

**Park and Recreation Commission Meeting
November 18th, 2024 @ 7:00pm**

Present: Christopher Gerstel (Chair), Michelle Geddes (Vice-Chair), Cynthia Chaston (Member), James Rosenbaum (Member), Stacey Mulroy (Director), Hannah Corrigan (Assistant Director)

Absent: Dina Hannigan (Member)

Call to Order

Mr. Gerstel called the meeting to order at 7:00pm, November 18th, 2024.

1. Open Forum Public Comment

None.

2. Meeting Guests

None.

3. Chair's Update

None.

4. Director's Report

The department has invoiced all Fall 2024 field users and has received payment from approximately 90% of the groups. Groups using athletic lights will be billed the week after Thanksgiving.

The Active Recreation Feasibility Study Capital Project for Design has been submitted for FY26. This project has also been submitted to the Community Preservation Committee. Claxton Field construction has been progressing nicely and DeFazio Playground improvements have been put on pause for the time being. The Department of Public Works will be taking the lead on the Eliot School improvements, including the basketball court and playground updates. The Needham High School Tennis Court Renovation Project has passed at Fall Town Meeting and the department has met with Activitas to create a bid package for construction.

5. Discussion Items

The Commission felt that Fall Family Day was overwhelmingly a success. Cynthia pointed to traffic concerns around Spooky Walk, with which the rest of the Commission agreed. While the consensus was that closing off streets is difficult and costly, the department will be working to mitigate the high traffic around Spooky Walk routes for 2025.

Stacey presented both the FY25 Operating and Capital Budgets to Town Management, whom were happy with the numbers.

6. Action Items & Approvals

6A. Special Event Approvals

Newman PTC Springfest

Motion: Chris

Second: Michelle
Vote: 4-0

6B. Policy Approvals
None.

6C. Fee Approvals
None.

6D. Previous Meetings' Minutes
Minutes of 10/16/2024
Motion: Chris
Second: Cynthia
Vote: 3-0, James abstained due to absence

7. Issues Not Reasonably Anticipated by Chair within 48 Hours
Nada

8. Topics for Future Meetings
Field Summit specifics.

9. Next Meetings

- Monday, December 9th, 2024
- Monday, January 13th, 2025
- Monday, January 27th, 2025

10. Adjournment of Business Meeting
Motion: Chris
Second: Cynthia
Vote: 4-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm, November 18th, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dominic Stanganelli
Administrative Assistant