



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday January 9, 2025 – 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 Microsoft Teams platform:

- 1) Go to www.teams.com
- 2) Enter Meeting ID# 230 688 664 444
- 3) Enter password: F2Xs6zg6

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-469-998-7682
- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 409 124 91#

If technological problems interrupt the virtual meeting component, the meeting will continue in-person.

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Attendance (Roll Call)**
3. **Acceptance of the Minutes:**
November 14, 2024 & December 19, 2024 (Roll Call)
4. **Accommodation Request:**
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:

There will be a two (2) hour time limit for this meeting unless a majority of the Commission Members present vote to extend the allotted time.

- a) 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 Teams 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 *5.

6. Public Participation on Agenda Items:

A person may speak for no more than three (3) minutes in total on any items appearing on the agenda.

The rules related to the duration of how long someone can speak, standard processes for adding, moving and filing items on the agenda was revised on June 13, 2024.

7. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

8. Old Business:

The individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda may speak for no more than five (5) minutes in total on the item they have submitted.

- a) NA

9. New Business:

Agenda items must be submitted (3) three business days before each Commission Meeting with subject line "Agenda Item" to Parks@worcesterma.gov and reply satisfactorily to any required follow-up requests sent by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda may speak for no more than five (5) minutes in total on the item they have submitted.

- a) Request of David Webb to speak to the commission on setting the record straight in regards to the arbitrary \$25/week fee's charged to Geoff Killebrew during his probationary period in response to complaints made to the parks department, as confirmed by Erin Zamarro citing the place it was written that they could charge those fees if "vendors and concessioners who do not abide, failure to follow all ordinances/regulations may result in fines" However, we have confirmed multiple times that the parks department did not have any rules regarding the vendor prices that were not being followed.
- b) Request of David Webb to speak to the commission on the matter of public transparency and acting in the interest of public participation rather than discouraging it with prohibitive tactics such as using nonsearchable and nonclickable agenda documents. I believe the Parks Department clerk may be printing and scanning them, rather than uploading them, and feel this is counterproductive to public interest.

The Commission, department and Assistant Parks commissioner Jr are familiar with this problem, as the requirement to "respond satisfactorily to any required follow-up requests sent by the Parks And Recreation commission" was added due to them denying a request to speak to them because an attachment was provided in PDF rather than WORD document. This change is especially necessary given the way the 2025 rules were introduced via a web link that was unusable to the public. Please note that as of 1/6/25 the only active Worcester commissions with this problem is 1. Parks and recreation commission 2. Urban Forestry Tree Commission and 3. Hope Cemetery Commission. All other commission agendas are searchable, and their links are clickable. Not a single other active commission or standing committee posts documents in the manner that the Parks and Recreation commission does. This is inaccessible, inequitable, and should change.

- c) Request of David Webb to speak to the commission requesting a motion for the parks department to not post documents stating "The above Rules and Regulations have been approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission" prior to the document being voted on by the commission such as done at the December 2024 meeting
- d) Request of David Webb to speak to the commission about the Open Meeting Law and City Manager's executive rules and regulations in consideration of the Parks 2025 Rules and regulations being posted to the city's website prior to public participation or being voted on by the commission
- e) Request of David Webb to speak to the commission request administration provide a list of violations and fees assessed between 2018 and 2025
- f) Request of David Webb to speak to the commission regarding the department's practice of posting updated rules, that state "The above Rules and Regulations have been approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission" prior to receiving approval from the Parks & Recreation Commission or providing ANY opportunity for public comment or providing public notice of where the proposed rules were posted
- g) NA

10. Tabled Items:

To take an item off the table, a motion must be made by a member of the commission, seconded, and approved by a majority vote of the members present. The item can then be discussed at the next meeting.

- a) Request of Commissioner Turner for an update on the request of Nancy Ortiz regarding handball courts in Worcester
- b) Commissioner Turner request that a baseball league have their permit revoked for their CONSISTENT violations. This league has been frying chicken and cooking all day with other violations that should be addressed. I want this league and all of its players banned from operating in Worcester city Parks. There have been a multitude of violations that must be dealt with. Also, I would like to ask that the Commission institute a formal process of handling leagues and any other organization violations within city parks. And leagues should be restricted to 9pm.
- c) NA

11. Tentative Dates of the Next Meetings:

- February 6, 2025 (Sports Permit Meeting)
- February 27, 2025 (Event Permit Meeting)
- March 27, 2025 (Revised Date)
- April 10, 2025
- May 8, 2025
- June 12, 2025

12. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call):

The Parks & Recreation Commission reserves the right to allow an individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda additional time if a motion made by a member of the commission, is seconded, and approved by a majority vote of the members present.



