



Setti D. Warren  
Mayor

**Newton Parks & Recreation Commission  
Meeting Minutes  
City Hall, Room 209, 7:00pm  
May 17, 2010**



Robert J. DeRubeis  
Interim  
Commissioner

**Attending:** Arthur Magni, *Chairman*, Kathleen Heitman, *Vice Chairman*, Walter Bernheimer, Fran Rice, Peter Johnson, Richard Tucker, Bethel Charkoudian, Donald Fishman, *Alternate*, Jack Neville, *Alternate*, Peter Kastner, *Alternate*, Michael Clarke, *Alternate*, Robert DeRubeis, *Interim Commissioner*, Robin McLaughlin, *Secretary*

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Magni introduced and welcomed newly appointed Commission member, Andrew Stern - Ward 6

**1. Meeting Minutes from the April 26, 2010 meeting accepted 7-0-1  
(Stern, no vote)**

**2. Commissioner's Reports on Programs, Forestry and Maintenance**

- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis reviewed the departments "snapshot" (see Attachment).
- Maintenance continues to clean up after Newton Serves.

**3. Birthday Wishes – Diane Greer**

- Ms. Greer of 136 Oliver Rd., works with the non-profit organization Birthday Wishes a Newton-based, non-profit organization that provides birthday parties to children at homeless shelters. Birthday Wishes has serviced over 500 children over the past nine years.
- Ms. Greer stated Birthday Wishes is requesting a permit for a one day event on July 17 at Newton Centre Playground. The event will be free and open to the public. Booths will be set up with birthday party type games. The fee for the games will be one dollar. No prizes will be given out. Prepared foods, such as cupcakes, ice cream and drinks will be available.
- Ms. Greer stated the Birthday Wishes organizations goal is to give back to the community and make the community aware of their mission and to gather support from the Community businesses.
- Mr. Bernheimer stated the date requested (July 11, 2010) in the original request is different than the July 17<sup>th</sup> date. Ms. Greer stated yes, the group had scheduling conflicts on July 11<sup>th</sup> and are requesting the event take place on July 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Chairman Magni inquired if a second meeting is required for this event. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated, no. This event is handled

through the Special Event Permit process. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis wanted the Commission to be aware of the event.

- Mr. Tucker inquired if there would be a volunteer recruiting table at the event. Ms. Greer stated yes, all ages may participate.
- Mr. Stern asked his fellow Commission members if they were concerned a precedent would be set if no permit fee is charged for a non-profit organization.
- Ms. Greer stated she is not asking for a fee waiver. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated the department is not deferring the fee. Birthday Wishes will be charged the normal fee.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis requested Ms. Greer review the type of activities at the event; this event will not have a carnival atmosphere. Ms. Greer stated there may be a dunk tank, otherwise only the booths with the birthday party games will be set up.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated there will be no mechanical rides. If there were mechanical rides the State overview would be required.
- Chairman Magni asked Interim Commissioner DeRubeis if there were extra event items, Birthday Wishes would be charged. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated yes.
- Ms. Greer stated Birthday Wishes will be advertising the event in the local newspapers, posting banners and distributing fliers.

*Ms. Heitman made the motion to approve the request by the Birthday Wishes organization for a Special Event Permit on July 17, 2010 for the one day event in Newton Centre Playground. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.*

- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis wanted to remind the Commission the Relay for Life event is taking place this coming weekend in Forte Park.

#### **4. 5K Foot Race – Adele Levine**

- Ms. Levine stated she is a Newton North High School Senior and for her senior project she is organizing a 5K road race on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 9 AM – 12 PM at Cold Spring Park in Newton Centre to raise donations for the Shoes for Africa charity. Ms. Levine stated she chose Cold Spring Park because she is familiar with the course. Ms. Levine is on the indoor, outdoor and cross country track teams. Ms. Levine stated she would use the same course the track teams uses and has a hefty volunteer base. An athletic trainer will be on site, and there will be water stations along the course. Ms. Levine stated she is gathering sponsors in the Newton Centre area to minimize costs so most of the proceeds will be donated to the Shoes for Africa charity. Prizes will be given to the first three runners, male and female.
- Chairman Magni stated he is an alumni of NNHS track team. Chairman Magni asked for any questions from the Commission.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated a second meeting is not required. We just have to be sure people would be kept off the trails. Ms. Levine stated the volunteers would assist in keeping the trail clear and people notified of the runners coming down the trail. Ms. Levine

stated the softball field would need to be clear for the event. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated there is not usually any softball games in the morning, but he will check with Tom Cahill the Permit Manager.

