

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday February 2, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

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#: 2319 400 2392
- 4) Enter password: Parkscomm2-2

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-415-655-0001
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 2319 400 2392

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Attendance (Roll Call)
3. Acceptance of Minutes for the November 17, 2022 & January 19, 2023 (Roll Call)
4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at Parks@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Parks@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.
5. 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 Officer Manny Familia Way 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.

6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

5. Old Business

- NA

6. New Business

- NA

7. Date of Next Meeting:

- March 2, 2023
- March 23, 2023 (Revised date)
- April 27, 2023
- May 25, 2023
- June 15, 2023

8. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call)

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. General:

- Sports & Events Permit Presentation

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Or

Virtual with WebEx

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

GENERAL



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Thursday – January 19, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.

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- 1) Go to www.webex.com
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- 3) Enter Meeting ID#: 2304 545 2130
- 4) Enter password: Parkscomm1-19

If you choose to attend via phone:

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- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 2304 545 2130

Commissioners Present:

Scott Cashman
Nick Chacharone
Brian Dardy
Eric Stratton
Erin Zamarro

Administration Present:

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner
Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant III
Scott Morin, Maintenance Director (Online)

-
1. Meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM.
 2. Attendance (Roll Call) – Five (5) Commission Members were present at the January 19, 2023, meeting.
 3. Acceptance of the minutes for June 16, 2022, September 8, 2022, and November 17, 2022- (Tabled)
 4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at Parks@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Parks@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.
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6. Committee Reports

1. Golf Course Subcommittee – None
2. Policy Subcommittee – None
3. Naming & Land Use Subcommittee – None

7. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

8. Old Business

- a. Mr. Geoff Killebrew Question Review – Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to file. Second by Commissioner Zamarro. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.

9. New Business - NA

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:
 - o Review and approval of Park policies & Procedures
 - o Fireplace Requirements for Salisbury Park – Bancroft Tower – Commissioner Stratton made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
 - o Fireworks Requirements – Bell Pond - Commissioner Stratton made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Zamarro. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
 - o Facility Reservation for Beaches - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
 - o Facility Reservation for Pools - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
 - o Facility Reservation for Splash Pads (Spray Parks) - Commissioner Stratton made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
 - o To Attend Recreational Program or Activities in City Park & Open Spaces - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Zamarro. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
 - o Eagle Scout Projects - Commissioner Stratton made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 5 – 0.
 - o Commissioner Stratton asked if anyone has a question about any of the policies or procedures, can they be revisited.
 - o Assistant Commissioner Antonelli recommended that any items that he would like to revisit to let him know in order to add it to the agenda to then revisit.

- Grant Applications –
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Coal Mine Brook – Awarded – Should be completed around June.
 - Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Tacoma St. Playground – Awarded – Going out to bid in March - April
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – University Park – Awarded – Should be out to bid and start construction sometime in July.
 - Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Indian Lake Beach – Not Awarded – Not approved.
 - PARC & LAND Grant Program – A couple of other grants are coming forward.
- Economic Development Initiatives –
 - NA
- Cultural Events-
 - NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti – NA
- Donations –
 - NA
- Capital Improvement Programs
 - Apricot Street Playground - 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
 - Blithwood Park – Updated
 - Boynton Park – NA
 - Burncoat Park – NA
 - Burncoat Playground – NA
 - Cascades Park – NA
 - Castle Park – NA
 - Coal Mine Brook – Updated
 - Common – NA
 - Coes Park (Knife) – NA
 - 1) Stearns Tavern
 - 2) Playground
 - Coes Pond – NA
 - Columbus Park –
 - 1) NA
 - Cookson Park – NA
 - Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) –
 - 1) NA
 - Crompton Park – NA
 - Dodge Park – NA
 - Elm Park – NA
 - 1) Newton Hill - NA
 - Fairmont Park – NA
 - Farber Field – NA
 - Grant Square – Under construction – Should be completed sometime in June - July

- Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
- Green Hill Park Renovation – NA
 - 1) Green Hill Farm
 - 2) Community Gardens
 - 3) 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
 - 1) Walkway Design
 - 2) 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
- South Worcester Park – Getting ready to award bid
- 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 Artwork in Elm Park - NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
- Rectangular Field Development – NA
- Park Monument Review – NA
- Misc. items:
 - Keep Worcester Clean –

- 1) NA
- City Council Orders –
 - 1) NA
- City Council Petitions –
 - 1) NA
- Forestry Operations –
 - 1) Tree City USA - NA
 - 2) ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - 3) EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - 4) Arbor Day – April 28, 2023 – Working on location
- Budget – Operational & Capital - NA
 - 1) Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - 2) Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - 3) City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - 4) City Auditor Communications - NA
- Summer Youth Employment Program – Meeting with Human Resources to try to manage future hirings.
 - 1) Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that on a normal year there are between 40 & 50 Lifeguards. However, since Covid it has gone down, last year only 17 lifeguards were hired. This year the city will offer to pay for the training to the hire them.
- Aquatics – NA
 - 1) Christian’s Law – NA
- Recreation Worcester - NA
- Holiday Tree – Friday December 2, 2022
- Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink – Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday’s weather permitting
- Waterfowl in Park – NA
- Out-to-Lunch – NA
- Trash – NA
- ESCo – NA
- Park Permits –
 - 1) NA
- Access/ ADA – NA
- Mobile Concession/ Food Truck - NA
- ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
- Veterans Memorials - NA
- Misc. Information –
 - 1) NA
- Golf Course:
 - Fees & Policies - NA
- Golf Course Donations: NA
- Date of Next meeting – February 2, 2023
- Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Zamarro. All were in favor. Motion approved 5 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM.

**A copy of this full meeting will be available to view and listen to at:
www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes**



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Thursday – November 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#: 2305 454 6909
- 4) Enter password: Parkscomm11-17

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-415-655-0001
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 2305 454 6909

Commissioners Present:

Nick Chacharone
Eric Golstein
Eric Stratton
Erin Zamarro

Administration Present:

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner
Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant III
Scott Morin, Maintenance Director (Online)

-
1. Meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.
 2. Attendance (Roll Call) – Four (4) Commission Members were present at the November 17, 2022, meeting.
 3. Acceptance of the minutes for June 16, 2022, and September 8, 2022 - (Tabled)
 4. To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division by email at Parks@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Para solicitar una interpretacion razonable, o enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito por favor comuniquese con la oficina de la Division de Parques, Recreo & Cementerio por correo electronico a Parks@worcesterma.gov. Por favor note que las solicitudes de interpretacion deberan ser enviadas 48 horas antes de la reunion.
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6. Committee Reports
 1. Golf Course Subcommittee – None
 2. Policy Subcommittee – None
 3. Naming & Land Use Subcommittee – None
7. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)
8. Old Business
 - a. Mr. Geoff Killebrew Question Review – Tabled
 - b. Review of Permit Applications
9. New Business - NA

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:
 - o Master Plan review and approval of conceptual designs for Blithewood Park
 - o Assistant Commissioner Antonelli started a screen presentation and went through the proposal:
 - 1) 95' Basketball court
 - 2) Lighting
 - 3) Pickle ball/Tennis
 - 4) A loop asphalt walkway that goes around the park
 - 5) New adult fitness center area similar to the one at the Senior Center
 - 6) Small open pavilion with picnic tables
 - 7) Enhancement of area where the Holiday Tree goes to include electricity
 - 8) Entry access from Massasoit Road
 - 9) Repairs to wall along the property line
 - 10) Growing grass in area where Little League field was, looking to make it an open field.
 - 11) Netting to protect neighbors & cars from balls
 - 12) Sitting areas
 - 13) No changes will be made to the parking lot other than lighting
 - 14) No changes to playground
 - 15) Tree planting and removal of dead tress
 - o There were questions from the Commission, such as:
 - 1) How will the netting for tennis vs pickle ball be worked out?
 - 2) What type of material would be used for the walking paths?
 - o Councilor Russell congratulated the Parks Division staff for all the research and work done for this Master Plan. He shared information about the park's history, activity, and his

knowledge of the park, he stated that he liked the plan in general. However, he pointed out that he would like to see the field stay as the Grasseschi Field regardless of its classification, rectangular or a baseball field.

- There was a question from someone online in reference to the pathways.
- Mike Testa, President of the Grafton Hill Neighborhood Association agreed with Councilor Russell and contributed his knowledge on the use history of the park.
- Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- Request to allow alcohol on the Worcester Common for the Festival of Lights Celebration
 - Yaffa Fain was virtually present and spoke on behalf of the Festival of Lights at the Common on Friday, December 2, 2022, gave a brief description of the event, and their request to serve alcohol as part of the celebration.
 - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- Removal of all Parks & Recreation Commission Subcommittees
 - Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained the reason for the request.
 - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- Grant Applications –
 - 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 - Awarded
 - Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Indian Lake Beach – Submitted but not approved.
 - PARC & LAND Grant Program – NA
- Economic Development Initiatives –
 - NA
- Cultural Events-
 - NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti – NA
- Donations –
 - NA
- Capital Improvement Programs
 - Apricot Street Playground - NA
 - Ball Property - NA
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 - Common – NA
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 - 2) Playground
- Coes Pond – NA
- Columbus Park –
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- Cookson Park – NA
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 - 1) NA
- Crompton Park – NA
- Dodge Park – NA
- Elm Park – NA
 - 1) Newton Hill - NA
- Fairmont Park – NA
- Farber Field – NA
- Grant Square – Under construction
- Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
- Green Hill Park Renovation – NA
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- Misc. items:
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 - Forestry Operations –
 - 1) Tree City USA - NA
 - 2) ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
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 - 4) Arbor Day – April 28, 2023
 - Budget – Operational & Capital - NA
 - 1) Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - 2) Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - 3) City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - 4) City Auditor Communications - NA
 - Summer Youth Employment Program – Starting soon
 - Aquatics – NA
 - 1) Christian’s Law – NA
 - Recreation Worcester - NA
 - Holiday Tree – Friday December 2, 2022
 - Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink – Getting ready to open
 - Waterfowl in Park – NA
 - Out-to-Lunch – NA
 - Trash – NA
 - ESCo – NA
 - Park Permits –
 - 1) Review of permit applications
 - Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve all application updates as well as fee increases. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved. 4 – 0.
- See second item on the agenda
 - Access/ ADA – NA
 - Mobile Concession/ Food Truck - NA
 - ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
 - Veterans Memorials - NA

- Misc. Information –
 - 1) NA
- Golf Course:
 - Fees & Policies Recommendations
 - Fees:
 - 1) Change shotgun event fees from \$75 to \$95.
 - a. Shotgun start evens close the course for approximately 9 hours. The fee of \$75 does not generate enough revenue to justify the closure for such a long period of time.
 - 2) Student Pass eliminated as part of a two year draw down of the category. Players in this age category fall under. Either the junior pass (18 & under as stated in the Information Guide) or the millennial membership (19-29).
 - 3) Weekend morning green fees increased from \$45 to \$ 47. No other weekend fee changes.
 - 4) Cart fees increased \$1 per category. In 2022 the fee was increase by \$1. This second increase is in response to the increased costs for cart operations.
 - 5) Increase season permit categories: \$50 per category. (With the exception of the millennial pass as these will absorb the eliminated student pass).
 - 6) Change of Millennial Membership (title) to a different title not yet determined.

Policies:

- 1) Tee times booking 7 days in advance via Web page. Clubhouse call in bookings taken only day of.
- 2) Eliminate proper dress requirement
- 3) ½ way house restrooms open within 1 hour of first tee time
- Commissioner Stratton made a motion to approve the recommendations, with the understanding that the name change on number 6 will be determined at a later date. Second by Commissioner Goldstein. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- Golf Course Donations: NA
- Date of Next meeting – December 15, 2022
- Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion approved 6 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

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PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION **MINUTES**

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3. Naming & Land Use Subcommittee – None

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8. Old Business

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- Rockwood Field – NA
- Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – NA
- Shale Street Playground – NA
- Shore Park – NA
- Spillane Field – NA
- South Worcester Park – Getting ready to award bid
- 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 Artwork in Elm Park - NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
- Rectangular Field Development – NA
- Park Monument Review – NA
- Misc. items:
 - Keep Worcester Clean –

- 1) NA
- City Council Orders –
 - 1) NA
- City Council Petitions –
 - 1) NA
- Forestry Operations –
 - 1) Tree City USA - NA
 - 2) ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - 3) EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - 4) Arbor Day – April 28, 2023 – Working on location
- Budget – Operational & Capital - NA
 - 1) Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - 2) Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - 3) City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - 4) City Auditor Communications - NA
- Summer Youth Employment Program – Meeting with Human Resources to try to manage future hirings.
 - 1) Assistant Commissioner Antonelli explained that on a normal year there are between 40 & 50 Lifeguards. However, since Covid it has gone down, last year only 17 lifeguards were hired. This year the city will offer to pay for the training to the hire them.
- Aquatics – NA
 - 1) Christian’s Law – NA
- Recreation Worcester - NA
- Holiday Tree – Friday December 2, 2022
- Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink – Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday’s weather permitting
- Waterfowl in Park – NA
- Out-to-Lunch – NA
- Trash – NA
- ESCo – NA
- Park Permits –
 - 1) NA
- Access/ ADA – NA
- Mobile Concession/ Food Truck - NA
- ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
- Veterans Memorials - NA
- Misc. Information –
 - 1) NA
- Golf Course:
 - Fees & Policies - NA
- Golf Course Donations: NA
- Date of Next meeting – February 2, 2023
- Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Zamarro. All were in favor. Motion approved 5 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 PM.

**A copy of this full meeting will be available to view and listen to at:
www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes**

