

Parks & Recreation Department

Dedham Recreation Center

269 Common Street

781-751-9250



Robert Stanley
Director

Debra Anderson
Assistant & Program Director

Tracey White
Administrative Assistant

November 15, 2022

Present:

Alix O'Connell - Chairwoman
Lisa Farnham – Vice Chairwoman
Lisa Moran – Member
Robert Stanley – Director
Debra Anderson – Asst. Director

Absent:

Jonathan Briggs- Secretary
Chuck Dello Iacono - Member
Tracey White – Assistant to the Director

Public Comment

Commissioner Moran on behalf of Rita Mae Cushman for putting up her annual Christmas lights. A motion was made by Commissioner Farnham and a second by Commissioner Moran. All Commissioners present voting in the affirmative.

Minutes

None.

Outstanding minutes are June, July, August, and October.

Permits

None.

Committee Reports

Wigwam Pond – Commissioner Farnham gave update: The committee is meeting for the first time on Monday, November 21st. She took a tour of Little Wigwam and Regular Wigwam to familiarize herself.

Active Transportation Work Group (ATWG) - Commissioner Farnham – they are asking about bike racks at our parks. All the parks had racks at some point. We do not know when they disappeared. The lead of the ATWG gave Commission Farnham suggestions but no right or wrong answer. Director Stanley talked about adding to our budget.

Dog Park – Commissioner Moran gave update:

*Halloween Dog Park Costume Party – we had 50+ dogs – fun event.

*Santa Paws – Pictures w/Santa – Sunday, 12/4/22.

*FOB issue still but all who paid will be adjusted accordingly when they come in. this Saturday October 22nd 10-12 pm (rain date 10/23). We are hopeful for people to register as well.

Master Plan - Commissioner O'Connell gave update: the Planning Board is still picking through it.

Dedham Square - Commission O'Connell had not been able to make the last meeting.

Aquatic Director's Update

No official update from our Aquatics Director but Commission Moran gave brief update:

Non-stop busy. Lots going on at the pool. Clippers started last week – and there are 100+ kids in 10 and under. We haven't seen these numbers in a long time. Water aerobics is happening as well as synchronized swimming.

Director Report

Director Stanley mentioned that our Assistant, Tracey White, is moving on to another position in Town. She will be with us through the end of November. He also stated they had an internal applicant that they sent an offer to yesterday.

He is working on Capital budget – and has a bundle list. He bundles because the cost needs to be \$10,000 or more. The first item on the list will be the bleachers that we had as our first item last year as well. He would also like to include the fees for the Kayak Rental rack. This is a new program. It's self-rental with an app on your phone. No staffing needed. They are still working out the details with the company. It is like renting a blue bike. There are only a few Towns in the state that have this. But they would require us to sign a 5-year contract. Commissioner O'Connell is concerned about this contract.

Lights at Sugrue – would need a policy as to when they would need to be shut off by (neighbors right there). Are there any other fields that would require lights?

Security camera update – the one at Gonzalez is on order. Commissioner Moran asked to have the security camera at Rustcraft fixed before April.

Rustcraft – The situation of all the dirt is not an indication of any less care at this field. It relates to the water situation. The well water is generally rusty causing issues with the pumps/pump heads. We then switched to Town water – but then couldn't use Town water this summer.

Procurement – With new officer, we may not be able to use the same vendors.

Pickle Ball – Council on Aging called and would like to have it. Commissioner Farnham asked what the next steps are. We can line courts. Nets were stolen (portable). We would need to work with schools.

Move – becoming more real. No date yet. We are building a dance studio.

Assistant Director Report

Water storage – done and everyone took their stuff out.

Building a new rack (since we had a wait list this year)

Santa Paws - \$10 – pictures with Santa. Sunday 12/4/22 We prefer to register as the drop in is limited.

Santa Calls – 12/21 and 12/22/22. Last year 350 calls were made. Will be live after Thanksgiving.

Dance – closed one week then Winter session starts. Cardio tennis – both sessions are full.

Cardio Tennis – happening at Oakdale.

Multi sports coming back after New Year.

Glass fusion – was successful.

Path finders – coming with New Year.

Planning Summer stuff now.

Holiday Reading 12/10-12/22

Old Business

Commissioner O'Connell – Capen MOU making its way through the process. We signed and so did the School Committee.

Gould Project – even more over budget.

New Business

Commissioner Moran spoke to thank Tracey White for everything she has done for the Parks & Recreation Department and all the programs– as well as for everything she did to help assist her as a new Commissioner and when she served as Chair. We are lucky that Tracey will still be involved afterwards – and that she will still be in Town.

Next Meeting Dates

December – Monday, December 12th – 7 pm

Adjourn

Commissioner Moran made a motion to conclude the meeting with a second by Commissioner Farnham. All Commissioners present voted to close the meeting.

Meeting ended at 7:59 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Commissioner Moran.