- Mr. Bernheimer asked if Ms. Levine had any concerns with the dogs in Old Cold Spring Park during the event, and would a restriction be required. Ms. Levine stated the dogs are not usually a problem, there are enough people volunteering and they will run ahead and request the dogs get out of the way of the runners.
- Mr. Rick Dyer stated what the school does is send a bike ahead of the track team to get the dogs off the course. The runners run at a pretty good clip so they could not stop short if there was a 12-14 foot leash in front of them.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated he will verify the softball fields are not scheduled to be used during the time of the event.

*Mr. Bernheimer made the motion to approve the 5k road race in Cold Spring Park as proposed. Ms. Heitman seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.*

## **5. Off-Leash Area Working Group**

- Chairman Magni stated Commissioner DeRubeis will make the presentation for the Off Leash Area Working Group (OLAWG). There will be no public comments. Tonight is the presentation only, community meetings will be scheduled for public comments.
- Interim Commissioner presented four parks to be considered as off leash areas:

### Clafin Playground- Ward 2

- Currently used by dog owners as an off leash recreation area
- Fence already in place
- Possible seasonal limitations (during sledding)

### McGrath Park – Ward 3

- Ward 3
- Area between Washington St. and the west side tennis courts
- Almost fully enclosed
- Other areas possible for limited hours
- Ample parking

### Old Cold Spring Park – Ward 6

- Off leash area is currently legal
- Heavily used by dog owners as an off leash recreation area
- No programmed usage
- Possible restricted use during baseball games on adjacent field and during track meets on surrounding trails

### Norumbega – Ward 7

- Conservation Land – a proposal will have to go before the Conservation Commission
- Heavily used by dog owners as an off leash recreation area
- Self-policed
- Almost fully enclosed

- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis reviewed other local communities with designated off leash areas:
  - Arlington – 13 OLRA with hours
  - Boston – 4 designated OLRA
  - Brookline -14 shared use OLRA's with off leash hours
  - Cambridge – 4 shared use OLRA's, fenced & non fenced areas
  - Lowell – 1 designated fenced OLRA
  - Medway – 1 designated fenced OLRA
  - Provincetown - 1 designated OLRA and off leash beach hours
  - Salem – 1 designated fenced OLRA
  - Sharon - 1 designated fenced OLRA, privately funded
  - Somerville – 2 designated OLRA's
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis reviewed future considerations of the OLAWG:
  - Open 20 of the 24 initial green space areas from Dawn – 9:00am daily.
  - Limited morning hours allow for off leash sites in mixed used areas when other organized activities are not taking place.
  - Gives OLAWG the opportunity to review a number of sites, while operating in a limited time frame
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis directed the Commission members to the handout that lists the current off leash ordinance, the proposed updated to the ordinance and the rationale for the changes. The biggest change is that the City has the authority and responsibility for the off leash areas. The Programs & Services Committee voted to extend the existing ordinance through September 2010. Tonight the full board is voting on the extension.
- Mr. Bernheimer inquired if the Law Department is involved with the ordinance. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated yes.
- Mr. Tucker inquired of the ordinance -if section a (4) -all dogs require a collar, had been removed. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis no, section a (4) is now section a (5) in the revised ordinance.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated the Board of Alderman (BOA) will discuss and vote on the revised ordinance. The current ordinance has been extended through September 30, 2010.
- Mr. Stern inquired if OLAWG determined no more than three dogs in an off leash area per person. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated OLWAG recommended the new proposed ordinance of no more than three off leash dogs per person.
- Mr. Bernheimer stated if the BOA does not pass the proposed ordinance the Commission cannot pass any additional off leash areas without the new ordinance. Could the BOA have a special meeting?
- Mr. Rice commented the Commission should wait until after the BOA meeting tonight. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated the BOA would not be voting on the proposed ordinance tonight.
- Ms. Heitman asked if the four parks proposed by OLAWG would have limited hours. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated no, they would not have limited hours. Ms. Heitman stated parking may be an issue.