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING **MINUTES**

Special Meeting

Thursday November 14, 2024 – 6:00 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 Microsoft Teams platform:

- 1) Go to www.teams.com
- 2) Enter Meeting ID# 225 038 247 741
- 3) Enter password: 8awzfg

If you choose to attend via phone:

- 1) Call 1-469-998-7682
Enter Meeting ID#: 651 601 530#

If technological problems interrupt the virtual meeting component, the meeting will continue in-person.

AGENDA

1. Called to Order at 6:13 PM
2. Attendance (Roll Call)
 - a) The following Commissioners were present:
 - i. Brian Dardy
 - ii. Eric Stratton
 - iii. Natalie Turner
 - iv. Erin Zamarro
 - b) Administration Present:
 - i. Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner
 - ii. Jeffrey Tomaino, Recreation Director
 - iii. Scott Morin, Maintenance Director (Virtual)
 - iv. John Grant, General Foreman (Virtual)
 - v. Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant 3
3. Acceptance of the Minutes: October 10, 2024

- a) Commissioner Stratton made a motion to accept the minutes from October 10, 2024. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4-0.

4. Accommodation Request:

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:

There will be a two (2) hour time limit for this meeting unless a majority of the Commission Members present vote to extend the allotted time.

- a) 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 Teams 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 *5.

6. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

7. Public Participation on Agenda Items:

A person may speak for no more than three (3) minutes on any item appearing on the agenda.

8. Old Business:

The individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda may speak for no more than five (5) minutes in total on the item they have submitted.

- a) Request of Geoffrey Killebrew to speak to the Commission on:
 1. To discuss past and present rules and regulations regarding vending and busking in city parks?"
 2. Mr. Killebrew asked to file this item to move on to new business to address his questions and requests.
 3. Commissioner Turner made a motion to File Item A under old Business. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

9. New Business:

Agenda items must be submitted (3) three business days before each Commission Meeting with subject line "Agenda Item" to Parks@worcesterma.gov and reply satisfactorily to any required follow-up requests sent by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda may speak for no more than five (5) minutes in total on the item they have submitted.

- a) Request of Commissioner Stratton to discuss questions submitted to the Parks & Recreation Commission by Geoffrey Killebrew on October 10, 2024.
- b) After discussions between the Parks & Recreation Commission and Mr. Killebrew the following motions were made:
 - i. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File request #1 for the Parks Division to collaborate with the Worcester Renaissance Project. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - ii. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File request #2 for the Parks Division to enter into an agreement with F.A.M. Jam. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - iii. Commissioner Turner made a motion to File all questions pertaining to busking, considering the Parks & Recreation doesn't have purview over busking. The questions were #3, #120 thru 127. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - iv. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to File request #4 and to continue the current bid process for vendors/concessions. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - v. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to File request #5 and to continue with the current process to staff parks as necessary while vendors drive in the park for loading and unloading. Second by Commissioner Turner. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - vi. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File request #6 to provide a list of violations & fines, and to keep the current process. Second by Commissioner Stratton. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - vii. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to add request #7 to amend current practice to allow vendor to keep their seasonal sports during special events, be added to **Old Business** to discuss later. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - viii. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to File request #8 regarding the practice to allow subcontracting. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - ix. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File request #9 the request to allow vendors to have sound permits. Second by Commissioner Turner. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - x. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File request #10 regarding amending the current practice to allow novelty vendor and various vendor types outside of concessions. Second by Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - xi. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File request #11 regarding the request to amend the current practice to designate additional parks for vending. Second by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

- xii. Commissioner Turner made a motion to File request #31 & 32 pertaining to Festival Grants. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- xiii. Commissioner Turner made a motion to File questions # 64 & 65 pertaining to vendor permit dates, hours and shortened hours. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- xiv. Commissioner Turner made a motion to File question # 73 pertaining to what the process was for the previous vendor to name his truck after the park. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- xv. Commissioner Turner made a motion to File question #107 – 115 pertaining to business structure and employees. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- xvi. Commissioner Turner made a motion to File #128, 1 – 19, pertaining to questions previously answered. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- xvii. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to move to **Old Business** all remaining items not discussed from the list of questions and requests from Mr. Killebrew provided at the October 10, 2024, meeting, to be discussed as the last item on the November 21, 2024, meeting. Second by Commissioner Turner. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

10. Tabled Items:

To take an item off the table, a motion must be made by a member of the commission, seconded, and approved by a majority vote of the members present. The item can then be discussed at the next meeting.

