

TOWN OF WAYLAND

Massachusetts

Recreation Department

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Recreation Commission

Asa B. Foster
Mark Norton
David B. Pearlman
Kelly S. Pierce
Thruston Wright III

RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, December 11, 2023, 7:30 p.m.
Wayland Town Building, Selectmen's Meeting Room
41 Cochituate Road, Wayland, Massachusetts 01778

Present: Asa B. Foster, Mark Norton, David B. Pearlman, Kelly S. Pierce and Thruston "Brud" Wright III.

Personnel Present: Recreation Director, K. Brenna

Call to Order and Review the Agenda: At 7:36 p.m., Co-Chair Asa Foster called the meeting to order when a quorum was present and announced each member by full name. A. Foster noted that the meeting would be recorded for later broadcast. A. Foster reviewed the agenda. Mark Norton arrived at the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Public Comment:

D. Bernstein, Glezen Lane, requested more than two minutes to make his comment and A. Foster allowed it. D. Bernstein described the intent of two warrant articles intended to 1) extend the synthetic turf field moratorium and 2) establish a new field committee, both for which he was a petitioner. A. Foster suggested the matter be added to the next agenda for discussion.

Minutes: Review and approve previous meeting minutes: August 14, 2023: K. Pierce moved, seconded by M. Norton, to accept the minutes of August 14, 2023, as presented. Vote: YEA: A. Foster, M. Norton, D. Pearlman, K. Pierce and B. Wright. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Adopted: 5-0-0.

Discussion of Athletic Field Revolving Account (pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 44, § 53 E½) regarding field user fees: K. Brenna described a request from Wayland Youth Soccer to review the way user fees are charged, and suggested a lower fee for younger players. K. Brenna reminded the Commission that Wayland Youth Lacrosse made a similar request in July, and the sense of the Commission at the time was to keep the user fees the same. The Commission discussed the current fee structure for field permits and offered potential changes in consideration of the requests. B. Wright suggested that the fee mechanism for all groups be uniform.

Lesley Stewart, President of Wayland Youth Soccer joined the discussion and described the fee model for Wayland Youth Soccer and that there was inequity between the adult fees and the youth fees.

The Commission discussed the current fee structure for field permits and gymnasium rentals.

Jeanne Downs, Concord Road, member of the School Committee joined the discussion and confirmed that the school gyms charge a fee as well as a custodial fee.

K. Brenna agreed to conduct an assessment to determine the appropriateness of the fees and would provide an update in the spring for the next fiscal year. K. Brenna noted that she was meeting with other Recreation Departments to discuss other fee structures.

B. Wright suggested the Commission coordinate with the School Committee on field usage.

Recreation Director's Department Update: K. Brenna provided an update on the department including staffing changes, the new RecPass program, new AEDs at outdoor fields, Middle School Youth Night, the growth of the youth field hockey program and the ski program.

Commissioner Reports & Announcements, if any:

- a. **From Permanent Municipal Building Committee, B. Wright and A. Foster (Loker):** A. Foster reported that the PMBC had not met since the last meeting. K. Brenna reported that the contractors work was done, there would be a final punch list and a re-opening of the irrigation system in the spring, at which point the Town would accept the project.
- b. **From Route 20 South Landfill Visioning Committee, D. Pearlman, if any:** D. Pearlman reported that the Route 20S Landfill Visioning Committee conducted site visits to similar sites in other towns that were developed into parks. The Commission discussed the challenges of the site given its prior use as a landfill.
- c. **From Community Preservation Committee, K. Pierce, (CPA Funds):** K. Pierce invited Jeanne Downs and Ben Downs, Concord Road, to discuss the CPC warrant article intended to fund needed repairs to the Wayland Community Pool.

B. Downs joined the meeting and described the history of the Wayland Community Pool and how the community uses it. He described how the monies would be spent if the article is approved at Annual Town Meeting. The Commission discussed the request and the use of public funds on a private entity. K. Pierce emphasized the value of a pool to the community. K. Pierce also acknowledged the constraints of the CPA funds.

M. Norton, described the CPC request intended to fund a new playground at Cochituate Ball Park. The Commission discussed the project proposal.

Vote to recommend approval of 2024 Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Community Preservation Committee (CPC) articles/project proposals, if any:

B. Wright moved, seconded by K. Pierce to be supportive Wayland Community Pools application for CPA funds. Vote YEA: A. Foster, M. Norton, D. Pearlman, K. Pierce, B. Wright. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Adopted: 5-0-0.

D. Pearlman moved, seconded by B. Wright to be supportive of the EJM Foundation request for CPA funds. Vote YEA: A. Foster, D. Pearlman, K. Pierce, B. Wright. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: M. Norton. ABSENT: Adopted: 4-0-1.

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

Adjourn: At 10:20 p.m., with no further business before the Commission M. Norton moved, seconded by K. Pierce to adjourn the meeting. Vote YEA: A. Foster, M. Norton, D. Pearlman, K. Pierce, B. Wright. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Adopted: 5-0-0.

Documents referenced or reviewed by the Recreation Commission at the meeting of December 11, 2023:

1. Handout: Revised Petitioner's Article for 2024 Annual Town Meeting: Article X: Establish Athletic Field Planning Committee, D. Bernstein and petitioners

2. Handout: Presented by D. Bernstein, Glezen Lane:
Wang Y, Qian H. Phthalates and Their Impacts on Human Health. Healthcare (Basel). 2021 May 18;9(5):603.
doi: 10.3390/healthcare9050603. PMID: 34069956; PMCID: PMC8157593.
3. Draft: Recreation Commission meeting minutes of August 14, 2023
4. Handout: Recreation Department Update Q2 Report, K. Brenna
5. Loker Field Update: K. Brenna, dated 12/11/2023
6. Wayland Community Preservation Act (CPA) Project Application: Wayland Community Pool Application
7. Wayland Community Preservation Act (CPA) Project Application: Eliza's Park Project at Cochituate