



**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

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**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

Meeting Minutes for  
Thursday, February 2, 2017 – 6:30 PM

**Commissioners Present:**

Scott Cashman  
Nick Chacharone  
John Luring  
George Sedares  
Lawrence Sullivan  
Matthew Wally

**Administration Present:**

Robert C. Antonelli Jr, Assistant Commissioner  
Jeff Tomaino, Park & Recreation Coordinator  
Gary Rosen, City Councilor

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**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

Chairperson Mr. Sedares called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM

- Mr. Sedares tabled the acceptance of the minutes for January 12, 2017.
- Mr. Sedares asked Mr. Antonelli to go on with the report:
- Mr. Antonelli went on to the first item as follows:
  - Central Mass Lyme Foundation presentation by Michelle and Ken Miller
    - Ms. Miller went on to give a presentation she explained that she lost her mother to complications of late stage Lyme disease. She added that her mother had been wrongly diagnosed with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease), and that her mother went on to see many neurologist and by the time they found a doctor that was Lyme literate and she was diagnosed with Lyme disease it was too late for her. Ms. Miller said that her mother had left many journals of the symptoms of Lyme disease, and she as well as her husband Ken felt the need to educate people on this disease. She went on to mention some of the symptoms of such as: a rash, hives, extreme headaches that don't go away, neck stiffness, backache, she said that the list go on, so what they do as a foundation they have monthly meetings at 90 Holden Street in Worcester at the Unitarian Church with guest speakers who are expert on the field. They also have a conference. She said it was a serious problem in this area and she said it is an epidemic, she recommended people to get tested because this disease can go undetected. For more information there is a website [www.centralmasslyme.org](http://www.centralmasslyme.org), a phone number - 1-888-511-LYME (5963), there is also an email address [CentralMassLyme@gmail.com](mailto:CentralMassLyme@gmail.com) for any questions on this disease.
  - Annual Park Permit Meeting - Presentation by Mr. Antonelli as follows:
    - Mr. Antonelli handed out an Agenda with a Water Drought informational flyer.
    - Permits applications are available at: [www.worcesterma.gov/dpw/parks-rec](http://www.worcesterma.gov/dpw/parks-rec).
    - Permits: [www.worcesterma.gov/dpw/parks-rec](http://www.worcesterma.gov/dpw/parks-rec).
      - Three (3) types of Permits
      - Event Permit

- Sports Permit
  - Stage Permit
- Parks & Field Use/ Closed Facilities
  - Currently all Fields are Closed - the City will determine when all facilities will open
- Parks & Fields Re-permitting
- Facility Cleanup & Trash
  - It is the responsibility of the organizations/ individual holding the park permit to ensure the facility is clean and presentable.
  - Trash Fee increase starting at \$350.00
- Parking
  - It is the responsibility of the organization/ individual holding the park permit to address this issue with all participants, spectators and staffing. A parking plan will be required.
- Vehicles on Park Land
  - Vehicles are prohibited in any/all grass areas, pathways, sidewalk or along any park road
- Electric
  - All requests for electricity use must be specific in nature
- Food
- Portable Restrooms:
  - All portable restrooms must have a minimum of 1 (one), or 5% of the total restrooms provided must be accessible
  - All portable restrooms are required to have a minimum of 1 (one) accessible unit at each Cluster
  - Each accessible restroom must be placed off of an accessible surface for ease of use.
- Tents (No Stakes)
- Alcoholic Beverages
  - All alcoholic beverages as defined in Chapter 138 section 1 of MGL are prohibited
- Inflatable's (No Stakes)
- Cancellation Policy
- Event Set Up & Breakdown
  - City staff is required to be on site for event setup and breakdown. Do not start until staff is on site.
- Accessible Routes
  - All event must have accessible routes of at least 36" in width along paths of travel
- ADA Accommodation Notice
  - For ADA accommodation, the Worcester ADA Coordinator 508-799-8483
- Rules & Regulations
- No Smoking in Parks
- Dogs in Parks
- Balances
- Fees
  - \$18.00 per hour for sports fields
  - \$250.00 for up to 4 hours for events (no Staff)
  - \$50.00 per hour for staff – minimum 4 hours
- Stage
  - Stage size is 24'(L) x 24'(D) x 4'(H)
  - Stage is not accessible
- Facility Improvements
  - Only general maintenance i.e. mowing, trimming, watering etc. can occur
  - All facility improvements outside the scope of general maintenance must be approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission
  - A public hearing may be required for these improvements to take place
- Rain & Wet Conditions