- a) NA

11. Date of Next Meeting:

- November 21, 2024
- December 19, 2024
- January 9, 2025 (Parks Concession Meeting)
- February 6, 2025 (Sports Permit Meeting)
- February 27, 2025 (Event Permit Meeting)
- March 20, 2025
- April 10, 2025
- May 8, 2025
- June 12, 2025

12. Meeting Adjourned at 7:36 PM

- a) Commissioner Turner made a motion to adjourn. Second by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

The Parks & Recreation Commission reserves the right to allow and individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda additional time if a motion made by a member of the commission, is seconded, and approved by a majority vote of the members present.

1. General:

- a) NA
- b) Grant Applications –
 - 1. Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Tacoma St Playground – Awarded
 - 2. Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – University Park – Awarded
 - 3. Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Great Brook Valley – Awarded
 - 4. PARC & LAND Grant Program – Sever Street – Awarded
- c) Economic Development Initiatives –
 - 1. NA
- d) Cultural Events –
 - 1. NA
- e) Park Vandalism & Graffiti –
 - 1. NA
- f) Donations –
 - 1. NA
- g) Community Development Block Grant – NA
- h) Art-in-the-Park – Request to keep Artwork in Elm Park – NA
- i) Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
- j) Rectangular Field Development – NA
- k) Park Monument Review – NA
- l) Aquatic Master Plan – NA
- m) Open Space and Recreation Plan – NA
- n) North Lake Ave Linear Park – NA
- o) Capital Improvement Programs:
 - 1. Apricot Street Playground - NA
 - 2. Ball Property - NA
 - 3. Banis Street Playground - NA
 - 4. Beaver Brook Park - NA
 - 5. Bell Pond – NA
 - 6. Bennett Field – NA
 - 7. Betty Price Playground – NA
 - 8. Blackstone Gateway Park – NA
 - 9. Blithwood Park – NA
 - 10. Boynton Park – NA
 - 11. Burncoat Park – NA
 - 12. Burncoat Playground – NA
 - 13. Cascades Park – NA
 - 14. Castle Park – NA
 - 15. Coal Mine Brook – NA
 - 16. Common – NA
 - 17. Coes Park (Knife) – NA
 - a) Stearns Tavern
 - b) Playground
 - 18. Coes Pond – NA
 - 19. Columbus Park – NA
 - 20. Cookson Park – NA
 - 21. Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) – NA
 - 22. Crompton Park – NA
 - 23. Dodge Park – NA
 - 24. Elm Park – NA

- a) Newton Hill - NA
- 25. Fairmont Park – NA
- 26. Farber Field – NA
- 27. Grant Square – NA
- 28. Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
- 29. Green Hill Park Renovation – NA
 - a) Green Hill Farm
 - b) Community Gardens
 - c) WWI
- 30. Greenwood Park – NA
- 31. Hadwen Park – NA
- 32. Harrington Field – NA
- 33. Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) - NA
- 34. Holland Rink - NA
- 35. Holmes Field - NA
- 36. Indian Hill Park – NA
- 37. Indian Lake Beach – NA
- 38. Institute Park – NA
 - a) Walkway - NA
 - b) O’Connell Field - NA
 - c) Salisbury Pond - NA
- 39. Kendrick Field – NA
- 40. Knights of Columbus – NA
- 41. Korean War Memorial – NA
- 42. Lake Park – NA
- 43. Lake View Playground – NA
- 44. Logan Field – NA
- 45. Morgan Landing – NA
- 46. Mulcahy Field – Update
- 47. Oakland Heights Playground – NA
- 48. Providence Street Playground – NA
- 49. Ramshorn Island – NA
- 50. Rockwood Field – NA
- 51. Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – NA
- 52. Sever Street - NA
- 53. Shale Street Playground – NA
- 54. Shore Park – NA
- 55. Spillane Field – NA
- 56. South Worcester Park - NA
- 57. Tacoma Street Playground – NA
- 58. TY Cobb – NA
- 59. University Park – NA
- 60. Vernon Hill – NA
- 61. Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) – NA
- 62. 149 West Boylston Drive - NA
- 63. Winslow & Pleasant – NA
- p) Miscellaneous Items
 - 1. Keep Worcester Clean – NA
 - 2. City Council Orders – NA
 - 3. City Council Petitions – NA
 - 4. Forestry Operations –
 - a) Tree City USA - NA
 - b) ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle) - NA
 - c) EAB (Emerald Ash Borer) - NA
 - d) Arbor Day – April 25, 2025

5. Budget – Operational & Capital - NA
 - a) Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - b) Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - c) Community Preservation Act Budget - NA
 - d) City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - e) City Auditor Communications - NA
6. Summer Youth Employment Program – NA
7. Aquatics – NA
 - a) Christian’s Law – NA
8. Recreation Worcester - NA
9. Holiday Tree – December 6, 2024 - NA
10. Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink - NA
11. Waterfowl in Park – NA
12. Out-to-Lunch – NA
13. Trash – NA
14. ESCo – NA
15. Park Permits –
 - a) See Above
16. Access/ ADA – NA
17. Mobile Concession/ Food Truck – NA
[Policies & Procedures | City of Worcester, MA
\(worcesterma.gov\)](https://www.worcesterma.gov/policies-procedures)
18. ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
19. Veterans Memorials - NA
20. Misc. Information –
 - a) NA

q) Golf Course

1. Fees & Policies - NA
2. Golf Course Donations - NA



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday December 19, 2024 – 6:30 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

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- 2) Enter Meeting ID# 235 715 298 249
- 3) Enter password: NpDCzR

If you choose to attend via phone:

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- 2) Enter Meeting ID#: 465 610 279#

If technological problems interrupt the virtual meeting component, the meeting will continue in-person.

AGENDA

1. Called to Order at 6:35 PM
2. Attendance (Roll Call)

a) Commissioners Present:

- i. Nick Chacharone
- ii. Brian Dardy
- iii. Eric Stratton
- iv. Erin Zamarro

b) Administration Present:

- i. Robert C. Antonelli, Jr., Assistant Commissioner
- ii. Jeffrey Tomaino, Recreation Director
- iii. Scott Morin, Maintenance Director – (Virtual)
- iv. John Grant, General Foreman – (Virtual)
- v. Matthew Moison, Golf Professional – (Virtual)
- vi. Milagros Pacheco, Staff Assistant 3

3. Acceptance of the Minutes:
November 14, 2024 (Roll Call)

Commissioner Stratton made a motion to hold minutes until the following meeting.
Seconded by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

November 21, 2024 (Roll call)

Commissioner Stratton made a motion to approve. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

4. Accommodation Request:

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5. Public Participation:

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The rules related to the duration of how long someone can speak, standard processes for adding, moving and filing items on the agenda was revised on June 13, 2024.

7. Assistant Commissioners Report (See Report Topics Below)

8. Old Business:

The individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda may speak for no more than five (5) minutes in total on the item they have submitted.

- a) NA

9. New Business:

Agenda items must be submitted (3) three business days before each Commission Meeting with subject line “Agenda Item” to Parks@worcesterma.gov and reply satisfactorily to any required follow-up requests sent by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda may speak for no more than five (5) minutes in total on the item they have submitted.

- a) Update on appointments to the Parks & Recreation Commission
 - i. Assistant Commissioner Antonelli informed the Commission of the new Commissioner selected to serve at the Parks & Recreation Commission as Mr. Andrew Serrato.

- ii. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to file item (a) under New Business. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- b) Request of Commissioner Stratton for an update on trash cleanup at University Park
 - i. Assistant Commissioner gave an update on the status of the University Park Clean up, he said the work has continued since the November meeting, he added that they go there on a daily basis, he said they are having a problem with vandalism, where the trash baskets are getting thrown in the pond, they removed most of it with the exception of one that was frozen, they will work on that as they are able to.
 - ii. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to file Item (b) under new business. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- c) Request of Geoffrey Killebrew through Commissioner Dardy to discuss the following items:

Vending in the park (# of vendors and duration)

- i. Request the commission to have the number of vendors in the park be increased from 1 to 8. (4 Novelty/Merch/Service) (4 Concession/Food)
 - 1. The Parks & Recreation Commission, Assistant Commissioner Antonelli, and Mr. Killebrew had discussions.
 - 2. Commissioner Stratton made a motion for Assistant Commissioner Antonelli make a recommendation at the January meeting of the number of vendors that can be allowed in parks based on size, availability and space, focusing on the parks that have existing vendors. Seconded by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - 3. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File Item (c – i) under new business. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- ii. Requesting the commission to extend the vending season from April 1st, 2025, to March 31st, 2026.
 - 1. The Parks & Recreation Commission, Assistant Commissioner Antonelli, and Mr. Killebrew had discussions.
 - 2. Commissioner Stratton made a motion for Assistant Commissioner Antonelli to make his recommendations at the January meeting on extending the vending season, and any conditions related to that including vendor location. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 - 3. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to File Item (c – ii). Seconded by Commissioner Dardy. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- iii. Requesting the commission to extend the vending ending hours from the currently permitted hours to 9PM and discuss concerns relating to lighting and safety in parks.
 - 1. The Parks & Recreation Commission, Assistant Commissioner Antonelli, and Mr. Killebrew had discussions.
 - 2. Commissioner Stratton made a motion for Assistant Commissioner Antonelli to bring his recommendation at that January meeting of the request to extend the vending ending hours and the concerns relating to lighting, and safety in the park. Seconded by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

3. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to File Item (c – iii). Seconded by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- iv. Requesting the commission amend the rule requiring seasonal permitted vendors to obtain permission from special event organizers to operate during their events. (Event organizers should be informed of the vendor's presence, required to reach out to them and offer for them to stay, not as part of their event, but because the vendor is paying for the season. Alternate spots for stationary vendors should be presented to and approved by Parks Commission prior to vendor starting their operation. Permitted vendors should only be restricted if their designated spot or park amenities essential to their operation (e.g., water, pavilion, high pedestrian area, electricity) are required by the organizer for event purposes. If the organizer demonstrates the necessity of exclusive use and collaboration is not feasible, and in a way that doesn't require the vendor to give their offerings away for free, they should compensate the vendor with a pro-rated fee for park use that day. F.A.M. Jam! is willing to offer a free 1-hour consultation to facilitate collaboration between organizers and vendors.
 1. The Parks & Recreation Commission, Assistant Commissioner Antonelli and Mr. Killebrew had discussions.
 2. Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to File Item (c – iv). Seconded by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
 3. Commissioner Chacharone made a motion for the Assistant Commissioner Antonelli to provide the Commission a list of event organizers. The Parks & Recreation Commission agreed to divide the list and call the event organizers to get their feedback and feel on having existing vendors in the park while they are having their event. Seconded by Commissioner Dardy. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

Agreement information request

- v. Request the commission to provide us with a copy of the collective bargaining agreement and details that outline the fees and payments that correlate to vendor vehicles being in the park, who negotiates it, when it is up for renewal.
 1. It was determined that this item could not be discussed by the Parks Commissioner as it was not in their purview.
 2. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to File Item (c – v). Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- vi. **Violations, Fines, Fee's**
- vii. Request the commission to revise their fine/fee schedule to include a section specifically for any prohibited activities related to vendors, and to ensure this is clearly posted in the park's rules and regulations.
- viii. Requesting the commission add the fines and fees to all vendor documents.
- ix. Requesting the commission to provide a list of past violations and fees that have been administered between 2019-2024.
- x. Requesting the commission to develop and post a conflict resolution process for vendor complaints, prior to the vendor having to appear before the board, face probation, fees or suspension of license. (e.g. document complaint, inform vendor within 24hrs to clarify complaint, offer solutions, give opportunity to vendor to resolve)

General questions relating to Violations, Fines, Fee's

- xi. Are there variable probationary fees associated with levels of complaint, or is it \$50 regardless of the complaint type?
- xii. Are there variable probationary periods based on the level of complaint?
- xiii. What is a vendor required to do if someone complains about pricing?
- xiv. Are there particular criteria or rubrics vendors must meet in customer satisfaction?

1. 13a. What would they be?

- a. The Parks & Recreation Commission, Assistant Commissioner and Mr. Killebrew had discussions on all items from C – VI through C – XIV.
- b. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File all Items from C – VI through C – XIV. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- c. Commissioner Stratton made a motion to suspend the time limit to extend the meeting for another 10 minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

General question

- xv. What is the difference in park ordinances between a vendor truck, pushcart or stand?

1. 14a. This would be very important for vendors who have tents or a stand but need to drive into set up their stand to an area of the park with high foot traffic. An ideal location within the park may not be close to the street. The rule about vehicles for vendors needs to be modified. Certain parks could be activated more if a vendor or performer were there, however if access is restricted for them to set up, that park may never see more visitors because no one is drawn there. Park Vendors and Buskers who create public space activation should be celebrated by the Parks Department as a feature to the community and tourists, not as a nuisance.

