

The Waltham Parks-Recreation Board held their October Board meeting on Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at the Waltham Recreation Department, 510 Moody St, Waltham, MA 02453.

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

Also present were Director, Kim Scott and Assistant Director, Ed Kelley II.

Vice Chairperson Jerry Walker called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2022 Parks-Recreation Board Meeting by Wayne Cook and seconded by Jennie Scafidi. All were in favor.

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

Director Scott reviewed the statement of accounts explaining that two pages in their folders detailed operational and capital budget balances. Director Scott also explained that the accounts on the statement still reflected balances for the Revolving Accounts and Capital Accounts from June 2022 as the Auditor's Department was continuing to work on carry forwards from last fiscal year into this year. Updated balances would be available by the next Parks-Recreation Board meeting. In a response to an inquiry whether solar panels were an option to defray utility costs at Veterans Rink, Director Scott stated that since the Rink is leased that would not be an option. All accounts are in good standing.

Annual Youth Sports Presentations were first on the agenda. Warrendale Little League would be presented by Waltham Baseball. Waltham Youth Baseball President, Jeff Paladino, provided a summary of the League's year and financial report. Mr. Paladino announced that Waltham Youth Baseball is now fully the one league in Waltham with the transfer of Warrendale Baseball into its league. He expressed Waltham Youth Baseball had a great season and experienced an increase in participants. Mr. Paladino stated that the U12 team had a very successful season, competing in the district's final game and was excited by the support from the community. The Board thanked Mr Paladino for his efforts and a great season.

Waltham Girls Softball was next on the agenda. Katie Browne, Treasurer, and Shannon Palao, Secretary, represented Girls Softball and provided a summary of the League's year and financial report. This season, the league was able to form two U10 teams, host a trivia night, organize a parent alumni game in September, as well as run a six-week pitching clinic. They also stated that a U18 team was offered but did not field enough participants in order to proceed. The Board thanked Ms. Brown and Ms. Palao for their efforts and a great season.

The candidate for Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Facilities was next on the agenda. Ryan Kelley was introduced as candidate for the position. Director Scott stated that the interview committee felt that Mr. Kelley had the experience necessary for the position and that Ed Kelley II would continue to be a presence at the rink as Ryan is trained and transitions into this new position.

A motion to approve Ryan Kelley as Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Facilities was made by John Graceffa and seconded by Wayne Cook. All were in favor. Vice Chairperson Jerry Walker requested a Roll Call vote which resulted in a unanimous approval.

Roll Call

Wayne Cook	Yes
Tom Creonte	Yes
Patricia Curtin	Yes
John Graceffa	Yes
Jennie Scafidi	Yes
Richard Scanlon	Absent
Stacey Tully	Absent
Gary Vallerand	Yes
Jerry Walker	Yes

Next on the agenda was Wellington Open Space. The topic was introduced by stating that the Recreation Department continues to manage the Wellington Property and a clear vision for the future was needed for approval of volunteer events and approval of funding. Director Scott said that the Wellington Property Subcommittee met in early October, and due to lack of utilities, sidewalks or safe crossing, as well as parking, the subcommittee recommended planting a wild flower meadow. This would allow for a visually appealing, low maintenance area while maintaining healthy dirt health and restricting invasive species from returning.

A motion to approve was made by Gary Vallerand and seconded by Tom Creonte. All were in favor.

Director's Report:

Prospect Hill Sledding Hill- The contractor for the Prospect Hill Improvement project cleared additional hill space and reseeded the open field. An installation of a removable volleyball net system was also completed.

Trees at Drake Playground- After heavy weather conditions, it was reported that the hill on Hazel Street had been washing out into the playground. Trees and grass seed were planted by CPW and Recreation staff along Hazel Street in order to stabilize the hill.

Prospect Hill Garage Door- In August, damage was done to the garage door at Prospect Hill. The damage has been assessed and new panels have been ordered.

Infield Project- Final Design plans for five infields are being reviewed and will be going out to bid for construction. These infields include: two little league fields at Nipper Maher Park, two little league fields at Lazazzero Playground, and McKenna Playground. Director Scott stated that construction would be scheduled for September 2023

Video Surveillance Systems- Updated video systems have been installed at 510 Moody Street and Veterans Athletic Complex. The installation of a new surveillance system at Prospect Hill Base Area had begun on October 17, 2022.

Lowell Field Construction- The design for the Lowell Field Improvement project was out to bid for construction with a deadline of Friday, September 30, 2022. Four competitive bids were received, and the best qualified contractor was awarded the bid. Director Scott updated the Board that she had attended City Council to request funding and construction will begin when funding is released and the contract is signed.

Fernald Property- Recreation Staff receives weekly updates on plan developments from NESRA Engineering

Practice Rink within Canteen Building- There has been consideration and research to evaluate if the Canteen Building can accommodate a practice rink. This would allow extra practice space for youth ages 4-8 and other 3 on 3 competition.

Veterans Skating Rink/Roof Replacement- The bid opening for Veterans Memorial Skating Rink roof design was on September 19, 2022. There were three architects who submitted bids. Interviews will be held on October 20, 2022.

Disability Services Commission- Director Scott attended the Disability Services Commission meeting on October 7, 2022 to present a request for an ADA changing table for those over 40 lbs. The Commission approved this request and the table will be ordered. Research also confirmed that these types of changing tables can be installed in the Clivus restrooms to be installed at the Fernald Property and Clivus confirmed these units will be built to accommodate this amenity.

PIP Surfacing Warranty- Gilmore and Drake Playgrounds surfacing will be scheduled for repair in early 2023, both locations are under warranty.

Graverson Playground- A large tree fell resulting in damage to the fence line. The Forestry Department has cut back the downed tree and quotes for repair are being sought.

School use of Parks- School Superintendent Brian Reagan would like to speak with the Parks-Recreation Board about school use of playgrounds, following an incident at Gilmore Playground. The Board looks forward to speaking with the Superintendent about his proposed plan at the November Meeting.

Prospect Hill Tree Planting- Astra Zeneca held a tree planting day at Prospect Hill Park on October 5th, 2022. Fifteen to twenty volunteers planted over forty trees along the Ridge Trail and base area creek. These trees were planted in specific areas where invasives have recently been removed.

Amusements at Prospect Hill Park/Halloween in Park- Amusements will close for the 2022 season following the Halloween in the Park event scheduled for Saturday, October 29, 2022. This free family event is scheduled from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Recreation Programs- Skiing Program- Recreation staff met with Administrators at Nashoba Valley to discuss pricing. For the 2023 season, Nashoba will no longer be offering discounted community rates and the new price per person will be \$420.00. The Recreation Department is currently researching alternative ski options at Blue Hills and Wachusett Mountain and will continue to strive to offer affordable recreation and leisure opportunities that all Waltham residents can participate in.

2023 WCCC application for community use- In 2020, the Parks-Recreation Board requested that the Law Department review the application for facilities rentals. As language was changed within that request form, Director Scott will be submitting the WCCC application for similar review to achieve consistent language for liability and policy for all permits and users.

Other Business

An inquiry on the Prospect Hill Park water tanks was received. Director Scott answered that the Water Department is inspecting, cleaning, and painting the tanks. Director Scott stated that the road to the Sunset Shelter should be reopened soon.

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

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Kelley, II

Assistant Director