



THE CITY OF WORCESTER
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND PARKS
PARKS, RECREATION, & CEMETERY DIVISION
50 Skyline Drive, Worcester, MA 01605

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr. Assistant Commissioner Phone: (508) 799-1190 Fax: (508) 799-1293

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting Minutes for
Thursday, October 25, 2018 – 6:30 PM

Commissioners Present:

Scott Cashman
Nick Chacharone
John Lauring
George Sedares

Administration Present:

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

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

Chairperson Mr. Sedares called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

- Mr. Sedares went on to the acceptance of minutes for September 27, 2018
 - Mr. Chacharone made a motion to accept the minutes for September 27, 2018. Second by Mr. Lauring. All were in favor. Minutes were approved 4 – 0.
- Mr. Sedares turned the meeting to Mr. Antonelli for the Assistant Commissioners report:
- Mr. Antonelli went to the first item on his report:
 - Request of Festival of Lights to have alcohol on the common for the November 30, 2018 Holiday Tree Lighting.
 - Ms. Amy Peterson from the City Manager's Office addressed the Commission she stated that this request to serve alcohol at the Common as part of the Holiday Tree Lighting/Festival of Lights is to enhance the amenities, programs and offerings based on feedback from past attendees as well as new comers/tenants from new properties in the downtown area.
 - Mr. Cashman asked if there was a current sponsor or if the city still has to find a sponsor.
 - Ms. Peterson explained that there isn't a sponsor at this time that they are looking to get an approval to follow through with looking for sponsors.
 - Mr. Chacharone asked if there was a permit yet and if they were just looking for an approval.
 - Mr. Antonelli explained that the first step is to go in front of the Parks Commission to get a preliminary approval prior to going in front of License Commission and finalizing details such as sponsors and vendors for the Festival of Lights.
 - Mr. Lauring asked how it would be managed within the Common, if it would be fenced off.
 - Mr. Antonelli explained that it had not been determined yet but it would be addressed the same way as other events that serve alcohol.
 - Mr. Cashman asked what the estimated amount of people to attend is.

- Ms. Peterson said that in the past there has been between 2 and 4 thousand people.
- Mr. Sedares recalled maybe even up to 5 thousand.
- Mr. Lauring made a motion to approve. Second by Mr. Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- Mr. Antonelli went on to the following 3 items:
 - Review and Approval of 2019 Permit Applications for Events in Parks & Sports
 - Mr. Antonelli explained that the 2019 Permit Applications for Events in Parks & the Sports Application have the following changes:
 - No Smoking in the City Parks
 - No Drones allowed
 - Bancroft Tower new closing time 8:00 PM
 - Clarification of the Clean-up Fee
 - Oil disposal clarification for events that have vendor frying food
 - New \$100 fee for hanging of banners
 - Cancellation Fee was increased
 - Trash fee increased
 - Glodis Field will have a different fee from other locations of \$125.00 per hour minimum of two hours with the exception of Worcester Youth Soccer who will be assisting with the maintenance to the field.
 - Administrative charge will be increased to \$100
 - Review and Approval of 2019 Parks Fees, Policies, Rules & Regulations
 - New \$100 fee for hanging of banners
 - Cancellation Fee was increased
 - Trash fee increased
 - Glodis Field will have a different fee from other locations of \$125.00 per hour minimum of two hours with the exception of Worcester Youth Soccer who will be assisting with the maintenance to the field.
 - Administrative charge will be increased to \$100
 - Review and Approval of 2019 Golf Fees & Policies
 - Mr. Moison fee changes, recommendations as well as a comparison list (separately attached)
 - 2019 Driving Range Policy and Fee Amendment Recommendations
 - Amend previously approved discount/prepaid card.
 - Approved in red.
 - Prepaid cards:
 - \$100 prepaid activates \$125 worth of range dispensing
 - \$200 prepaid activates \$250 worth of range dispensing
 - \$500 prepaid activates \$625 worth of range dispensing
 - Season pass range addendum:
 - With the purchase of a seasons pass the pass holder may opt to purchase a range addendum for an additional \$300. The \$300 addendum activates \$500 worth of range dispensing.
 - Reason for amendment:
 - Range dispensing system operates on a percentage off system and not a dollar off system.
 - Recommendation:
 - Establish 2 pre-paid percentage discounts