- a. The Parks & Recreation Commission, Assistant Commissioner and Mr. Killebrew had discussions on item c - xv.
- b. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to suspend the time limit rule for another 10 minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.
- c. Commissioner Dardy made a motion to File Item {c - xv}. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

10. Tabled Items:

To take an item off the table, a motion must be made by a member of the commission, seconded, and approved by a majority vote of the members present. The item can then be discussed at the next meeting.

- a) Request of Commissioner Turner for an update on the request of Nancy Ortiz regarding handball courts in Worcester
- b) Commissioner Turner request that a baseball league have their permit revoked for their CONSISTENT violations. This league has been frying chicken and cooking all day with other violations that should be addressed. I want this league and all of it players banned from operating in Worcester city Parks. There have been a multitude of violations that must be dealt with. Also, I would like to ask that the

Commission institute a formal process of handling leagues and any other organization violations within city parks. And leagues should be restricted to 9pm.

c) NA

11. Tentative Dates of the Next Meetings:

- January 9, 2025
- February 6, 2025 (Sports Permit Meeting)
- February 27, 2025 (Event Permit Meeting)
- March 27, 2025 (Revised Date)
- April 10, 2025
- May 8, 2025
- June 12, 2025

12. Meeting Adjourned (Roll Call):

- a) Commissioner Dardy made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 PM.

The Parks & Recreation Commission reserves the right to allow and individual /organization /group who has placed an item on the agenda additional time if a motion made by a member of the commission, is seconded, and approved by a majority vote of the members present.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. General:

a) Review of the Parks Rules & Regulations

[Permits & Licensing | City of Worcester, MA](#)

The Commission had discussions and asked some questions of Assistant Commissioner in reference to the rules and regulations.

Commissioner Dardy made a motion to approve the Rules and Regulations. Seconded by Commissioner Chacharone. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

b) Grant Applications –

1. Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Tacoma St Playground – Awarded
2. Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – University Park – Awarded
3. Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Great Brook Valley – Awarded
4. PARC & LAND Grant Program – Sever Street – Awarded

c) Economic Development Initiatives –

1. NA

d) Cultural Events –

1. NA

e) Park Vandalism & Graffiti –

1. NA

f) Donations –

1. NA

- g) Community Development Block Grant – NA
- h) Art-in-the-Park – Request to keep Artwork in Elm Park – NA
- i) Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
- j) Rectangular Field Development – NA
- k) Park Monument Review – NA
- l) Aquatic Master Plan – NA
- m) Open Space and Recreation Plan – NA
- n) North Lake Ave Linear Park – NA
- o) Capital Improvement Programs:
 - 1. Apricot Street Playground - NA
 - 2. Ball Property - NA
 - 3. Banis Street Playground - NA
 - 4. Beaver Brook Park - NA
 - 5. Bell Pond – NA
 - 6. Bennett Field – NA
 - 7. Betty Price Playground – NA
 - 8. Blackstone Gateway Park – NA
 - 9. Blithwood Park – NA
 - 10. Boynton Park – NA
 - 11. Burncoat Park – NA
 - 12. Burncoat Playground – NA
 - 13. Cascades Park – NA
 - 14. Castle Park – NA
 - 15. Coal Mine Brook – NA
 - 16. Common – NA
 - 17. Coes Park (Knife) – NA
 - a) Stearns Tavern
 - b) Playground
 - 18. Coes Pond – NA
 - 19. Columbus Park – NA
 - 20. Cookson Park – NA
 - 21. Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) – NA
 - 22. Crompton Park – NA
 - 23. Dodge Park – NA
 - 24. Elm Park – NA
 - a) Newton Hill - NA
 - 25. Fairmont Park – NA
 - 26. Farber Field – NA
 - 27. Grant Square – NA
 - 28. Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
 - 29. Green Hill Park Renovation – NA
 - a) Green Hill Farm
 - b) Community Gardens
 - c) WWI
 - 30. Greenwood Park – NA
 - 31. Hadwen Park – NA
 - 32. Harrington Field – NA
 - 33. Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) - NA
 - 34. Holland Rink - NA
 - 35. Holmes Field - NA
 - 36. Indian Hill Park – NA
 - 37. Indian Lake Beach – NA
 - 38. Institute Park – NA
 - a) Walkway - NA

