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:
  - 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.

- Mr. Antonelli moved on to the following 4 Policy and Procedure revisions:
  - Policy & Procedure Revisions – Facility Reservations for Crompton Park Pool
  - Policy & Procedure Revisions – Facility Renovations for Public Beaches
  - Policy & Procedure Revisions – Attendance at Recreational Programs or Activities in City Parks & Open Spaces
  - Policy & Procedure Revisions – Facility Reservations at Splash Pads

  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”.

- 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.

- Ms. Mulhern asked if there was any way these Policies could be somehow advertised.
- Mr. Antonelli stated that the Policies will be posted on the City of Worcester website.

- Mr. Lauring asked if organizations had to come in front of the Parks Commission.
- 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
  - 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 –
  - Coes Knife - Awarded
  - 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
  - Ball Property - NA
  - Banis Street Playground - NA
  - Beaver Brook Park - NA
  - Bell Pond – NA
  - Bennett Field – NA
  - Betty Price Playground – Master Plan @ CC
  - Blackstone Gateway Park – NA
  - Blithewood Park – NA
  - Boyston Park – NA
  - Burncoat Park – Master Plan @ CC
  - Burncoat Playground – NA
  - Cascades Park – NA
- Castle Park – Master Plan @ CC
- Common Master Plan Implementation – NA
  - WWII & Civil War
- Coes Knife Park – Update
  - Stearns Tavern
  - Playground
- Coes Pond – NA
- Columbus Park – NA
- Cookson Park – NA
- Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) – NA
- Crompton Park – Under construction
- Dodge Park – NA
- Elm Park – NA
  - Task Force
  - Bridge
  - Newton Hill
- Fairmont Park – NA
- Farber Field – NA
- Grant Square – NA
- Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
- 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
- Greenwood Park – Master Plan @ CC
- Hadwen Park – NA
- Harrington Field – NA
- Harry Sherry Field (South Worcester) - Master Plan @ CC
- Holland Rink - Master Plan @ CC
- Holmes Field - Master Plan @ CC
- Indian Hill Park – Update
- Indian Lake Beach – NA
- Institute Park
  - Restroom Facility & Gazebo – Gazebo is up and roof is done
  - 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 - Master Plan Update @ CC
- Oakland Heights Playground – NA
- Providence Street Playground – NA
- Ramshorn Island – NA
- Rockwood Field – NA
- Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – NA
- Shale Street Playground – Master Plan
- 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 – NA
Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – Master Plan Update
- Mr. Antonelli stated that there are 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
- There will be more public meetings in April, still working on recommendations.

Rectangular Field Development – Master Plan Update
- Public meetings will come soon, finalizing recommendations

Misc. items:
- Keep Worcester Clean –
  - November 2015 & December 2015
- City Council Orders
  - Worcester Common
  - Tenacity
- 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
- Trash – NA
- ESCo – NA
- Park Permits – NA
- Access/ ADA – NA
- Mobile Concession - NA
- Misc. Information –
  - Seasonal Events Article
  - Coes Knife
  - City Council Youth Parks & Recreation Sub Committee
- NA

Golf Course:
Golf Course Donations
  - NA

Tabled Items: - Smoking in Public Parks – NA

- 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