

Recreation & Parks

July 29, 2025, 6:00 PM

Community Center

Attendance: Rossana Ferrante, Karin Ernst, Chris Kennedy, Shelly Bedrossian. Larry Simpson arrived at 6:33 PM.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- July 15: Motion to approve. Seconded. All present in favor. The motion passes.
- July 1: Motion to approve. Seconded. All present in favor. The motion passes.
- June 2: Motion to approve. Seconded. All present in favor. The motion passes.
- May 13: Motion to approve. Seconded. All present in favor. The motion passes.

Move to go into executive session pursuant to Mass General Laws chapter 30A sec 21 (6) To consider lease or value of real property

- Move to go into executive session at **6:01 PM**.
- Re-entered regular session at **6:30 PM**.

Sports Committee meeting/upcoming training and suggested improvements discussion

- The goal is to operationalize this meeting rather than having it fall under the commission.
- The score board is being delivered this weekend at Hopkins. It is controlled through an app which we will go over at the upcoming sports meeting.
- Larry arrived at 6:33 PM.
- Interviewed all fall sports teams to ask how many teams they have, how many fields they need, how many people are in their programs; the goal is to understand what people need and how to provide it.
- Sports leagues will now use SuperSaaS scheduling software to manage field usage, allowing users to cancel their own reservations and make space usage more efficient.
 - Rec & Parks will load everything on leagues' behalf. They can delete anything they don't need and can put in requests when they see something open. It will give the leagues more flexibility. Piper Field will not be on it.
- Soccer needs access to lights. Chris and Shelly have been working with the school for Middle Village. They have approved bringing in 4-6 temporary construction lights for about \$500/mo to rent. This will allow them to have practice from 6 to 8 at night from Oct 1-Nov 5.
- Discussion about field usage: proposal that on Monday and Wednesday, football could begin at 4 or 4:30 and end at 7. Soccer would have the field from 7:30-9:30. The other days, football would go to 7:30. Soccer has Piper on Saturdays from 10:00-4:00. We would give them until 6:00 to provide time for games. Softball can use Vets this fall starting at 4.
- MYSA needs to buy nets for Gatchell's at 5-600. The lights are 529/mo per light.

Seaside Park Infield Discussion

- Joe McKane reached out to Shelly regarding drainage issues at Seaside. The infield has a special soil mix that's supposed to drain well. Water should move down and out, but the lip between the infield and outfield is trapping it. Two companies consulted: one quote for 8000 for a "bandaid" solution, one for 54,000 for a ten year solution, which involves re-grading and making the infield higher. The commission supports the long-term solution.
 - Motion to support the renovations at the Seaside infield in the amount of 15,000. Seconded. All in favor, the motion passes.

Procurement Updates

- Shelly: Received feedback from vendors on the RFP for Green Street. Shelly spoke to Becky and will amend the RFP; it will be changed to just consulting the design of the project, community engagement, meeting with the town, and getting the pricing. Abutter letters have been sent out, most people received them yesterday.

Park Updates (Pete)

- Shattuck: Asked for 35,000 for the stairs and switchback at Hamond, and HVAC for Stramski, and the engineers at Fountain Park. They gave us 22,500, but did not give us money for HVAC at Stramski's. We could ask for 12,500 to put toward Seaside.
- Stramski's: Quote for the insulation: 7740 with a 25% discount because it is a public project. It could be done in two days.
 - Motion to spend no more than 8000 on the Stramski insulation and giving it to March & Martin. Seconded. All in favor, the motion passes.
- Fountain Park: The engineers want to know if we want the proposed steps to end where the existing steps end, or extend them further. Discussion: the steps should be kept the same. We should have plans in a few weeks.
- Devereux: The beach shower has been put in at the beach. The highway department has a speed bump. The town doesn't have any jersey barriers available; they will have to be purchased. Chris and Karin will go down and measure tomorrow.
- The big mower is down again. It has a bad board; the tech will have to come down to re-program it when it comes in.
- Pete will forward a questionnaire for all the board members from the charter committee.

Recreation Update (Jaime)

- We are in the heart of summer at week 6. Some programs will go to week 9.
- Chris left at 7:37.
- It's been a heavy summer in terms of management and supporting the on-site team.
- We are opening fall programming on Monday, August 4 at 11 AM. All programs we have to date have been loaded. On-site teacher-based programs open on Wednesday at 11 AM.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Correspondence

- Thatcher Kezer sent a letter to John Lawler of Marblehead Youth Baseball thanking them for their donation to upgrade the existing lighting and timers at Gatchell's.

- Jeffrey Shoreman requests to park 5-10 Rhodes 19 trailers in either Devereux or Riverhead lots from August 20th to August 24th during the Rhodes 19 nationals. Motion to approve allowing the trailers to park for the requested time for \$300. Seconded. All in favor, the motion passes.
- Lainey Dowling requests the use of Crocker Park on November 2nd from 9-2 for a 5K in support of mental health. Motion to approve with no fee. Seconded. All in favor, the motion passes.
- Steve Uhl requests the use of Crocker Park for a wedding ceremony on Saturday, June 27, 2026, with approximately 170 attendees. Motion to approve pending insurance and payment. Seconded. All in favor, the motion passes.
- Suzi Jordan requests the use of Riverhead for a polar plunge on Saturday, January 24th, 2026, from 10 AM to noon. Move to approve pending insurance. Seconded. All in favor, the motion passes.
- Stew Hutchinson requests the use of Marblehead property for a sauna business.
 - They would have to go through the Harbormaster.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, August 12th, at 6 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04.

Minutes taken by Mary Herchenhahn