- Membership discount: 30% off
- Regular pre-paid discount 20% off
- Minimum initial purchase \$100 required.
- Discount is placed on a fauve, given to player free for initial purchase. Lost fauve replacement cost \$10.
- 2019 Policy and Fee Recommendations
 - Increase Cart rates: \$2.00 for 18 hole rentals and \$1.00 for 9 hole rentals
 - **Anticipated result \$23,000 in increased revenues**
 - Rational: Purchasing new golf carts mid-summer. Holding green fees unchanged. Carts remain optional.
- Creation of a “millennial membership”: Unlimited only. Resident \$750. Nonresident \$850.
- **Anticipated result, 15 new memberships sold. \$10,000 net increase in membership revenue.**
- Rational: Seasonal memberships have not grown. Senior passes are shrinking. New investment in a new demographic.
- Details: Pass category for people aged 19 to 29. Unlimited only. Must be age 29 or under at the time of application.
- Twilight golf league expansion: Allow for added golf leagues Tue, Wed, and Thurs from 2 PM to 3 PM front 9 only.
- **Anticipated result, 1 new golf league \$8000.**
- Rational: Weekdays at 2PM the course is reduced to 9 holes only due to evening leagues playing off holes 1 and 10 at 4 PM.
As a result there is not a lot of play from 2 to 3 PM Closer to 3 PM rounds increase as people try to play before leagues and high schools arrive.
- Annually we have several requests for twilight golf league space. Although 2 PM is early we may be able to fill this down time. Regular twilight rates would apply.
- Special: Amend special pricing at the course so as to reflect normal greens fee/ cart rates with attached coupons.
- Rational: Specials are run for a variety of reason and include but are not limited to: aeration, play conditions, slow time frames, seasonal considerations, and holidays. For better accounting the course can apply dollar(s) off coupons to the regular approved fee structures. Coupons are tracked in the POS as part numbers. All special would be recommended by the Head Golf Professional/ Director of Golf and approved by the Assistant Commissioner of DPW & Parks, Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division prior to enacting.
- Inner Club: Creation of an Inner Club at the course. This would run most Saturdays and Sundays throughout the season. Closure of the first tee between 10 AM and 11 AM (later if needed).
- High school use of the driving range: *Presently the course donates space for H.S. Golf. With the range online for next season the course should consider a discount for HS golf (practice). Recommend billing the school department at a 50% discount of current rates.*
- Mr. Cashman had questions regarding fees increases, advertising, and number of students at the golf course. Mr. Moison answered all his questions.

- A motion was made by Mr. Chacharone to accept all fee changes and recommendations. Second by Mr. Cashman. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- Grant Applications –
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Betty Price - Awarded
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Hadwen Park – Awarded
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Hadwen Park – Awarded
 - PARC & LAND Grant Program – South Worcester Playground - Awarded
 - PARC & LAND Grant Program – Crompton Park – Filed
- 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 – Moving along
 - Blackstone Gateway Park – Opening soon
 - Blithwood Park – Parking lot in design
 - Boynton Park – NA
 - Burncoat Park – NA
 - Burncoat Playground – NA
 - Cascades Park – NA
 - Castle Park – Update
 - Common Master Plan Implementation – NA
 - Coes Park (Knife) – Update
 - Stearns Tavern – work continues
 - Playground
 - Coes Pond – NA
 - Columbus Park – NA
 - Cookson Park – NA
 - Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) – contract awarded for picnic tables and benches
 - Crompton Park – NA
 - Dodge Park – NA
 - Elm Park – NA
 - Newton Hill – Building is up and operational
 - Fairmont Park – NA
 - Farber Field – Waiting for funding
 - Grant Square – Completed
 - Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
 - Green Hill Park Renovation – Update
 - Green Hill Farm
 - Community Gardens

- WWI – Under Construction
 - Greenwood Park – NA
 - Hadwen Park – Update
 - Harrington Field – NA
 - Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) - Update
 - Holland Rink - NA
 - Holmes Field – Almost done
 - Indian Hill Park – NA
 - Indian Lake Beach – NA
 - Institute Park – Update
 - Walkway Design
 - Salisbury Pond
 - Kendrick Field – NA
 - Knights of Columbus – NA
 - Korean War Memorial – NA
 - Lake Park – NA
 - Lake Park State - NA
 - Lake View Playground – NA
 - Logan Field – NA
 - Morgan Landing – NA
 - Mulcahy Field - Update
 - Oakland Heights Playground – NA
 - Providence Street Playground – Planning on opening in the Spring
 - Ramshorn Island – NA
 - Rockwood Field – NA
 - Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – Park Spirit opened to the public Sundays in October
 - 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 – Starting up soon
- Community Development Block Grant – NA
 - Art-in-the-Park – NA
 - Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
 - Rectangular Field Development – NA
 - Park Monument Review – Continue to work with monuments
 - Misc. items:
 - Keep Worcester Clean –
 - NA
 - City Council Orders –
 - Request to have a meeting on Skateboarding

- Coes Pond motorized boats
 - Petitions –
 - Newton Square Rotary
 - Forestry Operations – Update
 - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - Arbor Day - NA
 - Budget – Operational & Capital - Update
 - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – Update
 - Capital Improvement Program – Update
 - City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - City Auditor Communications - NA
 - Summer Youth Employment Program – MA
 - Aquatics – Update
 - Christian’s Law – NA
 - Recreation Worcester - NA
 - Holiday Tree – November 30, 2018
 - Worcester Common Ice Skating Rink - NA
 - Waterfowl in Park – NA
 - Out-to-Lunch – NA
 - Trash – NA
 - ESCo – NA
 - Park Permits –
 - NA
 - Access/ ADA – NA
 - Mobile Concession/ Food Truck - NA
 - ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
 - Misc Information –
 - Article on Downtown Dog Park
 - Article on Hadwen Park
 - Article on Bancroft Tower
 - Article on Blackstone Heritage Corridor
 - Article on Commonwealth Lake Park (Turf)
 - Article on Business Improvement District
 - Article on Worcester Skateboarding
 - Article on Newton Hill
 - Article on American Chestnut
 - City Council Youth Parks & Recreation Sub Committee - NA
- Golf Course:
 - Golf Fees & Policies (See Above)
 - Golf Driving Range policy & Fees changes
- Golf Course Donations: - NA
- Mr. Chacharone made a motion to adjourn. Second by Mr. Cashman. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 - 0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM
- Next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting: November 19, 2018 – 6:30 PM