



Medway Town Hall  
155 Village Street  
Medway, MA 02053  
Telephone (508) 533-3275

# TOWN OF MEDWAY

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

### PARKS COMMISSION

**APPROVED 7/24/2024**

Town of Medway  
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting  
June 26, 2024 – 6:30 PM  
Sanford Hall, Medway Town Hall  
155 Village Street

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

**Absent:** None

**Others:** Julie Harrington Director of Parks & Recreation  
Dan Shea, Medway Youth Soccer

**Call to Order:** 6:31pm

**Public Comments:** None

**Other Business:**

#### **1. Approval of Minutes: May 29, 2024**

Ms. Rossi noted a 3 minor corrections.

**Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the May 29, 2024 minutes with updates. Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. Vote – approved 4-0-1**

#### **2. Choate Park Bathrooms and Trash/vandalism - Discussion**

Ms. Harrington noted that there have been some instances of vandalism, for example destroying soap dispensers and clogging the toilets inside the bathroom. The doors are automatically locked at 8:00 pm, vandalism seems to happen more on the weekends. Mr. Farrell asked whether they could be locked earlier, maybe 7:00. Mr. D’Innocenzo asked about closing early when there are no events at the park. Mr. Farrell suggested putting up a sign outside the bathroom reminding people that they are camera and that vandals will be punished. Also suggested perhaps saying that extra cameras have been installed due to vandalism.

#### **3. Skeleton at Choate Park - Discussion**

Ms. Rossi received a call asking why the skeleton still up. She explained that it gets decorated for each season and it has a name and many people like it. She wanted the members to be

aware that this was the 2<sup>nd</sup> complaint. Ms. Harrington noted that it will come down after Halloween.

#### **4. Basketball court and Volleyball court at Choate - Discussion**

Ms. Ross noted that Mr. Pelletier gave a quote of \$1,100 to get sand and poles to install the volleyball court. He did not want Matt Bullard and his friends to help due to liability. Mr. Farrell noted that there were issues with volleyball courts in other towns with crowds, drinking, gambling etc. He noted that if issues arise, we could take the net down.

#### **Mr. Core made a motion to spend \$1,100 to fund a sand volleyball court at Choate Park. It will be monitored periodically. Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. Approved – Vote 5-0.**

Ms. Harrington feels that we should continue pursue building a basketball court at the Ide House. Mr. Farrell suggested putting it in the corner of Field 4. Mr. Trindade had previously recommended suspending the project when there was uncertainty about what would be done with Ide House property. Ms. Rossi suggested adding the project to the CPC list. The figure was approximately \$500,000 as a max. Mr. D’Innocenzo suggested going back to the Select Board to ask about the property and what the plans are for it and let them know we want to proceed. There was discussion about the advantages of a multi-sport court, but members agreed to move ahead with a basketball court only at Choate and look at doing a multi-sport court at another location in the future.

#### **5. July meeting date – Discussion**

Most members cannot meet on July 31. Ms. Harrington noted that they will need to vote on fall football and field schedules. Some members are available on July 24, possibly at Medway Block. Mr. Shea needs to submit his requests for fields for the fall.

#### **6. Pumpkin Walk 2024 – Save the date/Help wanted**

Ms. Harrington confirmed that the event is scheduled for Friday, October 25, 2024, and the rain date is October 27. Ms. Harrington needs as much help as she can get. They start any time after 5:00, she really needs help with parking. Mr. Farrell suggested asking the football Gridiron to help by having players/cheerleader’s volunteer. Ms. Harrington mentioned that she is going to ask about using the community church and maybe the plaza for additional parking. Mr. Farrell and Mr. Core suggested possibly getting a shuttle bus to have people park as the high and be shuttled or walking on the trail from HS to Choate. Ms. Harrington will ask the police for suggestions as well.

#### **7. Spring/Summer Field schedule update**

Ms. Harrington noted that almost everyone has paid their spring balance.

#### **8. Fall Field scheduling**

Ms. Harrington sent email to all fall sports organizations/teams and will meet with Jeff Parcels to review. She said they should be in good shape since they will have Hanlon. Ms. Rossi wants to go to some youth sport organizations to request that people attend meetings so that there is support for programs.

#### **9. Chair update**

Once the June 30 numbers come out, Ms. Rossi will have 5 yrs of data of revenue and expenses by field. She want to show the opportunity cost of not being able to rent some of the fields. They also want to show the cost of taking away the turf and installing grass. Ms. Rossi

will prepare a fact sheet to help get town and community support. She will bring it to youth organizations to help people understand the issues.

#### **10. Director's update**

Ms. Harrington reported that the splash pad is broken. She got a message on Sunday that it wasn't working. She went over to look at it and nothing stood out. Monday, they determined it was electrical and Tuesday, determined it was the motor. They ordered 2 so that they have a backup. They have not received the quote yet. They turned it on today for a few hours, but it used too much water, so that is not an option. It will not be used until the part is replaced. Summer camps have started, there are 6 camps going on this week. The swim team is huge, 80 kids, it started this week.

Ms. Harrington received a call from Chris Brady. He works with the Medway tennis coach and wants to bring some HS players to train at the MS tennis courts (1-2) and wanted to run it by the Parks Department. Ms. Rossi suggests that they give him a permit for the days/times requested. Mr. Farrell suggested that Ms. Harrington let Community Ed know that this group will be using the courts at the allotted times.

**Mr. Farrell made a motion to allow Chris Brady to received a permit to use tennis courts at the Middle School on Tuesdays from 2:00-5:00 at no charge for the summer. No more than 2 courts. Mr. D'Innocenzo seconded the motion. Vote – approved 5-0.**

Ms. Harrington reported that the Police Leadership Academy's week-long program is this week and going well. Tomorrow the life flight helicopter is landing at Medway MS.

Ms. Harrington reported that the first concert is Monday night. There are a few that she is concerned about crowds and parking, there has been a lot of preliminary interest on Facebook page. She spoke with the police about it. Mr. Farrell suggested using the VFW property. Ms. Harrington said that she will look into it next year.

#### **Adjourn:**

**Mr. Farrell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:48. Mr. D'Innocenzo seconded the motion. Approved in a unanimous vote.**

#### **Future Meetings:**

July 24, 2024

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