- Ms. Charkoudian agreed and stated at the Claflin site there is restricted parking on one side of the road for NNHS and limited one hour parking for residents on the other side of the road.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis agreed parking is a difficult issue. The street side of Claflin Park is fenced on the street side.
- Ms. Charkoudian stated speed enforcement is required on Lowell Ave.
- Mr. Bernheimer stated enforcement is an issue for everybody.
- Mr. Rice asked if there is parking on the playground side of the street. Ms. Charkoudian stated no NNHS parking is on the playground side of the street. Mr. Bernheimer agreed the concern is valid there needs to be adequate parking.
- Chairman Magni stated the discussion is valid but should be saved for the community meeting.
- Mr. Kastner inquired about the process for the proposed ordinance.
  1. The ordinance is presented to the BOA
  2. OLAWG sends a letter to the BOA
- Mr. Stern stated the proposed ordinance is handled by the BOA.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis commented the ordinance changes were addressed by the Law Department and Alderman Albright. OLAWG had very little input into the proposed ordinance.
- Mr. Bernheimer stated Alderman Albright took the lead on revising the ordinance. Alderman Albright researched what other local communities have done and proposed a general amendment to the existing ordinance. The biggest change in the amendment gives the Parks & Recreation Department the jurisdiction over the off leash areas. The OLAWG did give some input and the BOA may amend the submitted ordinance.
- Mr. Kastner stated the concern of the Commission was a third party selecting the criteria. The Commission/City should be responsible.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated in a letter to the BOA he recommended OLAWG remain intact to address the issues and evolution of the off leash areas in Newton.
- Mr. Stern stated he has been out of the loop, but is ok if flexibility with the broader ordinance goes along with the P&R Commission having rule making authority.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated the BOA has the rule making authority.
- Chairman Magni stated at the end of the meeting dates would be decided on for the community meetings.

## **6. Nahanton Park – Farm Proposal**

- Mr. Barrer introduced Newton Community Farm Manager Greg Maslow.
- Mr. Maslow stated the reasons why the proposal for expanding the Newton Community Farm into Nahanton Park.
  1. Currently the farm is in its' 5<sup>th</sup> growing season and has started from nothing and has grown to a successful program. One acre of land cannot grow any more crops and that is one of the reasons the farm would like to expand to Nahanton Park.

2. The farm has many volunteers throughout the growing season and there is not much for them to do on the one acre of land. Mr. Maslow would like to engage the volunteers in other activities.
  3. Stewarding land owned by the City of Newton – rotating the crops would be best for agricultural health.
  4. Expanding the financial base of the community farm depending on fund raising.
- Mr. Maslow stated the proposal identifies three area options. The farm would like to have access to two of the areas.
  - Mr. Maslow stated there was a meeting this past week with the Friends of Nahanton Park. This was a good meeting. Farming in Nahanton Park will change the wildlife population, but the farm will work closely with the Newton Conservators to maintain bird habitats.
  - Mr. Maslow stated the farm is an organic farm which creates a healthy environment; a healthy environment comes full circle.
  - Mr. Maslow introduced two middle school students, Michael and Jared who participated in the farmer-in-training program.
    - Michael commented he participated in the farmer-in-training last summer. He had a nice experience. Michael stated he enjoyed the experience so much he went back as a volunteer it is rewarding to plant something and see it grow.
    - Jared stated he participated in the farmer-in-training program last summer and met great kids and instructors and learned a lot. Jared stated after the farmer-in-training program he went back to volunteer at the farm. The farm produced great results and great crops and believes giving this extra land is a good idea and will expose more people to the program.
  - Mr. Maslow stated, in closing he would like to share what the farm does that relates to the P & R Commission. The P & R Commission is interested in “providing traditional and innovative recreation, leisure and cultural activities”, the farm does this by teaching people how to garden and giving them the opportunity to volunteer if they do not have a garden. As a demonstration to this, yesterday the farm had a seedling sale with vegetable starts from gardeners in Newton and the farm sold 16,000 vegetable seedlings in four hours, there is a huge interest in what the farm is doing.
  - Chairman Magni stated there are three parcels proposed- what are the specifics to be voted on by the Commission. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated there are three parcels, there is a fourth indicated by a question mark in the proposal, but this parcel has been removed as an option.
  - Mr. Bernheimer asked Mr. Maslow to prioritize the three sites. Mr. Maslow stated that is difficult because of the competing interests in the park. The best option would be site #2, the former garden plots. The garden plots have good soil but the farm does not want to step in if Parks & Recreation is going to allow the garden plots to be rented. Site # 3 is the meadow. The birders are split 50/50 on this proposal. The meadow is a failure as a garden it would be a huge effort by the farm to prepare the soil for farming. Site #1 has received the most positive feedback from the park

- users. The soil has been tested and is preferable to site #3. Mr. Maslow stated if he had to choose he would choose site #1 & site #2.
- Mr. Bernheimer stated there would be a definite impact on the birds and asked Mr. Maslow if he could be more specific.
  - Mr. Maslow stated brush and trees would be cut down which removes food and cover for the birds. But the farming would bring different birds to the area.
  - Mr. Rice asked Mr. Maslow where the water would come from for the crops. Mr. Maslow stated the City water would be used and paid for by the farm.
  - Mr. Stern asked if expansion is necessary for the sustainability of the farm, and asked Mr. Maslow on the projected revenue. Mr. Maslow stated financially this is not necessary for the farms viability, the farm has maxed out in sales for what can be done on one acre. Over the next few years the farm is focused on growing the farm in the direction of public service and education and the farm requires more land to do this effectively. It would be very helpful to have more space.
  - Mr. Kastner inquired if the additional land is required for crop rotation. Mr. Maslow stated crop rotation is an important aspect of this to the city and the farm. They have a vested interest in the health of the land.
  - Mr. Stern inquired on the money intake from acquiring sites 1 & 2. Mr. Barrer stated the farm would break even with the costs. Mr. Stern asked if the farm would be selling any CSA shares. Mr. Barrer stated the farm might sell CSA shares.
  - Mr. Kastner inquired if there is a backlog for the gardens. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated not currently, but there is potential to rent the garden plots. Mr. Tucker inquired if area #2 is the only other area to rent garden plots. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated yes.
  - Mr. Stern inquired if hazmat testing has been done on the soil for viability. Mr. Maslow stated no hazmat testing has been done on the soil. The proposal would be pending a hazmat test so the farm would not be growing crops in toxic soil.
  - Mr. Stern stated he was previously on the Community Preservation Committee and could not remember if there was any covenant confining the farm operations to specific locations. The Commission may want to check into this.
  - The Farm Commission limited the farm to Angino Farm. The Farm Commission turned over the management of the farm to Newton Community Farm, Inc. a non profit organization. Mr. Stern stated there may be real estate issues and farm boundary issues- there was the boundary of the historic preservation of the building. Mr. Maslow stated that would have more to do with the Farm Commission, they would not have jurisdiction over the farm in Nahanton Park. Newton Community Farm Inc is an independent non-profit from the City, the only way this proposal would impact the covenant for Angino Farm is if it negatively impacted the finances of Angino Farm because the farm is required by the covenant to be financially viable.
  - Mr. Kastner stated he has divided loyalties on this issue. There seems to be two issues; increasing the size of the farm and decreasing the wildlife habitat at Nahanton Park. The Commission cannot comprehend the trade

off at this point. A non vested third party should provide input/recommendations. Mr. Magni inquired if public input may help in the decision.

- Mr. Tucker stated if the Commission voted yes on area #2 and voted no on area #1 and #3, nothing stops us from going back and revisiting this in a year. Mr. Bernheimer stated the Commission may rescind the decision at any time.
- Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated he met with Mr. Barrer at Nahanton Park previously to review the space available. Areas #1 & #3 were discussed; area #2 was not included in the discussion. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis was not opposed to area #1 but is opposed to area #2. Area #3 was the location proposed as an off leash site and the group were told to stay away from area #3 due to the birds. It appears disingenuous that area #3 is now being proposed for farming.
- Mr. Stern inquired if the Commission is expected to determine the lease. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated no, Newton Community Farm, Inc. would work with the Law Department on a lease similar to Angino Farm.
- Mr. Rice asked if there would be any affect on area #3 if the farm uses area #2. Mr. Neville asked why the gardens should be given up. Mr. Bernheimer inquired when the gardens were farmed last. Mr. DeRubeis stated the gardens were rented out last two years ago, but there is one gardener currently in area #2.
- Chairman Magni requested input from the audience.
- Mr. Bill Fenstemacher stated he has been a gardener in plot #7 for 33 years and he does not want to relocate. He has worked the soil it is clean and in optimal condition. Mr. Fenstemacher has no objection to farming, but has spoken with Judy Dore the garden manger and there is a waiting list for garden plots. The gardens could be opened to determine demand by the public. And the long range farm needs should be determine. Maybe the first three rows could go to the public and the rest could go to the Farm.
- Ms. Leah Bird of Newton Centre stated she is a birder and a gardener in the upper gardens and we should all think of the greater good for all, over what is good for a few. Newton Community Farm wants to educate and that is important for the city. If area #1 is ok to farm then can everyone coexist? Ms. Bird commented more planning would be required, the farmers and birders could work together.
- Mr. Richard Heck inquired if other locations have been considered by the farm, such as the area across Nahanton Street by the apartments. Mr. Maslow stated yes but that area is under Conservation restriction.
- Mr. Mark Rosen of Oak Hill Park stated he has two small children and the Newton Community Farm education program is a positive education experience.
- Mr. Haynes Miller of Newton Centre stated he has been birding in Nahanton Park for 20 years. There are over 160 species of birds in the park. Mr. Haynes stated he appreciates what the farm does but farming is not the same as gardening in the garden plots, also Mr. Maslow will not be onsite to oversee the area. Barriers would be required to protect the crops; this is not a good idea. No quick decisions should be made. The Mass Audubon should be contacted for suggestions on management plans.

- Mr. Duane Hillis, abutter of Nahanton Park, thanked all the birders, gardeners and the farm for doing a great job. The community needs to figure out how to have both farming & habitats. People require food to eat and this is an excellent opportunity to enhance the farm and the park. There needs to be compromise.
- Mr. Vasilis of Hartman Rd. stated this is not a competition of individuals. Food produced in the gardens is shared with family and friends. The park has other environmental consideration besides birds; there are also deer, fox, rabbit and coyotes in the park. The plots in area #2 have been cultivated. These plots can be repopulated.
- Ms. Beth Schroeder stated she and Mr. Hillis tried to get the meadow taken care of but the City does not have the resources to maintain the meadow. Mr. Maslow has seed and volunteers and the time to improve the meadow. Ms. Schroeder also stated the city has used the meadow as a snow and debris dump.
- Mr. Ian Reed a Conservator and a birder agrees with farming, but Nahanton Park is a precious resource. The Commission should solicit a third opinion on this proposal. There should also be community gardens in different neighborhoods around the city. Currently the farm has garden plots with fencing around the area. Mr. Maslow stated the fence has been taken down. Mr. Reed stated a long term perspective is required.
- Ms. Jane Sender, the President of the Newton Conservators and resident of Kingswood Road stated the Conservators have not taken a side on this proposal. There are competing interests in Nahanton Park and Ms. Sender is offering assistance.
- Mr. Rice asked Interim Commissioner DeRubeis how the Commission should proceed. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated he is hearing the need for more research on this proposal and its impact on Nahanton Park.
- Mr. Tucker asked if it is conceivable to have more input from someone like the Audubon Society. Ms. Sender stated the Conservators are currently utilizing the Audubon Society, she will ask them. Mr. Tucker stated it would be a good idea to have the birders and farmers work together on a compromise.
- Mr. Bernheimer recommended a working group be formed to develop a plan. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis (the City) should take the lead. Mr. Kastner stated a landscape architect and tree warden are city employees and should be tapped into as a resource for this group.
- Chairman Magni agreed and requested Interim Commissioner DeRubeis form a working group to determine a plan for the farm's proposal.

