



**TOWN OF BARNSTABLE
BARNSTABLE RECREATION DIVISION**

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RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

6 May 2019

Scrivener's note: The following minutes are general in nature. For those wanting specific detail on matters heard on this agenda, additional resources are available to you: video-on-demand (free on the Town website at town.barnstable.ma.us, on the Recreation Commission's web page).

Commission Members Present: Joe O'Brien, Chair, James Tenaglia, Vice-Chair, Renée Dowling, Brendan Burke, Tanya Dawson, and Rene King

Absent: Kathy Pina

Also Present: Patti Machado, Director of Recreation and Ethan Sirhal, Youth Commission Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 5:30, all commissioners present introduced themselves.

Motion was made by James Tenaglia to accept the minutes from the April 1st meeting as submitted, seconded by Renée King. **VOTE – All In Favor To Accept.**

A. DPW Field Study – Rob Steen

- a) Purpose of the study is to determine the types, quantities and ideal locations of fields needed both now, and in the future. Requests from CIP for fields drove the study.
- b) Approach – done in 3 phases:
 1. Needs Assessment - looking at the town, demographics, and how the recreation industry is changing
 2. Evaluation on the current fields in the town
 3. Strategic Plan Development – how do the needs and current fields marry up and what gaps need addressing
- c) This same presentation was presented to the Town Council on June 21, 2018.
- d) The town has enough field space currently.
 1. Whether they are the right mix of fields is another discussion.
 2. Some fields are over used and some are under used.
 3. The majority of fields have access issues.
 4. There is a lot of interest in amenities such as bathrooms.
- e) The existing maintenance budgets are considered to be inadequate.
- f) Restrictions utilizing school fields are a problem for some of the community, especially seniors who might want to use them but can't get access to school grounds.
- g) The study looked at how many fields are needed and how many the town has.
 1. There are currently 85 fields. The need is 97 ultimately.
- h) Evaluation key – green is good, red is bad.
 2. Majority of fields are not in the good category: 25 are bad, 14 poor, 15 okay, 7 are good and there are none that are very good.

- i) Initial results in the report, which looked at this from a capital approach, shows how this becomes capitally intensive. Example: the renovation of Lombard Field which was completely taken apart and rebuilt.
 - 1. They saw that the report needs to have another discussion in it and to talk about a different approach not as capitally intensive, similar to the Lopes Field model.
 - 2. The question was how to formalize this and incorporate the Lopes model or maintenance approach. This is what the rewrite was after the Town Council meeting and the DPW has started to incorporate this approach.
- j) Fields have been identified that the DPW feels they can address with their personnel and a much more modest capital budget. They have also identified which fields the DPW cannot address such as courts, tracks, and things that they don't have and will never have the level of expertise needed to do the work.
 - 1. To do what is being suggested with the Maintenance Approach, DPW will have to expand out their field crews which they've started acting on through the operations budget.
- k) How they compared
 - 1. Capitally intensive approach including labor for maintenance comes out with about \$36 million over the next 20 years.
 - 2. Maintenance intensive approach is \$29 million over the next 20 years but this includes some projects which have already been allocated and funded and are built into this \$29 million.
 - 3. This has gone back through the committee members and has come out of the Assistant Town Manager's and the Town Manager's office.
- l) Discussion
 - 1. Joseph O'Brien asked if the report takes into consideration other possible uses for some of the fields - could they be utilized differently.
 - i. The answer is yes, the study does this. Until the work is executed changes can be made.
 - ii. The report starts to look at how we maintain fields vs. how they are used. Currently the DPW maintains all fields to much the same level. Some fields gets much more use so DPW needs to look at programming vs. maintenance for scheduling appropriately.
 - 2. CPC has been identified to fund the initial effort.

B. Total Athletics - Bill Collette

- a. Last year they made the conversion to Seahawks Hockey Club.
- b. Tryouts were in March and the turnout was twice as high as last year.
- c. Expectation is that they will be leasing 600+ hours from HYCC for ice this coming season.
- d. They have 6 full teams (15 players each) this year compared to 6 partially filled teams last year. Additionally they will have a half season team with youth preparing for the high school season which they did not have last year.
- e. A lot of work has been put in the last 2 years, taking one step back to take 2 steps forward.
- f. The more they can bring to the community, the more opportunities they can offer the youth with a place to go. This fits in with Coach Sherman's full intention to the philanthropic side of things.
- g. They are getting closer to the building of the facility.

