



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION VIRTUAL MEETING

Thursday February 17, 2022 – 6:30 P.M.

If you choose to use the WebEx platform:

- 1) Go to www.webex.com
- 2) Click the “join” button on the top right side of the screen
- 3) Enter Meeting ID#: 2315 826 9498
- 4) Enter password: Parkscomm2-17

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-415-655-0001
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 2315 826 9498

Commissioners Present:

Scott Cashman
Mary Ann Dube (Present on the phone)
Julie Ann Lamacchia
Bowen Lee
Natalie Turner (Present on the phone)
Erin Zamarro

Administration Present:

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner
Jeffrey Tomaino, Recreation Coordinator
Milagros Pacheco, Sr. Accountant
Scott Morin (Via Phone)

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1. Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM
 2. Attendance (Roll Call) – Six (6) Commission Members were present at the February 17, 2022 meeting.
 3. Acceptance of Minutes for the April 15, 2021, May 20, 2021, & November 18, 2021
 - 3.1. Ms. Turner made a motion to accept the minutes for April 15, 2021. Second by Ms. Dube. Motion was approved 4 – 0 – Mr. Cashman and Mr. Lee abstained.
 - 3.2. There was no motion for the minutes of May 20th and one of the commissioners was not called on to vote. Will revisit at the next meeting.

3.3. Ms. Zamarro made a motion to accept the minutes for November 18, 2021. Second by Ms. Turner. Motion was approved 5 – 0 Ms. Lamacchia abstained.

4. Public Participation – Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 and in order to ensure active, public engagement, the City of Worcester currently allows for both in person and remote participation at the Parks & Recreation Commission meetings. To partake in the “Public Participation” section of this meeting, you may join us directly within the 50 Skyline Drive Meeting Room A, follow the information above to join via the WebEx application or dial the direct line as indicated. If you would like to raise your hand when in the meeting as a call-in user you may dial *3.

5. Committee Reports

5.1. Golf Course Subcommittee – None

5.2. Policy Subcommittee – None

5.3. Naming & Land Use Subcommittee – None

6. Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:

1. Referral to Policy Subcommittee: NA

2. Referral to Naming/ Land Usage Subcommittee: NA

3. Referral to Golf Course Subcommittee: NA

4. General:

- Request of the Worcester Rotary Club to install a Peace Pole at Elm Park & Winslow Park
 - Mr. Richard Prager spoke on behalf of the Worcester Rotary Club, also present were Andrew Burgoyne, Barbara Guthrie and Christopher Gates. Mr. Prager explained that they are working with Rotary International on this project. The Global Rotary Peace Pole Projects main goal is to promote world peace. The purpose of the peace pole is to remind us to think, speak and act in peace and harmony. The Worcester Rotary Club is proposing to install one at Elm Park, it would be planted about 2 feet deep in a hole filled with concrete. The Peace Pole would be made of a durable/recyclable PVC (Polyvinyl) 4 sided pole that can withstand any climate. The pole would have the wording “May Peace Prevail on Earth” in 8 different languages spoken in Worcester. The Worcester Rotary Club would cover the cost.
 - There was some questions regarding the location of the pole within Elm Park, and if Winslow Park (Peace Park) was considered.
 - Ms. Dube made a motion to approve this project with final location and design confirmed by Administration. Second by Mr. Lee. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0.

- Request of Massachusetts Pirates for use of Worcester Common
 - Adrian Figueroa spoke on behalf of the Massachusetts Pirates the professional indoor football team at the DCU Center they are looking to increase the game day experience by using the Common for 2 hours prior to the games in which they provide entertainment such as games, vendor tables, music, food trucks, cheerleader entertainment, 10 x 10 section for beer.
 - Mr. Cashman asked for clarification on the timeline procedure.
 - Mr. Antonelli explained that the standard protocol when requesting to serve alcohol is to send out notices to the public before they can vote on it. However, he explained that they could vote on the event itself without the alcohol component, and they could come back for an approval on the alcohol once notices go out to the public.
 - There were questions regarding portable toilets, game dates & attendance.
 - Mr. Figueroa explained that they did not plan on getting portable toilets for such short events, he said their offices are right across from the Common and people could use their restrooms. Ms. Lamacchia suggested signage pointing out where to go. Mr. Antonelli suggested we see how it goes with the first event and if it's deemed necessary that they need the restrooms maybe they can work with staffing City Hall to use the restrooms there.
 - Ms. Turner made a motion to approve use of the Common with final determinations made by Administration. Second by Ms. Lamacchia. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0.
- Request of Commissioner Natalie Turner to discuss issues revolving around noise, trash, alcoholic beverages and parking on public streets in and around Beaver Brook Park.
 - There was a discussion on the use of the park for pick-up games and suggestions on how to deal with nuisance/illegal activities/illegal parking around the neighborhoods in the form of a mailer and neighborhood watch.
- Request of Commissioner Natalie Turner to discuss monthly meetings and Commissioner being remote.
 - Mr. Antonelli discussed the in person meetings and the option of attending the meeting remote.
- Review of City Solicitor response for clarification on the Roles & Responsibilities of the Parks & Recreation Commission and the Parks Division as requested from Commissioner Natalie Turner.
 - Mr. Antonelli shared the response from the City Solicitor in reference to the roles of the Parks & Recreation Commission.
- Grant Applications –
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Columbus Park- Awarded
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Coal Mine Brook – Awarded
 - Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Tacoma St Playground - Awarded

- Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – University Park - Submitted
- Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Indian Lake Beach - Submitted
- PARC & LAND Grant Program – Coes Pond Beach – Awarded
- Economic Development Initiatives –
 - NA
- Cultural Events-
 - NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti – NA
- Donations –
 - NA
- Capital Improvement Programs
 - Apricot Street Playgrams - NA
 - Ball Property - NA
 - Banis Street Playground - NA
 - Beaver Brook Park - NA
 - Bell Pond – NA
 - Bennett Field – NA
 - Betty Price Playground – NA
 - Blackstone Gateway Park – NA
 - Blithewood Park – NA
 - Boynton Park – NA
 - Burncoat Park – NA
 - Burncoat Playground – NA
 - Cascades Park – NA
 - Castle Park – NA
 - Common – NA
 - Coes Park (Knife) – NA
 - Stearns Tavern
 - Playground
 - Coes Pond – NA
 - Columbus Park –
 - NA
 - Cookson Park – NA
 - Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) – NA
 - Crompton Park – NA
 - Dodge Park – NA
 - Elm Park – NA
 - Newton Hill - NA
 - Fairmont Park – NA
 - Farber Field – NA
 - Grant Square – NA
 - Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
 - Green Hill Park Renovation – NA
 - Green Hill Farm
 - Community Gardens
 - WWI

- Greenwood Park – NA
- Hadwen Park – NA
- Harrington Field – NA
- Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) - NA
- Holland Rink - NA
- Holmes Field - NA
- Indian Hill Park – NA
- Indian Lake Beach – NA
- Institute Park – NA
 - Walkway Design
 - Salisbury Pond
- Kendrick Field – NA
- Knights of Columbus – NA
- Korean War Memorial – NA
- Lake Park – NA
- Lake View Playground – NA
- Logan Field – NA
- Morgan Landing – NA
- Mulcahy Field – NA
- Oakland Heights Playground – NA
- Providence Street Playground – NA
- Ramshorn Island – NA
- Rockwood Field – NA
- Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – NA
- Shale Street Playground – NA
- Shore Park – NA
- Spillane Field – NA
- Tacoma Street Playground – NA
- TY Cobb – NA
- University Park – NA
- Vernon Hill – NA
- Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) – NA
- 149 West Boylston Drive - NA
- Winslow & Pleasant – NA
- Aquatic Master Plan – NA
- Open Space and Recreation Plan – NA
- North Lake Ave Linear Park – NA
- Community Development Block Grant – NA
- Art-in-the-Park – Request to keep Art Work in Elm Park - NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
- Rectangular Field Development – NA
- Park Monument Review – NA
- Misc. items:
 - Keep Worcester Clean –
 - See Attached Memo 2-8-22
 - City Council Orders –
 - NA
 - City Council Petitions –
 - NA

- Forestry Operations – NA
 - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - Arbor Day – See Attached 2-8-22
- Budget – Operational & Capital - NA
 - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - City Auditor Communications - NA
- Summer Youth Employment Program – Begun process of hiring young adults for the upcoming summer season. All wages will be raised to a minimum of \$15.00 per hour.
- Aquatics – NA
 - Christian’s Law – NA
- Recreation Worcester - NA
- Holiday Tree – NA
- Worcester Common Ice Skating Rink - NA
- Waterfowl in Park – NA
- Out-to-Lunch – NA
- Trash – NA
- ESCo – NA
- Park Permits –
 - See second item on the agenda
- Access/ ADA – NA
- Mobile Concession/ Food Truck - NA
- ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
- Veterans Memorials - NA
- Misc. Information –
 - Golf Course:
 - NA
 - Golf Course Donations: NA

7. Date of Next Meeting:

- March 3, 2022
- March 31, 2022
- April 28, 2022
- May 12, 2022
- June 16, 2022
- September 15, 2022
- October 20, 2022
- November 17, 2022
- December 15, 2022
- January 19, 2023
- February 2, 2023 (Sports & Event Meeting)
- March 2, 2023
- March 30, 2023
- April 27, 2023
- May 25, 2023

- June 15, 2023

8. Meeting Adjourned

8.1.1. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Lee, Second by Ms. Turner. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

A copy of this meeting is not yet available but once it is you will be able to view and listen to full meeting discussions at: www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes