



Medway Town Hall  
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# TOWN OF MEDWAY

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### PARKS COMMISSION

**APPROVED 10/25/2023**

Town of Medway  
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting  
September 27, 2023 – 6:30 PM  
Sanford Hall, Medway Town Hall

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

**Absent:** None

**Others:** Julie Harrington, Director of Parks and Recreation  
Dan Shea, Medway Youth Soccer  
Pete Soule, Medway Youth Lacrosse  
Tim Gray – Medway Youth Soccer  
Erik Booth – Medway Youth Soccer  
Tony Alessi - Medway Youth Soccer  
John Grady - Medway Youth Soccer  
Jess Earle – Medway Youth Softball  
Anil Mahalaha - adult pick up soccer

**Call to Order:** At 6:30PM, Ms. Rossi called the meeting to order.

**Public Comments:** None

#### **Other Business:**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes: August 30, September 19, 2023**

**Mr. Farrell made a motion to approve minutes from 8/30/23 with edits and Mr. Core seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

**Mr. Core made a motion to approve the minutes 9/19/23 with edits, Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote**

## **2. Spring Tournaments – Discussion/Vote**

Ms. Harrington has all the tournament requests:

NE Surf requested March 1-3, 8-10 and May 24-27 (Memorial Day)

NEFC requested March 15-17, March 22-24 (regional tournament taking places in many towns & locations. They are requesting to use all 3 Medway fields.

Medway Youth Lacrosse – requested March 23-24

The Hanlon field is not available March 23 in the morning due to spring sports. There are duplicate request for March 22-24. Mr. Soule said lacrosse cannot move to the following weekend because it's Easter. He feels that the April 6-7 dates are too late as their season starts the following week. He could compromise and switch to March 16-17 weekend, they could be off the fields by 4:00 or NEFC could use the fields early in the day and lacrosse in the afternoon/evening. Ms. Harrington will ask Matt from NEFC if there is any flexibility with the March 15-17 date. Ms. Rossi would like to find a way to accommodate both groups. Mr. Murphy feels that because we are tasked with bringing in money to cover field expenses, we would have to go with NEFC. Mr. Farrell agreed.

**Mr. Core made a motion for NE Surf to use the fields on March 1-3, 8-10 and May 24-27, Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

**Ms. Rossi proposed not to vote on the NEFC and Medway Lacrosse requests until they make some phone calls to try and compromise.**

Jess Earle – Medway Youth Softball – They are looking to have a Jamboree on May 11 using all 3-softball field and MS baseball field. It would be an all-day event with food trucks. This is in place of a tournament. Mr. Farrell mentioned that there could be a conflict with Babe Ruth. Ms. Earle said that it would not be a game-changer if they didn't get the baseball field. Since Medway Youth Softball is already paying a fee for the season, this would be included in that fee.

**Mr. Core made a motion for softball to use all fields at MS complex and baseball field on May 11 for the jamboree at no additional fee. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

## **3. Parks/Select board meeting – Tuesday, October 10 – Hanlon Field presentation.**

Ms. Rossi stated that the Parks Dept is going to be on the agenda to discuss the Hanlon Field project. Gale & Associates is presenting. Mr. Farrell, Mr. D'Innocenzo and Ms. Rossi will attend.

## **4. Field Fees – Summary draft of approved fees**

Members received a summary draft of the field fees discussed at the last meeting.

Ms. Rossi mentioned that the VFW field was not discussed last week. The current cost is \$6,500 for the season (May to October). The electricity rate is very high for that field. Mr. Pelletier noted previously that some of the MS electricity expense had been included and will be corrected going forward. The Miscellaneous fees are high too, they include fire alarms and smoke detectors etc. The field fees for VFW were raised from \$5,000 in the past year or so. Ms. Rossi mentioned that the field is not in great shape. There is an adult group that uses it on Saturday mornings for \$50/hr. Mr. Farrell feels we should keep it the same, Mr. Murphy agreed.

Mr. D’Innocenzo said we can revisit once revised electricity expenses come in. Mr. Murphy asked if Parks are being charged for the electricity for the food trucks that are plugged in.

**Mr. Farrell made a motion to keep the VFW field rate at \$6,500 for the softball season. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

#### **5. Field Fees – Per player fees, adult group fees - Discussion/vote**

Ms. Rossi feels that the per player fees should not be increased given all the other increases. Mr. D’Innocenzo agreed. Player fees go into the capital account. Mr. Core agrees but wants to see how the increases in field fees will impact the shortfalls experienced last year. Mr. Farrell feels that the per player fees have not gone up since 2017 or 2018.

