**OWN OF DEDHAM**

**Park & Recreation Department**

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Robert Stanley

Park & Recreation Director

Debra Anderson

Asst. Dir. / Program Director

Tracey White

Administrative Assistant

Dolan Recreation Center

269 Common Street

Rec 781-751-9250

Pool 781-461-5991

April 10, 2017

Present Absent

John Maida Debra Anderson - Asst. Director

James Maher

Charles Dello Iacono

Salvatore Ledda

Jonathan Briggs

Robert Stanley – Director

Tracey White – Admin. Assist

**Reorganization**

Chairman

J. Maher was nominated by S. Ledda, second by C. Dello Iacono to be the Chairman

A roll call vote was taken and all voted in the affirmative.

J. Maher thanked J. Maida for all his hard work as Chairman

Vice Chairman

C. Dello Iacono was nominated by S. Ledda, second by J. Maida as the Vice Chairman

A roll call vote was taken and all voted in favor

Secretary

J. Briggs was nominated by S. Ledda, second by J. Maida to be the Secretary

A roll call vote was taken and all voted yes

**Public Comment**

Rita Mae Cushman congratulated Jim Maher on being voted Chairman and Jonathan Briggs on being elected to the Parks & Recreation Commission

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the March meeting were voted on by the Commissioners 4 in favor, with the correction of the spelling of “lighting, the error was noticed by J. Briggs. The motion was made by S. Ledda and second was made by J. Maida. All voted to accept the March Minutes (J. Briggs abstained)

**OLD BUSINESS** was taken out of Order

Steve B from Dedham Youth Soccer asked to use Gonzalez Field for practices only, until when the construction starts.

Discussion of Commissioners as to why this is coming before Board now, and that DYS has had ample time to find alternatives. Rashi School and Ursuline were questioned if they were available

Chairman advised Steve to contact Rashi School via email and cc: J. Maher and R. Stanley

Motion by J. Maida to allow Chairman to decide on permit, (as it is time sensitive) after Steve B. has reached out to Rashi School, J. Maher will let Board know what is worked out

**Directors Report**

* Parks Department is working on the fields, they worked on Saturday to catch up due to all the rain
* All fields hopefully done by the end of the week, though expectations of what can be done need to be realistic
* Capitol Item Still working with Finance Committee on Davis Field situation and Conservation as we are in 100 ft. of the buffer zone,
* Egg Drop event ran smoothly, Encounter Church did an amazing job
* Field Status – gradually opened the Baseball and Softball fields over the weekend
* Adult woman played Sunday on Rustcraft
* The men’s Softball League has three new teams
* Two movie studios reached out to Parks & Recreation…first was X-Men movie wanting to use the pool to shoot some scenes, they would need three days and we really can’t shut down pool for three days, second was from a studio that is filming in Dedham, they just wanted to ask about parking
* Pool & Recreation Revolving Financials Pool is down, due to salaries being higher, all had to get increases with the minimum wage
* Recreation side is up due to sign ups for Summer Programs, Clippers, Swim & Gym and the All Day Program
* Fiscal side is way off due to new Payroll System

**Questions**

S. Ledda: Is all snow removed out of Memorial?

R. Stanley: yes

S. Ledda: Softball has three new teams? Replacing or adding?

R. Stanley: Three get in and two get out

S. Ledda: Port a potties, do we have a policy?

R. Stanley: Some youth groups do, we put one at Paul Park & Condon

S. Ledda: What about Capen?

R. Stanley: I have been questioned about Capen & Riverdale having facilities?

C. Dello Iacon: can you look into the cost?

R. Stanley: it is about $1,000. for a summer season

C. Dello Iacono: Movie Company that was looking into Dolan Center, we do have an MOU with the Board of Selectman

J. Maida: please tell Parks guys that the fields look good

J. Maida: nets at Rustcraft need to be taken care of

All voted in favor of the Motion to accept the Directors Report made by

S. Ledda second by J. Briggs

**Assistants Report**

D. Anderson was not in attendance, report read by S. Ledda

Motion by C. Dello Iacono, second by J. Maida to approve Assist. Director report as read by S. Ledda

The upcoming weeks we have the following planning or programs

* Gymnastics- Wrapped up the seasons with the gymnastics show 2 weeks ago, as always had a great crowd come to watch the show.
* Trail day-committee will have a couple meetings in the upcoming weeks as we get closer to the event.  Will be held at the Dolan Center on May 20th.
* Gardening- New Year of gardening begins in a few weeks participants will learn how to open and maintain a spring garden along with transitioning into summer produce. Open for ages 16+
* Volleyball- Breaking this week for Easter and will continue another 5 weeks till break for summer.
* Karate-New session beginning next week.
* Hydro riders- We started a new session and also looking forward to summer have added 2 mini classes starting in June on both Sundays and Wednesdays.  Along with a new adult aquatics class.

Music for tots-starting in 2 weeks and will be the final for the season before we have 2 summer programs.