## **7. Mike Pinta – NELL- Jay Gordon Field -2nd Meeting**

- Mr. Pinta stated when he appeared before the Commission on April 26, 2010 to request permission to install concrete slabs under the players benches, the Commission requested he look for other alternatives to concrete. Mr. Pinta requested assistance from Mr. Tom Forte who has installed concrete slabs in other basified dugouts. Mr. Pinta and Mr. Forte have asked around for other options. The response they have received was unanimous that concrete slabs are the best option. Mr. Pinta could not

- find anyone who has installed wooden planks in baseball dugouts; the tongue and groove plank system is a tripping hazard when the players are wearing cleats. Mr. Pinta and Mr. Forte went to Brookline, Wellesley and other Newton baseball fields and all dugouts had concrete slabs. In Brookline, concrete slabs are mandatory due to aesthetics and cleanliness.
- Mr. Stern inquired if there is any colored concrete. Mr. Pinta stated no, the color is natural so it blends in with the environment.
  - Mr. Bernheimer stated he was the person who requested alternatives to concrete but he is convinced concrete is the best option.
  - Mr. Stern inquired if the Engineering Department had been asked for their input. Ms. Schein stated yes, the Engineering Dept approved the plans.
  - Alderman Freedman commented he was previously a coach for NELL and supports this proposal. The proposal increases safety for the kids. NELL contributions in-kind have been exemplary.

*Mr. Bernheimer made a motion to approve the proposal by NELL for the concrete slabs with the condition the slabs will be maintained by NELL and if NELL no longer uses the field the concrete slabs will be removed at the expense of NELL. Mr. Rice seconded the motion. Motion passed 8-0.*

#### **8. Taiwan Garden- Hyde Playground – 2nd Meeting**

- Alderman Rice stated Mr. Rich Abrams could not attend the meeting to answer the Commissions questions and requested Mr. Abrams be added to next months agenda.
- Mr. Magni allowed the abutter in attendance to comment.
- Ms. Sara Daly of Lincoln St. stated the garden is a good idea but is concerned the garden will take up the playground space. And is also concerned with the WWII monument that is in the location and asked if it will be removed and stated the statue has been damaged when a car hit the monument.
- Alderman Rice stated the monument is an important component of the park. The monument will be integrated into the garden. On another note, the monument has been hit by a car and the city is replacing the monument. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated the city has received a check from the insurance company for \$25K.
- Mr. Stern inquired if a maintenance plan is included. Alderman Rice stated yes the maintenance will be the responsibility of the Hyde Community Center and the Taiwan Cultural Center. Mr. Stern inquired if the community could support the maintenance of the garden on its own if the Taiwan Cultural Center left the building. Alderman Rice stated yes, the community is adopting this space.
- Ms. Charkoudian inquired about the invasive plants in the garden. Alderman Rice stated Mr. Abrams the designer will answer the questions at the next meeting. Mr. Stern asked if Mr. Abrams would speak to any signage proposed. Alderman Rice stated yes. Mr. Stern inquired of the cost to the Parks & Recreation Department for labor. Interim Commissioner DeRubeis stated the cost is minimal.

## 9. New Business

- Ms. Heitman thanked Interim Commissioner DeRubeis for replacing the sign on the Johnny Kelly statue before the marathon. The plaque on the statue had been stolen a month before the marathon.
- Mr. Stern recommended the Commission's Informational Manual be updated. Interim Commissioner stated we can take a look at the manual.
- Chairman Magni requested the group set the dates for the Community Meetings for Claflin Park, McGrath Park and Old Cold Spring Park off leash areas. The group came to a consensus:
  - One meeting for Claflin Park & McGrath Park on June 14, 7pm in the War Memorial at City Hall.
  - One Meeting for Old Cold Spring Park –date to be determined

**The Next Regular Meeting is on Monday, June 21, 2010, in room 209 of City Hall. The meeting will begin promptly after the P & R Commission Youth Awards. The Youth Awards will take place at 7pm in the Aldermanic Chambers.**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:16 pm

Respectfully submitted,

*Robin McLaughlin, Secretary*

## Parks & Recreation Department

5/17/2010 Commission Meeting

### Financial Indicators

	Apr-09	FY09- Y-T-D	Apr-10	FY10 Y-T-D
<b>REVENUE</b>				
<b>Operating</b>	<b>\$6,291.00</b>	<b>\$75,713.00</b>	<b>\$6,233.00</b>	<b>\$93,109.00</b>
<b>Revolving</b>				
Classes/Activities	\$36,999.00	\$540,833.00	\$82,295.00	\$659,835.00
Camps	\$41,879.00	\$256,328.00	\$42,291.00	\$277,586.00
Arts in the Parks	\$13,473.00	\$171,185.00	\$9,183.00	\$168,568.00
Senior Citizens	\$1,925.00	\$44,057.00	\$2,552.00	\$35,501.00
Landscape Maint	\$26,060.00	\$28,180.00	\$0.00	\$31,413.00
Tree Ordinance	\$0.00	\$74,430.00	\$0.00	\$17,680.00
<b>Revolving Total</b>	<b>\$120,336.00</b>	<b>\$1,115,013.00</b>	<b>\$136,321.00</b>	<b>\$1,190,583.00</b>