C. Cotuit Kettleers – Paul Logan

- a) This is the 73rd year they are using Lowell Park in Cotuit and the use of this field has been a great opportunity to partner with the Town of Barnstable
- b) Cotuit Athletic Association is their business name.
- c) Lowell Park is one of the oldest fields on Cape Cod and they consider it to be one of the best baseball fields.
- d) They have a number of activities that happen annually at Lowell Park in addition to the Cotuit Kettleer's exhibition game and home games.
 - 1. They will be hosting 5 Barnstable High School games due to the work being done on the school field.
 - 2. They sponsor youth clinics from ages 6 to 16.
 - 3. Sturgis East Varsity and JV play at Lowell Park
- e. They've had a great partnership with the Recreation Commission and the Town of Barnstable since 1947 and are currently working on a 5 year agreement to extend a user agreement with the town.
- f. A schedule has been provided to the town this year.
- g. Additional Events

1. Barnstable American Legion uses the field for games during the summer
 2. Star gazing through the Cotuit Library on July 4th after the Cotuit parade.
 3. A free family gathering with carnival events sponsored by the Cotuit Athletic Association as part of their annual community budget.
 4. Clinic nights to bring youth to the field with their families for autographs and pictures with the players prior to the game.
 5. Ladies Day
 6. Heroes In The Park Day
 7. Honoring Scholars by bringing together schools from Mashpee, Sandwich, and Barnstable – honoring teachers who are retiring.
 8. Meet and Greet which ends up at Lowell Park after trawling around Cotuit, Osterville, and Mashpee prior to the opening game on Monday, June 10th.
- h. Housing Needs
1. 30 host families have signed up this year.
 2. They would like to have one host family per player as they find this to be the best formula.
 3. There are countless Cotuit Kettleers who play in the big leagues now and it is a great experience for the family.
 4. They could use more host families.
- i. Volunteers are essential and they do have a great volunteer base.

D. YMCA Youth Development Program – Renee King, Director of the Achievers Program

- a. Molly Sprawl, a volunteer with the Achievers Program, provided information on the program.
1. The program was started four years ago at the Cape Cod YMCA.
 2. It is their desire to provide every child and teen in our community the ability to rise to their highest potential with the support of their community.
 3. It provides college and career readiness.
 4. Stories of success and determination are incredible, which they always recognize.
 5. They meet weekly at HYCC which they find to be very welcoming.
 6. They follow a curriculum that takes the students through an 8 – 16 curriculum, meaning that they follow them through college.
 7. They have partnerships which have created strong relationships with Rotary, Cape Cod Community College, and many other people within the community.
 8. They are seeing successes of students who are thriving in college, having now been in the program for 4 years.
- b. Alex Gomes of Santander Bank
1. Has been involved in the Achievers Program for 2 years.
 2. Santander Bank is a sponsor of the program which aligns with their community reinvestment perspective.
 3. His volunteering stems from his understanding of how important it is for the success of youth to have caring adults in their lives.
- c. Experiences of various students in the program were shared.
1. Junior at BHS and 4th year in the program: Being in the program has opened him to a lot of what he sees himself doing in 10 years and being in college. He is directing a documentary with his fellow Achievers which tells you the everyday struggle teens go through.
 2. Sophomore at BHS in her 1st year in the Achievers Program. Friends encouraged her to participate and being in the program has helped open her eyes about her future. She knows now where she plans to go to college and although the process of college and planning for the future is a lot to go through, it is really worth it. She did swimming in a Barnstable program and Rene introduced her to Special Olympics. She is now teaching them to swim, which is a lot of fun, and she hopes to do it again next year.
 3. Junior at BHS and 1st year in program. The program has taught her how important her GPA and what she does in high school is and how these will affect her in the future. She has built a family with the other members in the program, including the adults. The trips to the colleges have been fun. It has helped her learn how to keep her grades up.
 4. Senior at BHS – in the program since freshman year. It has helped her a lot in preparing for life after high school. Before joining the program she didn't even know if she wanted to go to college. It has helped her

with her journey and figuring things out. She will be attending Bridgewater State University in the fall. She has been chosen to represent the YMCA at a leadership convention in CA this summer.

5. YMCA Board Member and Steering Committee Member, Ms. Blackburn, commended the Recreation Division for all they do to foster diversity and special needs. She thanked HYCC for opening the doors to the Achievers and hopes they continue the partnership with the Achievers.
 6. Aleik Taylor, BHS Administrator, Director of Project Excel and a volunteer for the Achievers Program is a liaison between the school and the YMCA. The number one priority is giving back and sharing his experiences to help them prepare for their future and being ready.
 7. Freshman at BHS and 2nd year in the program. He has no words to describe how much this program has helped him. He was able to teach himself to speak Portuguese. He was provided the opportunity to read to the children at Hyannis West Elementary School which he found he loved. He was able to help the children who couldn't speak much English by translating books and helping with worksheet activities. He fell in love with the children. This has inspired him for college. UMass Amherst is known for its communications major and he wants to be an interpreter. It has brought him a great path for his future.
 8. Senior at BHS and 3rd year in the program. He lived in Jamaica for most of his life. Rene was the main person who helped him understand college. She and the fellow achievers helped him through his senior year. He had no idea about how to apply for college and the financial aid process. The program helped him through all this and was his guideline. He is going to UMass Boston and he is so grateful for all of this.
- d. Video was shown.
 - e. The annual benefit is May 15th. Contact Mimi at the YMCA.

E. Recreation Commission Attendance Policy

- a. The appointment notices for committee members are now being sent to the members who are up for reappointment, as well as the chair. These members are Joseph O'Brien-Chair, Kathy Pina, and Rene Dowling.
- b. Discussion surrounding the expectation and need for all members to be present at meetings. A quorum, which is required for a vote, is four members.
- c. A medical leave would be considered an excused absence.
- d. Motion made by Rene King – Moving forward the recreation commission will have an absentee policy that you are allowed three absences without notifying the chair. At that point the member will respectfully consider stepping down. Seconded by James Tenaglia.
- e. Discussion ensued. All members are required to notify the Commission if they will not be able to attend, with enough notice for the meeting to be canceled if needed. Also, members are expected to provide notification if they will be arriving late or leaving early.
- f. Motion was amended as follows: Moving forward the recreation commission will have an absentee policy. After two unexcused absences, appropriate action will be taken as deemed necessary by the Chair and Vice-Chair.
VOTE – All In Favor To Accept.
- g. Motion made by James Tenaglia to remove the first motion. **VOTE – All In Favor To Accept.**
- h. This new policy will be enacted beginning with the next meeting.

Staff Report – Patti Machado (Handout Exhibit A)

A. Administration

- a. Presented on a panel in Brewster “Weeding out the Truth” Educational forum about marijuana- the health and social impacts on our community, with Kevin Rosario, Representative Tim Whelan, and Fr. Jon Golf.
- b. Mickie Davies & John Gleason attended the Board of Health conference Series on the New Camp Regulations.
- c. Patti received her recertification on Water Safety Instruction.
- d. Mickie was recertified to continue instruction in Archery.

B. Aquatics

- a. Lifeguard Tryouts - May 11th.
- b. Parking Permits on sale in person starting today May 6th.
- c. JFK Memorial opened today, May 6th with the Vets restrooms available.
- d. John Gleason has been working with DPW to put in new and improved volleyball stanchions at Vets, Kalmus, Sea St, Covell's, Craigville, & Dowses Beach.

- e. DPW has put in the new picnic table, grills, and benches at Veteran's Park Beach. After this summer Veteran's Beach site will have been completed.
- f. Beaches Open
 1. Memorial Day Weekend, Weekends only (Craigville & Covell's Gate and bathhouses only) Vets, Kalmus, Covell's, Craigville, Dowses, & Sandy Neck.
 2. All sites open June 22nd.