* Diving- Finishing up this week and will begin a new session with an additional class.
* Pathfinders- Spring and summer programs are taking registration and we attended the
* SEPAC camp forum.  LL bean will be leading the canoeing program this season.
* Summer All day- The discounted rate for summer all day program ended April 1st.
* Job opening accepting applications through April 28th: Counselor-All sites, Tennis Instructor, Lifeguard, Water Safety Instructor, Park Maintenance

C. Dello Iacono made motion to accept the Asst. Director Report, second by J. Briggs, all voted in favor

Updates

* Master Plan report by R. Stanley (in Dan Hart absence)

Dan Hart (Chairman of the PROS Committee) & Rich McCarthy

Working together with Horsley & Whitten on communication with getting information to various Committee members

J. Maher explained the process of the Parks & Recreation & Open Space Master Plan Committee, and Horsley & Whitten being the Vendor who is working with R. Stanley & R. McCarthy as the town employees who do the day to day work

MJ Parnell: are the Master Plan meetings open to the Community?

J. Maher: yes, and the meetings are posted

Georgianna Woods: Is the Survey still open?

J. Maher: yes, it is

J. Maher has asked for a meeting prior to May 9th without the vendor

* Gonzalez Field report by J. Maida

Bob, Dan, Jim Kern, Pat McGuire and I

Out to bid on Friday,

Goal is May 23rd

List of alternatives

Main things holding up project is parking lot that will be decided by Town Meeting

S. Ledda: any pipeline issue?

J. Maida: Spectra employee will be on site to check

MJ Parnell: will there be picnic areas & benches? Will it be ADA compliant?

J. Maida: there will be walking trails, we have alternatives in plan as well hopefully we will be able to do more

Georgianna Woods: What is the lighting situation? Hours?

R. Stanley: no lights after 11pm, usually not after 10:30, there is zero light thrown out from field (non as spillover light)

S. Ledda: from a soccer perspective usually done by 9pm

Old Business

S. Ledda: cost of lighting on two fields?

R. Stanley: working with Musco, for a practice only lighting

J. Briggs: none

C. Dello Iacono: Thank John Maida for great year as Chairman

J. Maida: Dan Hart & I met with Superintendent Welch and Susan Butler Walko about MOU between both Parks & Recreation and School Dept. will hopefully have signed on Wednesday. Had a great conversation and looking forward to working on programs together

J. Maher: Update on Pool Field? Will it be ready for Swim & Gym?

R. Stanley: Construction will start any day, sprinklers will be on Town water.

Not a lot of pressure in that area, so we have extra pumps, we will know timeline at the construction meeting, next Wednesday.

New Business

J. Briggs: none

J. Maher: D. Hart was Open Space representative, would like to ask J. Briggs to take over that role

J. Briggs: happy to do so

Motion made by J. Maida second by C. Dello Iacono, all voted in favor

J. Maher:

J. Briggs: I’d like to bring a holistic approach and bring more social equity to the parks, park benches, picnic areas I’d like to see what is possible

J. Maida: Track Program will be a go, will work with Debbie

D. Hart has been a catalyst with this, Superintendent Welch, Athletic Director Traister, and Principal McCarthy are all on board.

S. Ledda: with the defeat of the CPA, where does that leave us with the Strier project?

J. Maher: After the new Town Hall and Safety Building, maybe the town would be ready for a feel good project, the original cost was $4.5 million it would now be about $15 million there would have to be a Town Override to pay for Strier, about $77. per household on average for 2015 numbers, probably $87. Per household. I don’t feel that the town is ready for this at this time. I will be meeting with some residents that were against the CPA but are for the Strier

S. Ledda: What if it is done in stages? Strier encompasses all the things that are needed, I think it is a long term mistake not to do Strier.

J. Maher: Gonzalez is just a band aid on the fields that we need; lacrosse, football

Strier has so many areas that we can use such as baseball,tennis, football, basketball, walking trails, picnic areas

J. Briggs: Parks & Rec & Open Space should get a portion of new construction, and we should be asking / going after these businesses

S. Ledda: Strier is the solution to all our problems

MJ Parnell: Who are they? Talking about CPA, reschedule since CPA didn’t pass? Do you have a list of projects?

J. Maher: I am talking about Master Plan Consultants, they need to consider funding sources, we did not put priorities this year as, and we are working on Master Plan. Strier is always on the 5th year plan.

S. Ledda: We purchased as much to use it ourselves as well as stopping someone else from purchasing and building on it

J. Maida: Strier is our end game, we only have a few fields and we do over use them, Reyes money doesn’t help us.

C. Dello Iacono: Strier is not just ball fields it is also an educational field, CPA did not pass, we need to find more creative revenue sources. Reyes fund needs to be readdressed. I’d like to look into at it with the ok from the Board.

H. Heald: Why do people think CPA could be used for Strier

J. Maher: because it could, only the turf could not be covered

C. Dello Iacono made a motion, second by J. Maida to adjourn, all voted in the affirmative. Adjourned at 9:20pm