

Economic & Community Development Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2022

Chairwoman Harris called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call:

Present: Durkee, LaCava, Paz, Stanley, Harris

Chris Gamble, 34 Francis Street, Waltham, was recognized as recording the meeting.

Councillor Durkee moved approval of the meeting minutes from 4/4/22. The motion was adopted by a voice vote and the minutes were approved.

Promote Dog Parks Resolution (3/21/22): Councillor Paz made a motion to take the matter off the table. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Councillor Paz made a motion to hear from all off Committee members. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Recreation Department, Assistant Director, Kim Scott, 510 Moody Street, Waltham, introduced herself and handed out a communication to the Committee. Ms. Scott spoke on the logistics and costs of using existing parks. She suggested starting a conversation with the Recreation Board. Councillor Paz inquired about current dog parks in Waltham and costs of running the facilities. Councillor LaCava suggested looking into other areas outside of Ward 9. Councillor Durkee voiced concerns about current conditions of the dog park located at Met State and who would care, clean and service the new areas. Specifically, dog waste and weekend clean up. Councillor Stanley spoke about parks having enough space for a dog to run and mentioned Weston and Watertown dog parks he has visited. President McMenimen asked Councillor Paz if he had a dog. Councillor Paz does not. Councillor McMenimen continued talking extensively about local parks and parks in surrounding communities from her experience. Councillor Harris spoke about Resolutions vs Capital Improvement Plan. She suggested the Resolution be scoped through the process Ward 8 used. Director of Planning, Catherine Cagle 25 Lexington Street, suggested working with other communities to see how they established new dog parks as well as rehabbing recreational parks to have space for dogs. Ms. Cagle explained in great detail how Brookline worked through the process. Councillor Paz made a request that the Recreation Department reach out to Brookline for information. The request was approved by a voice vote. Councillor Harris stated the information and use of space takes a while to collect from her experience in working in Ward 8. Councillor Stanley spoke about a dog park in Yarmouth he had visited and the responsibilities for the owners to clean up after the animals. Ms. Cagle commented on how other communities have worked through the process and used Weston as an example. Councillor Paz thanked the invited guests and made a motion to table the matter. The motion was approved by a voice vote and the Resolution was tabled.

With no further matters Councillor Paz moved to adjourn. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

Chairwoman Harris declared the meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Magliarditi

Clerk, Economic and Community Development Committee

4/26/2022