



Medway Town Hall  
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# TOWN OF MEDWAY

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### PARKS COMMISSION

**APPROVED 5/27/2020**

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes  
February 26, 2020  
Sanford Hall – Medway Town Hall

**In attendance:**

Park Commissioners: Debi Rossi, Mike Tudino, Sean Murphy  
Other: Julie Harrington, Pete Pelletier, Carol Pratt, Glen Trindade, Rick D'innocenzo

Meeting was called to order by the Chair, Mr. Tudino at 6:31pm.

**Public Comments-**

None.

**Meeting Minute**

***Were approved later in the meeting***

**Finance Director/Town Accountant, Carol Pratt:**

Finance Director/Town Accountant Ms. Pratt was present to explain the Parks Commission financial numbers. At the last meeting a detailed list of the electricity bill from the VFW was requested. This was provided to the Finance Director for review. It is clear in the billing which accounts are indoor and outdoor as it related to the VFW. The food trucks are not using the electricity since there is only one outlet. The summary statement sheets were provided and reviewed comparing last year with this year's funds. It appears as though more money was spent than was taken in. There was lost revenue in the fields line item in the fall compared to last year. The Kubota was purchased last year for \$77,000.00. There was a stabilization transfer done in 2018. The bond for the fields will mature in 2029. The town at the time was able to borrow at a great rate.

There will be a FY2021 Warrant Article of \$133,000 for a Mower/Tractor for highway for the roadside mowing. There is also a list of capital items, one of which includes drainage repair at the track for \$50,000.00. The issues at the tennis courts also need to be addressed. Glen Trindade informed all that there will be an Article for a pickle court and softball fields. The recommendation is to get engineer money which will used to come up with a recommendation for a third softball field and also the pickle court to figure out what the financial cost would be. The Gale Report which was done a few years back did not look into softball fields. This would need to be voted at a Special Town Meeting and not the Annual Town Meeting since there would need to be a funding source. There was also discussion about a mixed-use facility such as the one located in the Town of Lexington. The VFW property should also be looked at for multiple use. The issues at the VFW are the liability regarding the bar. There is ample

parking. It would be beneficial to get a design option from Gale Associates for what could be done with this property. The Parks Commission thanked Carol Pratt for attending the meeting.

#### **Medway Youth Softball:**

A representative from Medway Youth Softball was present. There are 128 kids participating in softball Fall, Summer and Spring. These numbers have increased over the years. The Softball league will be using the gym as needed when the fields are not usable. The softball league does have fundraising activities. The league is looking into doing bigger fundraising.

#### **EPFRAC:**

The EPFRAC Committee held their meeting on February 11, 2020. There was discussion about the pickleball courts and future priorities for the parks, fields and recreational areas. The focus of the discussion was on youth sport's needs. There was discussion about doing a softball diamond at the Middle School. There was also discussion about having engineering done to help determine the prospective uses of the VFW property.

#### **Medway Baseball:**

The Parks Commission is in receipt of three quotes for the batting cages. Two of the quotes are from the same vendor. The labor will be done in-house by staff. The challenge will be demolishing the current area and prepping the existing area. The existing pad is fine. It will take about two weeks to build the cages, so potentially this would be ready within two weeks after building.

**On a motion made by Mrs. Rossi, and seconded by Mr. Tudino, the Parks Commission voted to approve up to \$17,000.00 for the Medway Baseball batting cages for Cassidy Field. It is the hope that this can be installed before April 26, 2020 for opening day.**

#### **Pickleball Courts:**

It was communicated that the CIPC discussed the pickle ball court at their January 2020 meeting and there is an amount for \$250,000.00 as a recommendation for "borrowed funding". There was discussion about having pickle courts at the middle school. There was a recommendation to see if the new assisted living facility Salmon could put in a pickle court on their site. There was a suggestion to look at a pickle ball court at the Oakland Fields and also a location across from the Episcopal Church for a which is a flat and clear location. Glen Trindade suggested looking into getting a site design for possible pickle court.

#### **Cheerleading Group:**

Glen Trindade was present and wanted to discuss the cheerleading group which is practicing in the Middle School Cafeteria. The mats which are being used are over 15 years old. This is also not the ideal location for practices. There was a recommendation to look into getting a price for new mats and also research a possible new location for this group. Another idea was having a local business put their logo on the mats for advertisement allowing them to purchase the mats. The Cheering Association currently pays the schools between \$5,000-\$6,000 for rental space for their season.

#### **Summer Fields requests/summary:**

The Parks Commission was informed that requests for field requests have been sent out. The liability forms are still coming in. It was communicated that there will be no permits provided to the entities until all paperwork is complete.

**On a motion made by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mrs. Rossi, there will be no issuing for field permits until all required paperwork is submitted.**

**Directors Update:**

The Director provided the following information:

- Registration is going well.
- The One Week at Choate Park is full with 35 kids. The Director will be hiring staff and will be putting together a job description for Camp Director and will be posting soon. There will also be the hiring of Counselors and Junior Counselors. There counselors will have a staff orientation. There will be the use of the splash pad and also the Cassidy Field. A parent packet will also be provided.
- The Franklin YMCA will be allowing the swim team to use its outdoor pool from is 7:00 am-8:00 am.
- There will be no field trips this but will be doing planned in-house activities and will use the Thayer House and VFW if there is rain.
- There will be a Safety Class for Kindergarteners. This will be a weeklong program for two hours a day for the week. This will take place at the Choate Park Basketball Ball Court.
- Creating the summer choate schedule.
- Oakland Shed will be ordered.
- Stroller Aerobics will meet next week.
- Scheduling a Paddle Boat Night at Choate Park. (one night in July and August on a Thursday night).
- Stranger Danger Event sponsored with Sergeant Watson.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

- All members are reminded to complete the Conflict of Interest paperwork.
- Look at tennis court and track to get cost to repair.
- There is a meeting with the Town of Holliston about how to paint a pickle court.
- Need to figure out where to put the Field Hockey fields in Fall 2020.
- Snack Shack not opened until mid-March which will also require a permit.
- Create two schedules for possible EEE. A suggestion was to have a curfew later than 6:00 pm.
- There was a suggestion to have a Community and Spirit Night where Varsity teams plan. The example referenced was what the Town of Dedham celebrated for varsity teams.

**Approval of Minutes:****January 29, 2020:**

The members reviewed the minutes from January 29, 2020. The revisions were provided.

**On a motion made by Debi Rossi, and seconded by Mike Tudino, the Board of Park Commissioners voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from January 29, 2020 as revised.**

**Future Park Meeting Dates:**

**April 29, 2020**

**Adjourn:**

**On a motion made by Debi Rossi, and seconded by Sean Murphy, the Board of Parks Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn their meeting at 9:01pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland  
Recording Secretary