

**TOWN OF WAYLAND
RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 7:30 p.m.
Wayland Town Building's Select Board Meeting Room
41 Cochituate Road, Wayland, Massachusetts 01778**

Present in person: Asa B. Foster, David B. Pearlman, Kelly S. Pierce, Thruston "Brud" Wright III

Absent: Leanne D. Mason.

Also present: Recreation Director, Katherine Brenna.

Call to order: At 7:39 p.m., A. Foster called the meeting to order and announced each member present by full name, and that the meeting would be recorded for later broadcast.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Discussion and next steps regarding the tour of the BSI/Edge Sports Facility, Wellesley on Feb 3:

D. Pearlman expressed that the facility was impressive, and acknowledged Scott Walters, Draper Road, for coordinating meetings at the facility. D. Pearlman supported the idea of the Town leasing the land to and partnering with a private entity to fund the construction of the building that would benefit the Town participants and also generate tax revenue. D. Pearlman expressed that the next steps should be to create a subcommittee.

Scott Walters, Draper Road, commented that the subcommittee should involve the Recreation, School Departments, Department of Public Works (DPW) and the Select Board. K. Brenna noted that the land was currently under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Works and the Select Board. S. Walters also noted there are several vendors that could support the initiative. K. Brenna noted that the project would be subject to state procurement law.

A. Foster suggested K. Brenna meet with C. Collins, representative from Edge Sports to determine the scope of services for the facility.

B. Wright noted that it would be a benefit to the Town to review several proposals from a variety of third-party options, including assessing the advantages of the Town taking on the project entirely or even in a hybrid format. D. Pearlman supported that approach. K. Pierce expressed the agreement include strong language to carve out the needs for the Wayland.

Discussion of Park & Recreation related state legislative bills, including but not limited to:

- a. **Amendment to Christian's Law – M.G.L. Chapter 111 Section 127A ½**
- b. **An Act promoting best practices in youth athletic coaching: M.G.L. Ch. 111, § 244**
- c. **AEDs for all athletic playing fields: bill in draft form:**

K. Brenna informed the Commission about pending state legislation that is being considered which would impact the Recreation Department related to the use of the Community Pool for summer camps; training that could become a mandatory requirement for the issuance of field permits to youth athletic groups and for the provision of automated external defibrillator (AEDs) at public playing fields.

Discussion of facility rentals / vendor contracts including but not limited to proposed policy changes under the Select Board-Town Manager Act:

D. Pearlman asked for an explanation on the matter. A. Foster noted that Recreation is responsible for scheduling programs through the Recreation Department.

Donald Guerinoni, Adelaide Road, stated he was a vendor for the Recreation Department.

K. Brenna explained that the jurisdiction of Town properties had changed under the Select Board-Town Manager Act. K. Pierce explained the process that the Recreation Department had historically operated under to permit Town properties and school properties. K. Brenna noted that the process is uniform for all outdoor sites, parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields, etc., but the gymnasiums operated differently.

Donald Guerinoni, Adelaide Road, referenced Massachusetts General Law Chapter 71 Section 71.

The law designates the authority to the School Committee to establish regulations related to the use of the school properties and buildings for educational, recreational, social, civic, philanthropic and like purposes as it deems for the interest of the community. K. Brenna noted that since the Town Manager-Select Board Act passed, the Recreation Department had been having conversations with the School Department officials related to its existing regulations regarding recreational programs on school properties.

B. Wright referenced the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Recreation, Schools and DPW related to fields and field maintenance, and noted that it should be reviewed. K. Pierce noted that there are many examples of school assets that are managed by Recreation Departments. B. Wright noted that the assets are underutilized. The Commission discussed the issue.

Donald Guerinoni, Adelaide Road, reported that he had contacted the Recreation Department to offer private basketball program for kids and a three-hour slot on Thursdays was available. He asked why the use of the Middle School gymnasium was not offered. K. Brenna noted that he did not request to use the middle school or offer summer programs. She added that it was atypical for the Middle School gymnasium to be available for this type of program and the gymnasium was currently not within the Recreation Department's jurisdiction.

Recreation Director Department Update: K. Brenna reviewed a draft of the Quarter 3 Recreation Department report which included updates on the recent events, camp registration, school vacation programs, the ski program, and staff trainings. K. Brenna stated that the Rec Brochure had been mailed to all residences in Wayland, which highlighted all the spring and summer programs that were scheduled and an update on the Town Beach.

K. Pierce and K. Brenna updated the Commission on several capital projects that would be funded, if approved by the Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds. The projects included improvements to the Town Beach playground, entry way, and Cochituate Ball Park basketball court. K. Brenna noted that she had requested maintenance to the gym roof and turf maintenance was scheduled at the WHS Stadium.

K. Brenna reviewed a list of initiatives related to prior Annual Town Meeting warrant articles. K. Brenna noted that the Public Improvement Plan, petitioned by the neighbors and interested parties had requested from Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), a twenty-day extension on the twenty day comment period, and the Loker project was not expected to resume until mid-April. K. Brenna noted that the Permanent Municipal Building Committee (PMBC) was managing the Loker Field project, and reviewing the draft Release Abatement Measure (RAM) Plan, a voluntary remedial measure that would be submitted to MassDEP. K. Brenna reported that the Middle School back fields design would start soon with already appropriated CPA funds for design. K. Brenna provided a brief update on the Council on Aging-Community Center project (COA-CC), recently being considered for an afterschool program site and the Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) which was being led by the Conservation Department.

Discussion and review of the Recreation Commission Goals and Charge: The Commission elected to table this agenda item until the next Commission meeting.

Commissioner Reports and Announcements, if any: There were none.

Next Meeting Date and Agenda Items: The Commission decided to meet on Monday, April 10, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of meeting, if any: There were none.

Motion to adjourn: At 9:21 p.m., B. Wright moved, seconded by K. Pierce, to adjourn the meeting. Vote: YEA: A. Foster, D. Pearlman, K. Pierce, B. Wright. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: L. Mason. Adopted: 4-0-0.

Documents used, referenced or reviewed by the Recreation Commission at the meeting of January 23, 2023:

1. Summary: Massachusetts Recreation and Park Association Legislative Update
2. Draft: Recreation Department: Quarter 3 Report
3. Recreation Initiatives related to Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles
4. Screen Share: Massachusetts General Law: Chapter 71 §71