

## THE CITY OF WORCESTER

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS PARKS, RECREATION, & CEMETERY DIVISION

50 Skyline Drive, Worcester, MA 01605

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#### PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting Minutes for Thursday, February 25, 2016 – 6:30 PM

#### **Commissioners Present:**

Scott Cashman Nick Chacharone Eric Goldstein John Lauring Meg Mulhern Lawrence Sullivan

#### **Administration Present:**

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner Jeff Tomaino, Park & Recreation Coordinator

### **ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

Chairman Goldstein called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM

- Mr. Goldstein proceeded with the acceptance of the minutes for December 10, 2015 & January 28, 2016. He asked if everyone was ok with the minutes or if there were any questions or concerns. There were no questions.
  - Mr. Antonelli stated for the record that the minutes for January 28, 2016 noted that the meeting originally scheduled for January 7, 2016 was cancelled due to not having a quorum; therefore there weren't any meeting minutes for it.
  - Ms. Mulhern made a motion to approve the minutes, Second by Mr. Chacharone. All were in favor.
     Motion was approved 6 0.
- Mr. Goldstein moved to the Assistant Commissioners Report.
- Mr. Antonelli went on with his report the first item on his agenda was:
  - o Policy & Procedure Revisions Permit Priority Tiers minor changes
    - Mr. Antonelli explained that there were a few changes to add Rugby and Youth Rugby
    - Ms. Mulhern made a motion to accept changes, Second by Mr. Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0.
  - Preservation Worcester in cooperation with Gray Matter Marketing to allow alcohol on Worcester
     Common for a 5K road race followed by a beer festival with samplings of beer.
    - Mr. Antonelli explained that Preservation Worcester/Gray Matter Marketing has already had this event at the Common with the alcohol component and they are coming back for approval for this year. Mr. Antonelli asked for the Commission to allow them to speak.
    - John a representative from Gray Matter Marketing he explained that between WPD, their security and Parks staff the area was secured and the event was a success, and he anticipates the same for this year.
    - Mr. Antonelli stated that it was a great event, and everything went well.
    - Mr. Chacharone asked what the link was between Preservation Worcester and them.
    - John stated that Preservation Worcester and Gray Matter are partners and Preservation Worcester gets some of the proceeds of the event.

- Mr. Lauring made a motion to approve, Second by Mr. Sullivan. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 0.
- o Mr. Antonelli moved on to the following 4 Policy and Procedure revisions:
- o Policy & Procedure Revisions Facility Reservations for Crompton Park Pool
- o Policy & Procedure Revisions Facility Renovations for Public Beaches
- Policy & Procedure Revisions –Attendance at Recreational Programs or Activities in City Parks & Open Spaces
- o Policy & Procedure Revisions Facility Reservations at Splash Pads
- o Mr. Antonelli explained that the Policy changes are for safety of the public to be able to better manage our facilities and make sure the aquatic sites as well as other recreation facilities are properly staffed and not over the maximum. He explained that sometimes organizations will show up at facilities with a bus full of people, without a notice. This policy will allow for the Parks Division to be notified ahead of time and make the proper arrangements. As well as notifying organizations that they are will be responsible to meet the requirements of "Christians Law".
- o Mr. Cashman asked how this would be communicated to people.
- Mr. Antonelli stated that the goal is for the Parks Division to reach out to organizations such as Friendly House, the Community houses around the City that have recreation programs as well as the Y and other organizations.
- o Ms. Mulhern asked if there was any way these Policies could be somehow advertised.
- o Mr. Antonelli stated that the Policies will be posted on the City of Worcester website.
- o Mr. Lauring asked if organizations had to come in front of the Parks Commission.
- o Mr. Antonelli explained that it was only if necessary if any particular organization continues to not follow the rules.
- Ms. Mulhern made a motion to approve the new Policies, Second by Mr. Chacharone. All were in favor.
   Motion was approved 6 0.
- Coes Zone Group request to speak to the Commission
  - o Mr. Antonelli explained that the Coes Knife Grant was awarded to the Parks Department.
- Fireworks Requirements Bell Pond Policy Revisions
- Water Supply Alert
- Wayfinding Project Council Item 1-12-16
- Grant Applications
  - o Coes Knife Awarded
  - o TD Green Streets Grant Haven't Heard yet
  - National Fish & Wild Life Five Star & Urban Waters Restoration Program Grant It's been submitted
  - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Betty Price Submitted a \$250,000 Grant Timeline for this
    project would not be until Fiscal Year 18.
- Economic Development Initiatives NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti NA
- Donations Skyhawks Donation
- Capital Improvement Programs
  - Apricot Street Playground NA
  - o Ball Property NA
  - Banis Street Playground NA
  - o Beaver Brook Park NA
  - o Bell Pond NA
  - o Bennett Field NA
  - Betty Price Playground Master Plan @ CC
  - o Blackstone Gateway Park NA
  - o Blithewood Park NA
  - o Boynton Park NA
  - o Burncoat Park Master Plan @ CC
  - Burncoat Playground NA
  - Cascades Park NA

- o Castle Park Master Plan @ CC
- Common Master Plan Implementation NA
  - WWII & Civil War
- o Coes Knife Park Update
  - Stearns Tavern
  - Playground
- o Coes Pond NA
- o Columbus Park NA
- Cookson Park NA
- o Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) NA
- Crompton Park Under construction
- Dodge Park NA
- o Elm Park NA
  - Task Force
  - Bridge
  - Newton Hill
- o Fairmont Park NA
- o Farber Field NA
- Grant Square NA
- o Great Brook Valley Playground NA
- o Green Hill Park Renovation
  - Green Hill Farm Under construction restroom building and two storage buildings.
  - Green Hill Park Pavillion Awarded Re-roofing of the Pavillion
- o Greenwood Park Master Plan @ CC
- o Hadwen Park NA
- o Harrington Field NA
- o Harry Sherry Field (South Worcester) Master Plan @ CC
- o Holland Rink Master Plan @ CC
- o Holmes Field Master Plan @ CC
- o Indian Hill Park Update
- o Indian Lake Beach NA
- o Institute Park
  - Restroom Facility & Gazebo Gazebo is up and roof is done
  - Salisbury Pond
- o Kendrick Field NA
- o Knights of Columbus NA
- o Korean War Memorial NA
- o Lake Park NA
- o Lake Park State (possible Synthetic Field) NA
- Lake View Playground NA
- o Logan Field NA
- o Morgan Landing NA
- o Mulcahy Field Master Plan Update @ CC
- o Oakland Heights Playground NA
- o Providence Street Playground NA
- Ramshorn Island NA
- o Rockwood Field NA
- Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) NA
- o Shale Street Playground Master Plan
- o Shore Park NA
- Spillane Field NA
- Tacoma Street Playground NA
- o TY Cobb NA

- University Park NA
- o Vernon Hill NA
- Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) NA
- o 149 West Boylston Drive NA
- Winslow & Pleasant NA
- o Aquatic Master Plan NA
- Open Space and Recreation Plan NA
- o North Lake Ave Linear Park NA
- Community Development Block Grant NA
- Art-in-the-Park NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs Master Plan Update
  - o Mr. Antonelli stated that there 4 types of dog park changes that have been identified such as:
    - Changing the ordinance to allow dogs into some parks
    - The concept of open range, so areas of parks that are wide open for use during certain times
    - The concept of Dog runs, smaller areas but large enough for dogs to be able to run back and forth
    - And the larger 2 3 acre dog park
  - o There will be more public meetings in April, still working on recommendations.
- Rectangular Field Development Master Plan Update
  - o Public meetings will come soon, finalizing recommendations
- Misc. items:
  - o Keep Worcester Clean -
    - November 2015 & December 2015
  - City Council Orders
    - Worcester Common
    - Tenacity
  - o Petitions
    - Tree Planting
    - Roller Skating
  - Forestry Operations Update
    - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
    - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
  - Budget Update Operational & Capital -
    - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division
    - Capital Improvement program
    - City Five Point Financial Plan NA
  - Summer Youth Employment Program
  - Wheels to Water Now "Recreation Worcester" NA
  - Holiday Tree NA
  - Worcester Common Ice Skating Rink Closed for the Season
  - Waterfowl in Park NA
  - Out-to-Lunch NA
  - o Trash NA
  - o ESCo NA
  - o Park Permits NA
  - Access/ ADA NA
  - o Mobile Concession NA
  - o Misc. Information -
    - Seasonal Events Article
    - Coes Knife
    - City Council Youth Parks & Recreation Sub Committee
  - o NA
- Golf Course:

- o NA
- Golf Course Donations
  - o NA
- > Tabled Items: Smoking in Public Parks NA
  - o Ms. Mulhern made a motion to adjourn, Second by Mr. Sullivan. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM
- Next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting: March 10, 2016 6:30 PM