	Apr-09	FY09- Y-T-D	Apr-10	FY10 Y-T-D
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Operating</b>	<b>\$333,079.00</b>	<b>\$3,786,552.00</b>	<b>\$250,063.00</b>	<b>\$3,685,446.00</b>
<b>Revolving</b>				

Classes/Activities	\$67,697.00	\$494,473.00	\$41,899.00	\$757,626.00
Camps	\$27,004.00	\$401,673.00	\$15,899.00	\$432,788.00
Arts in the Parks	\$12,251.00	\$182,669.00	\$10,767.00	\$151,306.00
Senior Citizens	\$5,400.00	\$38,208.00	\$2,059.00	\$28,309.00
Landscape Maint	\$19,363.00	\$46,638.00	\$2,810.00	\$17,489.00
Tree Ordinance	\$33,000.00	\$107,940.00	\$3,574.00	\$32,541.00
<b>Revolving Total</b>	<b>\$164,715.00</b>	<b>\$1,271,601.00</b>	<b>\$77,008.00</b>	<b>\$1,420,059.00</b>
<b>Emergency</b>				
Snow/Ice Control				
Regular Overtime	\$ 834.00	\$ 63,184.00	\$ 834.00	\$ 58,482.00
Rental - Vehicles	\$ 69,088.00	\$ 637,374.00	\$ -	\$ 340,319.00

## Key Performance Indicators

	Apr-09	FY09- Y-T-D	Apr-10	FY10 Y-T-D	Comments
Forestry Requests Received	63	935	155	1263	
Forestry Requests Completed	115	958	75	1127	
Maintenance Requests Received	0	0	19	69	
Maintenance Requests Completed	0	0	17	64	
Maintenance Schooldude Received	30	236	47	223	Field Marking request open thru August
Maintenance Schooldude Completed	29	232	25	194	Playground repairs begin 5-24-10 thru August
Administration-Calls Received	517	2142	851	7,319	FY09 YTD only includes Dec Thru Apr

## Departmental Attendance

		Apr-09			Apr-10			
		Workdays	Days	Manpower	Workdays	Days	Manpower	
2009	2010	21	Missed	Indicator	21	Missed	Indicator	
<b>Administration -</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	294	11.50	96.1%	273	14.00	94.9%
<b>Maintenance -</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	378	73.50	80.6%	378	57.00	84.9%
<b>Forestry -</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	42	3.00	92.9%	42	0.00	100.0%
<b>Total Dept Attendance</b>			<b>714</b>	<b>88.00</b>	<b>87.7%</b>	<b>693</b>	<b>71.00</b>	<b>89.8%</b>
<b>Narrative</b>								

### **Arts in the Park Events :**

May 1, 2 KidsFEST at Newton City Hall 10am-5pm

May 8 Newton Plant Sale at Newton City Hall 9am-4pm

May 15,16 Newton Open Studios

### **Over 55**

Senior Tap Dance Team has two performances

Red Hat Society will be featured in Memorial Day Parade

*Summer Programs:* Golf League, Bocce, Tennis, summer dance, kayak

*Trips:* JFK Museum, Ten Lighthouse Boat Cruise-Newport harbor

Dimello's Floating Restaurant in Maine, Tiny trips

### **Maintenance**

City Series for Little Leagues

### **Other Highlights:**

4/9/10 Funtastic Fridays

4/10/, 4/11 Spring Clean up Community Gardens Nahanton Park

5/26 Mayors Breakfast

5/27 Open House Nahanton Park Puddlestompers

June

Eagle Scout Project exer trail at the Cove replace exercise signs

Eagle Scout Project Spruce up Farmers Market site

6/21 Commission Youth Awards

Memorial Day

Parade