcraft doesn't seem like a great idea, due to all the work was put into that field.

All Agreed that Field Hockey & Soccer would split the field on Thursdays.

Field Hockey can have those four Saturdays.

Administrative Assistant stated that if soccer would move to Lower Memorial on those four days it would solve all those scheduling conflicts.

C. Dello Iacono made a motion to allow Field Hockey to have the requested field permits sharing Thursdays with soccer until 6:30 and using the concession stand side.

Motion made by C. Dello Iacono with a second by A. O'Connell to accept the permit as written, to approve Dedham Youth Field Hockey permit.

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell stated yes

Commissioner Farnham stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

C. Dello Iacono made a motion to approve the soccer permit as written, except for Tuesdays after 8:30 and Thursdays splitting Gonzalez until 6:30pm using the Route One side. Second by A. O'Connell

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes

Commissioner Briggs stated yes

Commissioner O'Connell stated yes

Commissioner Farnham abstained from the vote

Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Suzanne Mac Rae wanted to ask on behalf of Dedham Youth Soccer to ask for Sundays at Rustcraft in case there were rainouts, possibly November 7, 2021, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm.

C. Dello Iacono made a motion to approve an amendment to add the November 7, 2021, date for make-up dates

DEF asked for approval for use of Memorial Field on October 3, 2021, for the DEF Dash 5K, with various food vendors and various drinks such as beer, 11 am to 2:00 pm.

Chairwoman Moran asked if they had received approval from the Board of Health and Board of Selectman for alcohol.

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated that there would be no issue with Dedham Youth Football as they use the back side of Memorial.

Motion to accept permit for the DEF Dash with a second by A. O'Connell all voted in favor.

Jonathan Pape & Christine Ryan requested that the Commissioners support and approve for the Oakdale Square Alliance to have evenings at the Oakdale Veterans Park for live music.

Commissioners stated it was a great idea and Commissioner Dello Iacono asked that they speak to the Veterans Agent, Joe Hamilton for his blessing. Once they choose dates and times to please reapproach the Board for permits, and to please check with the neighbors and let them know of the dates and times.

Directors Review Discussion / Vote

Chairman Moran stated that reviews should be done by next meeting, by September 13th Asked that all Commissioners meet with the Director, and then submit their paperwork to her.

Discussion on how to rate the Director on the previous year, A. O'Connell asked to change Marketing to Communication.

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated that this could be the last time the Commissioners may be reviewing the Director to make sure that it is very accurate.

Assistant Director's Report

Summer is wrapping up. We are losing summer staff, due to college kids returning to college.

This is the last week of Summer Playgrounds & All-Day Program are wrapping up.

Next week is the last week for Swim & Gym as well as Tennis.

Paul Park has about 40 kids per day.

Yoga in the Park is continuing.

Bike Rodeo – was July 28th.

Running Clinic was terrific.

Clippers has ended

Fall fast approaching – brochure has gone out.

Karate & Mini Chefs going on.

Friends of Dedham Recreation working on Dedham Day and have Deeds in the office.

Lisa Farnham stated that the running program was very well received from parents

Roll Call vote:

Commissioner Dello Iacono made a motion to accept the Assistant Directors Report, with a second by Commissioner A. O'Connell

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes Commissioner Briggs stated yes
Commissioner O'Connell stated yes Commissioner Farnham stated yes
Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Director's Report

Director Stanley stated irrigation is an issue still Memorial and Rustcraft we have lost power at Rustcraft, and electricians are working at it and lights at Memorial.

Norfolk Mosquito Control is doing some testing with using helicopters and to land on Memorial possibly in September during the day.

Commissioner Dello Iacono asked that Police and Fire Departments be notified.

Approved last August for a new truck, it has not been delivered yet, and not to expect it for a few more months.

Concerned about how events will be held in the fall due to Covid.

Dedham Youth Softball will not be holding the Pumpkin Bowl this year.

Seasonal employees will be finishing soon.

A. O'Connell stated that the Master Plan Committee would like to have a booth at Dedham Day.

Director stated that the Rustcraft Concession stand looked terrific.

Commissioner Dello Iacono asked to check with the Parks Department if volunteers could do some to do some clean up at the Dog Park.

Commissioner Dello Iacono made a motion to accept the Assistant Directors Report, with a second by Commissioner L. Farnham.

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes Commissioner Briggs stated yes
Commissioner O'Connell stated yes Commissioner Farnham stated yes
Chairwoman Moran stated yes

Chairwoman Moran stated that there would possibly be teen canoe games at the pool and tween swim nights.

Sub-Committee Updates

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated that he had emailed all some Field Permit recommendations for changes with signage, and to discuss in the future.

Commissioner L. Farnham stated for the Transportation Workgroup and that various members are signing a letter, should she sign as a member as a commissioner. J. Briggs stated that you are a commissioner. Discussion on how to sign and suggestion to reach out to Town Clerk, Paul Munchbach.

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated that the Dog Park Committee met at the Dog Park and will meet in the Dog Park in person in the future.

Old Business

Commissioner Briggs stated that there would be a daytime Grand Opening of the equipment at Gonzalez in September and would be going in front of the Selectman to accept the donation from Livable Dedham.

A. O'Connell shared that the Kayak/Canoe storage racks are being used and there is a lot of interest.

New Business

Chairwoman Moran asked all to check in with her on the videoing on September 25th of the showcasing the parks and Parks & Recreation have Care Custody and Control of.

Next Meeting: September 13, 2021

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Dello Iacono made a motion to accept the Assistant Directors Report, with a second by Commissioner J. Briggs

Commissioner Dello Iacono stated yes Commissioner Briggs stated yes
Commissioner O'Connell stated yes Commissioner Farnham stated yes
Chairwoman Moran stated yes