



Medway Town Hall  
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# TOWN OF MEDWAY

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### PARKS COMMISSION

**APPROVED 9/28/2022**

Town of Medway  
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting  
August 24, 2022 – 6:30 PM  
Medway Senior Center

**Park Commissioners:** Debi Rossi, Lyle Core, Sean Murphy, John Farrell, and Rick D'Innocenzo

**Absent:** None

**Others:** Julie Harrington, Sean Harrington, Glenn Trindade, Melissa Greenfield (School Board), Susan Segarra (Financial Committee), Joanne Phillips, Liam McDermott, Dan Shea

**Call to Order:** At 6:34PM, Ms. Rossi called the meeting to order.

**Public Comments:** There were none at this time.

#### **1. Approval of Minutes: July 28, 2022**

Ms. Rossi noted adjusting "basketball court" to "multisport court." She also wished to include that the Pumpkin Walk will be at Choate and that the Board requested help from the commissioners. Lastly, she noted including that the Battle of the Bands event will be at the high school field.

**VOTE:** Ms. Rossi offered a motion to accept the 7/28/2022 minutes as amended. Mr. Core seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 3-0-2.

#### **2. Native Indigenous People Day – Pavilion Use in October**

Ms. Joanne Phillips, Mr. Liam McDermott, and Mr. Glenn Trindade were present to address this matter.

Mr. Trindade requested use of the Pavilion at Choate Park on Saturday, October 8, 2022, from 12PM-4PM. Mr. McDermott shared that the intention of the event is to celebrate Native American and indigenous residents of Medway. He noted children's activities as a particular point of appeal. The group estimated 50-75 people as the high end of projected attendance. Mr. Trindade noted that a police detail is likely unnecessary.

Mr. Trindade noted that there is an event at the Thayer House, which coincides with the proposed event. In response, Ms. Rossi noted concerns with noise. The group clarified that they will not be using any loudspeakers or high-volume projections.

Ms. Rossi inquired if the group plans to invite vendors. The group clarified that they will not be inviting vendors.

Ms. Rossi inquired as to the group's plans for ensuring the space is left in a clean condition. They verified that they are aware of the expectations and will proceed accordingly. Mr. Harrington confirmed that he will unlock the bathrooms and bring out trash receptacles for this event.

Mr. Murphy asked the group to speak to their personal connection to the cause. Mr. McDermott cited his upbringing and his interest in sparking interest in uplifting the indigenous community. Ms. Phillips cited her background as a social worker and a trauma therapist, as well as her interest in building community connections and creating a sense of belonging.

**VOTE:** Mr. D'Innocenzo offered a motion to approve this event's usage of the Pavilion on 10/8/2022 from 12PM-4PM. Ms. Rossi seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 5-0.

### **3. Lights on High School Pickleball Courts – Discussion**

Ms. Rossi noted that there was concern expressed at the Select Board meeting regarding the lack of lighting on the pickleball court. She noted that the general estimate for getting new lighting is roughly \$100,000. The Board noted that this estimate seems low.

The Board noted that this might be an appropriate undertaking for the Capital Improvement Planning Committee or the Community Preservation Committee.

### **4. Master Plan Follow Up**

Ms. Rossi noted that Goal 18 of the Master Plan Committee's documents is under the purview of the Board of Parks. Specifically Goal 18 involves supporting collaborative community events and promoting dialogue in the community. Ms. Rossi noted that much of the language in Goal 18 does not feel reflective of the Board of Parks's responsibilities. She noted that fostering community connections is reasonable, but not the other aspects. She also cited Goal 21's repetitive phrase as a potential deletion or revision. She noted that distinguishing between constructing a community center or repurposing an existing community building would be a helpful adjustment to the existing language. The Board also noted that the town might not be large enough to require a community center.

Ms. Rossi also noted that the idea of a skate park or an ice rink continue to resurface as an extension of the Master Plan Committee's discussions, but there does not appear to be an actual demand for either of these.

Ms. Rossi noted that she is in support of constructing a pool in Medway via a private enterprise.

## **5. Capital Planning – Snack Shack at Choate, Basketball**

Ms. Harrington proposed finishing the snack shack by adding a second floor with glass windows overlooking the pond. The space could be used for programming, events, storage, and year-round restroom access.