- b) O'Connell Field - NA
- c) Salisbury Pond - NA
- 39. Kendrick Field – NA
- 40. Knights of Columbus – NA
- 41. Korean War Memorial – NA
- 42. Lake Park – NA
- 43. Lake View Playground – NA
- 44. Logan Field – NA
- 45. Morgan Landing – NA
- 46. Mulcahy Field – Update
- 47. Oakland Heights Playground – NA
- 48. Providence Street Playground – NA
- 49. Ramshorn Island – NA
- 50. Rockwood Field – NA
- 51. Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – NA
- 52. Sever Street - NA
- 53. Shale Street Playground – NA
- 54. Shore Park – NA
- 55. Spillane Field – NA
- 56. South Worcester Park - NA
- 57. Tacoma Street Playground – NA
- 58. TY Cobb – NA
- 59. University Park – NA
- 60. Vernon Hill – NA
- 61. Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) – NA
- 62. 149 West Boylston Drive - NA
- 63. Winslow & Pleasant – NA
- p) Miscellaneous Items
 - 1. Keep Worcester Clean – NA
 - 2. City Council Orders – NA
 - 3. City Council Petitions – NA
 - 4. Forestry Operations –
 - a) Tree City USA - NA
 - b) ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle) - NA
 - c) EAB (Emerald Ash Borer) - NA
 - d) Arbor Day – April 25, 2025
 - 5. Budget – Operational & Capital - NA
 - a) Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – NA
 - b) Capital Improvement Program – NA
 - c) Community Preservation Act Budget - NA
 - d) City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - e) City Auditor Communications - NA
 - 6. Summer Youth Employment Program – NA
 - 7. Aquatics – NA
 - a) Christian's Law – NA
 - 8. Recreation Worcester - NA
 - 9. Holiday Tree – NA
 - 10. Worcester Common Ice-Skating Rink – Open and operational
 - 11. Waterfowl in Park – NA
 - 12. Out-to-Lunch – NA
 - 13. Trash – NA
 - 14. ESCo – NA
 - 15. Park Permits –
 - a) See Above

- 16. Access/ ADA – NA
- 17. Mobile Concession/ Food Truck – NA
[Policies & Procedures | City of Worcester, MA](http://www.worcesterma.gov/Policies_and_Procedures)
[\(worcesterma.gov\)](http://www.worcesterma.gov)

- 18. ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
- 19. Veterans Memorials - NA
- 20. Misc. Information --
 - a) NA

q) Golf Course - Fees & Policies –
 Commissioner Chacharone made a motion to approve the 2025 Fee and Policy Recommendations as shown below. Seconded by Commissioner Stratton. All were in favor. Motion was approved 4 – 0.

- 1. Increase season permit rates by \$200 across all categories with the exception of the Junior passes.

In a recent review of area golf courses GHGC continues to be on the lower half of fees for season permits. The volume of golf played by season permit holders played is annually between 20% and 25% percent of rounds played. Season permits revenues account for approximately 13% of annual revenues.

- 2. Eliminate Weekend golf access for Junior passes.
 Currently juniors have 7-day access as part of their season permit. With the substantial discount to this pass category, the use of this pass for primetime tee times is not warranted. Junior green fees would remain available on weekends.
- 3. Increase golf cart rate from \$22 to \$25 for 18-hole regular carts and senior carts from \$19 to \$21. (Corresponding increase of \$1 for 9-hole carts.)

This increase is in line with many area courses. More importantly the course will have a new and expanded golf cart fleet in 2025. New GPS technology is being added to the fleet along with additional cart amenities.

- 4. Increase morning special from \$45 to \$48.

Reflective mostly of increase in cart rate of \$2.00

- 5. Continue to allow the Director of Golf to recommend specials and marketing ideas to the Assistant Commissioner for approval as needed.

Membership Category	Count
Resident Junior	64
Resident U 30	53
Resident Veterans 5 Day	5
Non-Resident Unlimited	18

Resident Senior 5 Day	34
Resident Unlimited	33
Non-Resident Senior 5 Day	13
Resident Veterans 7 Day	8
Non-Resident U 30	20
Non-Resident Veterans 5 Day	1
Non-Resident Veterans 7 Day	2
Resident Weekday	11
Non-Resident Junior	31
Non-Resident Weekday	1
	294

