

The Waltham Recreation Board held their June Board meeting on Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at the Waltham Recreation Department, 510 Moody St, Waltham, MA 02453.

Present were: Wayne Cook, Tom Creonte, Patricia Curtin, John Graceffa, Jennie Scafidi, Stacey Tully, Gary Vallerand and Jerry Walker. Absent was Richard Scanlon.

Also present were Director, Nick Abruzzi and Assistant Director, Kim Scott.

Vice Chairperson Jerry Walker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2022 Parks-Recreation Board Meeting by Tom Creonte and seconded by Tricia Curtin. All were in favor.

The monthly bills were circulated and signed by all Parks-Recreation Board Members.

Director Abruzzi reviewed the statement of accounts explaining that two pages in their folders detailed operational and capital budget balances. Director Abruzzi noted that routine spending has occurred since last meeting. One particular item to note is on the operational page under the Veterans Rink Wages. A negative balance of approximately \$6,800.00 can be seen. The Veterans Rink season has concluded and the rink staff have moved outdoor recreation facilities. These employees will be paid from a recreation budget line and an adjustment will be made in the near future. All accounts are in good standing.

The next item on the agenda was Vice Chairperson Pro Tempore. With Chairperson Dick Scanlon not currently attending meetings, Director Abruzzi recommended a vote for a temporary Vice Chairperson in the event that Jerry Walker, who is assuming the Chairperson's role, is not able to attend a meeting. A nomination was made by Tom Creonte to elect John Graceffa as the Vice Chairperson Pro Tempore. All were in favor.

The Proposed 2022-2023 Youth Organization Schedule was next on the agenda. In the Parks-Recreation Board folder is a schedule, comparable to past years inviting the Waltham youth groups to present a year in review and a financial update.

A motion was made by John Graceffa to approve the 2022-2023 Youth Organization Schedule and was seconded by Wayne Cook. All were in favor.

Tennis/Pickleball Usage Signs was the next item on the agenda. The Recreation Department has received some calls from upset individuals that certain groups are monopolizing the courts and not allowing others to play. At this time Director Abruzzi is recommending courtesy signs be placed at the courts to educate the users of these facilities. An update will be provided to the Parks-Recreation Board in at their next meeting.

A motion to enter into an Executive Session for a Personnel Matter was made by Wayne Cook and seconded by Tricia Curtin at 5:40 p.m.

A motion to leave Executive Session was made by Wayne Cook and seconded by Gary Vallerand at 5:54 p.m.

Directors Report:

Fernald Property –NESRA Engineering is working on the design and has met with Recreation staff numerous times. Assistant Director Scott will be in touch over the summer to share renderings for this project.

Lions Club Carnival and Light Show – Director Abruzzi and Assistant Director Scott met with representatives from the Lions Club and Amusement Company to discuss the future of the Holiday Light Show and Carnival, previously held at the Fernald Property. With construction of the Fernald Property in the near future, it was recommended a new location be sought. Once construction is completed, seven day a week programs will be operated at this location. During this meeting, ideas for alternative locations were discussed.

Nipper Maher Park – Connie Mack Scoreboard – Funding was recently approved to purchase a new scoreboard for this field. An installation date will be shared when it's finalized.

Waltham High School Prom – The High School Prom was held at Prospect Hill Park on Tuesday, May 31, 2022. This event saw close to 400 participants, volunteers and staff. The logistics that was requested prior to the event all were followed. The School Department did a great job managing this event, and the Recreation Department looks forward to future similar events. Recreation staff Adam Green and Ivan Cormier were on site to assist with facility questions during the event. Director Abruzzi was on site for the first few hours as well.

Fitness Stations at Prospect Hill Park – The five fitness stations are just about completed. The installation of the surfacing is expected to be in the near future. This will be a great amenity available to the community when finished.

Amusements at Prospect Hill Park – Four of the six amusements have been operational since the beginning of May. The final two amusements will open for the season at the July 2, 2022 Family Event. Fireworks for July 4th will occur on Friday, July 1, 2022.

AstraZeneca Gift – In the Parks- Recreation Board Folder is a letter from AstraZeneca discussing a partnership that would involve a volunteer day to plant trees throughout Prospect Hill Park. This partnership would also provide the funding to purchase trees. Park Ranger Adam Green will be working with representatives for this fall event.

Operational Budget – The Budget approved by the Parks-Recreation Board was sent to the Mayor. Director Abruzzi attended a hearing with the Mayor that went very well. Assistant Director Scott attended the Finance Committee's Budget on Thursday, June 2, 2022. The hearing went very well.

Memorial Day Tournament – The Memorial Day Tournament was again a great success. This event was held at the Veteran Athletic Complex.

Lowell Field Project – The project plans are expected to be reviewed by City Departments in the near future. It's anticipated that the bid for construction will be the fall of 2022.

Thank you – Director Abruzzi thanked the Parks-Recreation Board for their years of support.

Other Business

Parks-Recreation Board Member Tom Creonte shared the pleasant experience he and his family had while attending and using the amenities at Prospect Hill Park.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Tom Creonte and seconded by Wayne Cook, all were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Scott

Assistant Director