The Board strongly approved of this idea and noted that this would be an ideal usage of funds, as it creates additional community space, as well as opportunities for generating revenue. Ms. Rossi noted that she will reach out to the Facility Review Committee regarding this matter. The Board also noted the potential to collaborate with the Community Preservation Committee on this project. From there, Ms. Rossi noted the potential to present this idea to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee.

In terms of the basketball court at Choate, Mr. Harrington noted that he and Ms. Harrington met with Mr. Gallagher to discuss this matter. Mr. Gallagher suggested getting the area surveyed and determining the specific kind of court desired but noted that the project itself is doable in the area across from Field 4.

Ms. Rossi asked Mr. Harrington to get an estimate for the cost of a survey. He agreed to do this.

**VOTE:** Mr. Farrell offered a motion to spend a maximum of \$10,000 on the survey for constructing a basketball court at Choate. Mr. Murphy seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 5-0.

Ms. Rossi noted that if the quote is under \$10,000, Mr. Harrington can use funding from the Board of Parks, per Allison's approval.

## **6. Trash at Choate – Update**

Ms. Harrington noted that the Board of Health reached out with concerns about the trash at Choate. Ms. Harrington noted that she invited them to the meeting and assured them that this is a standing agenda item at all Board of Parks meetings.

Mr. Harrington noted that there has been an improvement in the levels of trash at Choate.

## **7. Fall Fields – Discussion/Approval**

Ms. Harrington noted Sunday, November 6, 2022 as the date for the youth field hockey jamboree on Lamson and Hanlon.

Ms. Harrington also noted that there are multiple requests for access to the middle school fields on Friday nights. Mr. Core noted the importance of prioritizing in-town requests. The Board also noted the growing size of most town sports teams and the subsequent increased demand for access to fields. Additionally, the Board addressed the tendency for many teams to prefer turf fields to grass fields.

Ms. Harrington also noted that 4 light systems have been ordered, but that a fifth might be necessary for evening practices.

Mr. Core noted that the Idylbrook field is in poor shape. Mr. Harrington agreed and noted that the middle school field is also in poor shape; he informed the Board of an upcoming meeting regarding irrigation options at the middle school.

**VOTE:** Ms. Rossi offered a motion to accept the schedule as written, pending Ms. Harrington's negotiations with the involved groups. Mr. Core seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 5-0.

### **8. Events/Class at Parks/Fields – Boy Scouts, Tinkergarten, Cornhole Tournament**

Ms. Harrington noted the following upcoming events: Trunk or Treat on 10/8/22, Howl-o-ween Dog Parade on 10/8/22, Boy Scouts Rocket Day on 11/19/22, and the Pumpkin Walk on 10/28/22.

Ms. Harrington also noted that the Boy Scouts have asked to use Idylbrook for a holiday event on 12/9/22.

Ms. Harrington noted that Tinkergarten is scheduled for Mondays and Saturdays at Choate.

Ms. Harrington also noted that the MS Cornhole Tournament is scheduled for 9/10/22 at the VFW. Ms. Rossi noted that the Board previously allowed this group to use the space free of charge. She shared that she would advocate for continuing this agreement. The Board agreed.

**VOTE:** Ms. Rossi offered a motion to allow the MS Cornhole Tournament group to use the VFW on 9/10/22 free of charge. Mr. Core seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 5-0.

### **9. Chair Update**

Ms. Rossi noted her gratitude for the Master Plan Committee's work. She also suggested that Ms. Harrington's new colleague attend an upcoming Board meeting to meet the commissioners.

She also noted that the Board is funding a new scoreboard and is seeking advertising opportunities. She suggested including this on the agenda for the next meeting.

### **10. Director's Update**

Ms. Harrington did not have any updates at this time but noted the productivity and success of all summer events.

**Motion to Adjourn:** At 8:45PM, Mr. Farrell offered a motion to adjourn. Ms. Rossi seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 5-0.

**Next Board of Parks Meeting:** September 28, 2022

Respectfully submitted by,  
Amelia McLaughlin, Recording Secretary