C. HYCC

- a. HYCC was struck by lightning on Friday, April 27th. The Alarm system, some phones and a few other things have had problems. DPW is working on replacing the pole and lighting in the Skate Park that was shattered.
- b. Festival of Museums – April 6th 9-3 – Over 1000 participated.
- c. Great Skate – Substance Prevention Program – Benefit Wellstrong – over 100 people attended.
- d. Cape Cod Health Care vs. Cape Cod Police Association Hockey Game Fundraiser had over 100 people attend.
- e. The annual Coast Guard Commandant's Cup had 8 teams participate. April 18th to 22nd.
- f. 6 & 7th Grade Rock Nights – Huge success – scheduled for May 17th 7-8:30pm.
- g. After School Program had a Tick seminar to prepare kids on safety and health concerns of ticks.
- h. Cape Cod Culinary Arts is using a grant for 8 of our after school program kids to learn how to plan, prepare, shop, cook a full meal.
- i. DPW is to be commended for all the hard work rejuvenating the HYCC while we closed last week. Butler Rink was taken down to the cement, repainted and put in new ice. Lots of painting and floor stripping and waxing. All the locker rooms had the floor tiles removed and power washed. Lots of hard work.

D. Recreation Programs

- a. Summer Registration – May 14th 8:45am – **(Handout Exhibit B)**
- b. Leisure Program Registration – started March 19th
 1. Sites Full: Grade 7 & 8, Centerville Elementary, Barnstable United, & BWB (23 spots Gr 1-5, 7 spots for 6th grade)
- c. Friday Night Social – Bridgewater State University Recreation Programming class coming to do a Carnival Night for class credits. We had 95 participants.
 2. Also the program Cape Cod C.A.N. is collaborating with the Friday Night Social to do a Hee-Haw Hoedown. We had 150 participants.
- d. Easter Extravaganza – April 20th – BIS – 11-1pm. Had over 500 participants.
- e. Patriot's Day Run – April 15th – BHS Track – cancelled due to rain.
- f. The Ceremonial First Pitch for Lombard Field and ribbon Cutting for Luke's Love – Friday, May 10th, see attached flyer.

E. Youth Commission Liaison– Ethan Sirhal

- a. One Love
 1. The BHS Presentation was April 9th which went very well.
 2. Sturgis East and West presentation will be May 24th at the Wins Building on Main St.
 3. The program was founded in 2016 in honor of Yeardeley Love. It helps students recognize signs of domestic abuse and educates them on how to intervene. The program is a 70 minute video that the One Love Foundation produced. The students that lead it are educated on what the right answers are and how to direct the conversation. Those who opt not to stay for the program are asked to speak with a counselor. Students at Barnstable are asking to have One Love come back. They get re-certified every year.
- b. Members of the Youth Commission met with Barnstable Superintendent – Meg Mayo Brown on April 29th.
 1. Talked about the restructure and the doing away with CP1. This was explained to the students.
 2. They discussed the teaching of social/emotional learning.
 3. The 8th graders spoke about the entrance class they are required to take.
 4. There was good dialogue and Ms. Brown is good at listening what the youth in the Commission have to say.
- c. Presented before the Town Council on May 2nd with everything that they had accomplished for 2018-19.
- d. Video shown of the presentation on May 2nd at the Town Council meeting by the Red Cross. The National Red Cross Lifesaving Award to Ethan Sirhal.

Liaison’s Reports

- A. CPC - James Tenaglia – Nothing new to report.
- B. Barnstable High School Athletics Advisory Council - Renée Dowling – Nothing new to report
- C. Barnstable Little League - Joseph O’Brien
 - a. Had to cancel opening due to rain. They did get in a full slate of games that day.

Matters Not Reasonably Anticipated By The Chair – Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS-Next Month’s Agenda Items – Next month’s Agenda is the tour so there isn’t a formal Agenda. Will be meeting at HYCC at 5:30 on May 13th for the tour.

Public Comment – NONE

James Tenaglia motioned to adjourn, Renée Dowling seconded. **VOTE – All in Favor.** Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

Public files are available for viewing during normal business hours
**Further detail may be obtained by viewing the video via Channel 18 On-Demand at

<http://www.town.barnstable.ma.us>

Respectfully submitted by **Sandra Merritt**, Recreation Division

Board, Committee, or Commission Name			RECREATION COMMISSION			
Date Rec'd	Material Dated	Meet Date	From	To	Subject	Exhibit
5/6/2019	5/6/2019	5/6/2019	Patti Machado	RC	Staff Report	A
5/6/2019	5/6/2019	5/6/2019	Patti Machado	RC	Summer Brochure	B