Rounds	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Junior 9		21	4	106	37	80	72	168	20	43	8		559
Junior 18		9	57	30	16	43	60	124	5	96	2		442
Member		118	140	1140	1085	1003	985	1130	932	744	422	227	7926
Fr/Sa/Sun 9			174	593	719	581	673	327	378	278	101	53	3877
Fr/Sa/Su 18			109	884	1167	1398	1194	1149	1081	474	314	225	7995
Special				149	217	247	200	285	167	217	82	56	1620
Weekday 9		384	285	550	649	738	250	371	243	257	104	53	3884
Weekday 18			70	269	372	367	537	114	125	230	106	118	2308
Senior 9		3	55	292	439	415	465	337	280	161	111	37	2595
Senior 18		271	20	83	113	202	172	86	258	138	13	8	1364
Outings												100	100
High School				150					700				850
Leagues				542	1084	1084	1084	1084					4878
Club Event					52			72					
	0	806	914	4788	5950	6158	5692	5247	4189	2638	1263	877	38522

	Unlimited Pass	5 Day Pass	18 Hole Weekday	18 Hole Weekend	Cart 18	Year
Packachog (9 Holes)	\$ 895.00		\$ 30.00	\$ 32.00	\$ 22.00	2024
Leicester CC	\$ 900.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 24.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 20.00	2024
Indian Meadows (9 Holes)	\$ 995.00	\$ 775.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 20.00	2024
Gardner Golf Course	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 775.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 42.00	\$ 22.00	2024
GREEN HILL GC	\$ 1,450.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 22.00	2024

Heritage Golf Course	\$ 1,599.00		\$ 40.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 20.00	2024
Stowe Acres	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 69.00	\$ 20.00	2024
Kettlebrook	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 20.00	2024
Shining Rock	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 95.00		2024
Blackstone	\$ 3,410.00	\$ 2,640.00	\$ 57.00	\$ 109.00	\$ 22.00	2024
Highfields	\$ 4,350.00	\$ 3,275.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 18.00	2024
Holden Hills			\$ 55.00	\$ 62.00	\$ 22.00	2024
Juniper Hills			\$ 51.00	\$ 81.00	\$ 25.00	2024
Wachusett	\$ 4,795.00	\$ 3,395.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 95.00	\$ 25.00	2024

Red includes mandatory carts

Golf Course Donations - NA

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Thursday January 9, 2025 – 6:30 P.M.

Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Administrative Office

Meeting Room A

50 Officer Manny Familia Way Worcester, MA 01605

Or

Virtual with Teams

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

GENERAL

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:

1. General:

- a) Concession Recommendations
- b) Grant Applications –
 - 1. Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Grant – Tacoma St Playground – Awarded
 - 2. Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – University Park – Awarded
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- c) Economic Development Initiatives –
 - 1. NA
- d) Cultural Events –
 - 1. NA
- e) Park Vandalism & Graffiti –
 - 1. NA
- f) Donations –
 - 1. NA
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 - a) See Above
 - 16. Access/ ADA – NA
 - 17. Mobile Concession/ Food Truck – NA
[Policies & Procedures | City of Worcester, MA](#)
 - 18. ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
 - 19. Veterans Memorials - NA
 - 20. Misc. Information –
 - a) NA
- q) Golf Course
- 1. Fees & Policies - NA
 - 2. Golf Course Donations - NA



2025 Concession Recommendations

Request of Assistant Commissioner to identify the number of vendors at a park?

- 1) I recommend that a single vendor be awarded for each park
- 2) I recommend that each awarded vendor be allowed to have one additional vendor at the park they are awarded
- 3) I recommend that the awarded vendor will be ultimately responsible for the additional vendor, including but not limited to scheduling, safety, certifications, adherence to the City of Worcester rules & regulations and proper operation of the additional vendor
- 4) I recommend that the awarded vendor shall not charge the additional vendor more than 50% (fifty) of the awarded vendors payment to the City of Worcester. The additional vendor shall pay the awarded vendor.
- 5) I recommend that the additional vendor be required to complete all required paperwork as the awarded vendor

Request of Assistant Commissioner to identify possible extensions to the existing vending season?

- 1) I recommend that vending be allowed as follows:
 - a. April 1 (or official opening day of Parks) to October 31 (seven days a week)
 - i. Except when a permitted event has been scheduled or other times as necessary including but not limited to construction, maintenance, environmental concerns, weather, weather related aftermaths, unforeseen issues or other items/issues that may occur.
 - b. November & December - Weekends & Holidays
 - i. Except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and when a permitted event has been scheduled or other times as necessary including but not limited to construction, maintenance, environmental concerns, weather, weather related aftermaths, unforeseen issues or other items/issues that may occur.

Request of Assistant Commissioner to identify possible extension of vending hours?

- 1) I recommend that vending hours remain at sunset, unless a facility has a sports field lighting system that are active at the facility. In this case the hours would end at sunset or 8:00 PM, whichever is latest.