- If there are puddles on the facility and/or you step on any portion of the field and water squishes out from under your shoes the facility is closed
    - This is for the safety of the participants and the long term benefit to the facility
  - Worcester Sound Ordinance
    - Any amplified sound shall not be plainly audible at a distance of 50 feet or more from said Public Park, playground, & playing field.
    - A permit will be required for amplified sound from the Worcester Police Department
  - Organization/ League Information (Application, Fees, Web Site & Insurance)
  - Rosters, Game Schedules & Executive Board (Sport Permits)
  - Lighted Fields (Sport Permits)
  - Locking of Sports Fields (Sport Permits)
  - Soft Toss (Sport Permits)
  - Water Supply Alert
    - January 2017 “Water Supply Alert”
    - The City of Worcester is currently in a Stage 2 Drought
    - Park Irrigation Systems
    - What this means to Parks and your use.
  - Parks & Recreation Commission
  - Permit Application Address
    - Use an address where mail is picked up regularly.
  - Customer Survey System - Evaluation
  - Park Security
    - There will be full time Park Security that will be inspecting and reviewing permits regularly.
    - They will be available for emergency issues or general concerns/ questions.
    - They will work to inform park users of the rules/ regulations and ordinances of the Parks System.
    - Park Security can be reached at 508-612-1121 or [parkssecurity@worcesterma.gov](mailto:parkssecurity@worcesterma.gov)
- TD Green Streets Grant - Awarded
- National Fish & Wild Life – Five Star & Urban Waters Restoration Program Grant
- Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Betty Price Awarded
- PARC & LAND Grant Program – Playgrounds Awarded
- Mass Housing & Economic Development Massworks Infrastructure Grant Program \$100,000.00
- Economic Development Initiatives – NA
- Cultural Events-
  - Grant Announcement
- 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
  - Blithewood Park – NA
  - Boynton Park – NA
  - Burncoat Park – NA
  - Burncoat Playground – NA
  - Cascades Park – NA
  - Castle Park – Update

- Common Master Plan Implementation – NA
- Coes Knife Park – Update
  - 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 – Update
  - Newton Hill
- Fairmont Park – NA
- Farber Field – NA
- Grant Square – NA
- Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
- Green Hill Park Renovation – NA
  - Green Hill Farm
  - Refectory
- Greenwood Park – NA
- Hadwen Park – NA
- Harrington Field – NA
- Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) - NA
- Holland Rink - NA
- Holmes Field - Update
- 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 (possible Synthetic Field) - NA
- Lake View Playground – NA
- Logan Field – NA
- Morgan Landing – NA
- Mulcahy Field - Update
- Oakland Heights Playground – NA
- Providence Street Playground – Update
- Ramshorn Island – NA
- Rockwood Field – NA
- Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – NA
- Shale Street Playground – NA
- Shore Park – Update
- 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 – Update
- North Lake Ave Linear Park – NA
- Community Development Block Grant – NA
- Art-in-the-Park – NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
- Rectangular Field Development – **NA**
- Park Monument Review - NA
- Misc items:
  - Keep Worcester Clean
    - NA
  - City Council Orders
    - Hadwen Park
    - Dog Ordinance
    - Green Hill Golf Course – Worcester Business Journal Award for Best Public Golf Course
  - Petitions - NA
  - Forestry Operations – Update
    - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
    - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
  - Budget – Operational & Capital - Update
    - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
    - Capital Improvement program – NA
    - City Five Point Financial Plan - NA
  - Summer Youth Employment Program – NA
  - Recreation Worcester - NA
  - Holiday Tree – NA
  - Worcester Common Ice Skating Rink - Update
  - 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 –
    - WWI (Green Hill Park) Article
    - Forestry (Gypsy Moth) Article
    - WPD Article
    - City Council Youth Parks & Recreation Sub Committee
    - Mr. Lauring asked if there was an update about the Parks Division having its own Social Media
  - Golf Course:
    - NA
- Golf Course Donations:
  - NA
  - Mr. Chacharone made a motion to adjourn, Second by Mr. Lauring. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 - 0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM
- Next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting: March 2, 2017 – 8:19 PM