**Mr. D’Innocenzo made a motion to keep the per person fee at \$15 per player for grass and turf with a cap at 600 players. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

#### **Adult group fees:**

The current fee for adult soccer on weekends is \$50/player for the season (fall & spring). They use fields Sunday mornings 9:00-10:30, grass (Idylbrook) and turf (Lamson). Ms. Rossi is ok with this rate, Mr. Core and Mr. Murphy mentioned that since other fees were increased, these should be too. Mr. Murphy asked if others groups requested to use the field and were being turned away and Ms. Harrington said they are not. Mr. Core asked if we could move them to 8:00-10:00 and put someone else on at 10:00 before Gold Star at 12:00. Ms. Harrington said there is not currently a demand for those times. Mr. Murphy proposed \$125, Mr. Farrell proposed \$100. Mr. Core and Ms. Rossi suggested \$75. Mr. Shea noted that this group is sharing equipment costs with Medway Youth Soccer.

**Mr. Core made a motion to raise the fees to \$75 per hour for any adult group. Ms. Rossi seconded the motion. Approved - Vote 3-2.**

Pick-up soccer is requesting the turf at 7:45 pm on weeknights. Ms. Harrington said North field is available Mon-Thurs after 7:30. They are looking for 2-3 nights/week. Mr. Farrell is suggesting \$75/player/season for one night, so \$150 for 2 nights. Mr. D’Innocenzo said that since it’s pick-up w/o roster, we should just charge an hourly rate. They have about 20 players each night. Ms. Rossi agreed. Mr. Farrell noted that some participants are from Medway, and some are from other towns so he feels they should be charged the out-of-town rate. They will be using lights, they must be off by 10:00pm. Mr. Mahalaha is not sure that they can afford it. Ms. Harrington mentioned that the goals would have to be moved back after their games.

**Mr. Farrell made a motion to charge adult pick-up soccer to rent North turf field from 7:45-9:45 at \$200/hr. Mr. D’Innocenzo seconded the motion. Vote 2-3 did not pass.**

**Mr. Murphy made a motion to charge adult pick-up soccer to rent North turf field from 7:45-9:45 2 days for \$100/hour, 2 nights per week, understanding that if another group requests the field, adult pick-up soccer could be moved. Mr. Core seconded the motion. Vote approved in a unanimous vote.**

## **6. Lining HS Turf Fields for 9v9/7v7 soccer - Discussion/vote**

Ms. Harrington presented renditions of what the lines could look like. Mr. Shea said that it was brought up because Charland will be taken offline (from end of football season through June) and also because it could attract other tournaments. He feels that one 9v9 would be ok but agrees that adding one 7v7 too gives more options. The members agreed that the rendition with the 2 7v7 fields was too busy. Mr. Core would suggest that the fields go in the same direction as the 11v11 since there are nets there. It is too expensive to put up screens to keep balls from going into the woods. Ms. Harrington is going to ask them to re-do some of the renditions, Mr. Core will be part of the discussion. The expected cost for each field is \$500. Mr. Shea said that they can take nets off of Charland to use.

**Mr. Farrell made a motion to approve adding lines for a 9v9 field on Lamson pending design feedback from Athletic Department and assignors not to exceed \$1000. Mr. D’Innocenzo seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

Mr. Shea asked whether Parks Dept is mandated to put funds aside for field repairs and the members responded that they are not.

## **7. Chair update**

Ms. Rossi asked if Ms. Harrington needs any help with the Pumpkin walk on Fri, Oct 27, anytime after 5:00. She responded that she welcomed anyone able to help.

Ms. Rossi noted that at the Select Board meeting there were 3 swim team parents discussing a community center pool. She would like to talk with them to get their input and perhaps look into creating a task force.

## **8. Director’s update**

Ms. Harrington said that Trunk or Treat event is on Sat, 10/7 at Oakland, 9:00-11:00 followed by the dog parade from 1:00-3:00.

The Choate playground was repaired, the repairs were covered under the warranty. There was a playground inspection for Choate and Oakland. There are some issues at Oakland. O’Brien & Sons will look into the issues and provide quotes.

Ms. Harrington will be out of town from Oct 10-13 at National Recreation and Park Conference.

Ms. Harrington put up a 12 ft skeleton at Choate Park today.

**Mr. Murphy made a motion to adjourn at 8:20. Mr. D’Innocenzo seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

## **Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Respectfully submitted by,  
Marianne Boynton, Recording Secretary  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts