

**Town of Provincetown
Recreation Commission Meeting
REMOTE PARTICIPATION MEETING
Minutes of Wednesday, September 29 th, 2021**

Members Present, Robert Enos, Cathy Nagorski, Brandon Quesnell.; and Kristin Hatch

Members Absent: David Oliver and Michael Miller

Also in attendance: Brandon Motta, Recreation Director;

Call to order: Cathy calls meeting to order at 5:32 pm

Public comment: Members of the public will be allowed to speak in the order they have called in. All public comments will be limited to 3 minutes, and this is the only section that the public will be allowed to comment on.

Jay Critchley- Thank you to everyone for being able to talk. Attended the September 22nd Waterfront Park meeting. Strong reactions to the presentation. Outline a few things. Thinks that the park designs are overly designed, they have a lot of labor to them. Plan number 2 that relates to the design is of the Brooklyn Bridge Park and near the Zakim Bridge. Does not think the plans fit Provincetown and the waterfront. But it feels like the overall design is based more on an urban concept rather than approaching it from a different point of view such as what is working and the way it currently exists. Design parks are less rigid and have more open space, do not design every square inch. One issue that feels important is that there does not seem like there is space for events that potentially want to use it.

Jackie Lalonde- Disagrees with previous speaker Jay, and thinks it is a well designed park and commends the board for all their work. In regards to pickleball and all the talk going around she hopes that the courts remain and the board continues to support it.

Chris Matheson- "My name is Chris Matheson. I live at 1Winthrop Street. So I had been to all of the meetings at the park and then the last meeting. That was at the elementary school now and I think that watching the progress overtime that the firm. That's been hired by I guess that your organization is doing a great job in putting all the public feedback and moving it along. I don't think it's a final product at this point in time. So there's still plenty of time for input from the public but watching the progress overtime and hearing all the input. I think that they are taking all that into consideration and the park is evolving to a place that I think will meet as many people's needs as possible. Of course, maybe everyone is going to be 100% thrilled with it. But I think it's coming along great. I think it's gonna be a huge resource to the community and. I thank you for your work on it."

Brandon Motta shares two letters in regards to the Pickleball Courts. See below for the attachments.

Board Member statements: Board members will be taken by alphabetical order by last name followed by the chair being last:

Robert Enos II- No comment

Kristin Hatch- No comment

Michael Miller- Not Present

David Oliver- Not Present

Brandon Quesnell- “Thank you Cathy, I would like to begin by saying how proud I am of our staff and this board for promoting active recreation programs forward and providing space and resources for the initiatives uh sorry that I wasn't able to be at the last meeting. But like a previous speaker mentioned afterwards. I did hear a bunch of rumblings regarding some of the activities. I I feel that in our current world. It is inappropriate for anyone to condemn outdoor activities promoting community team building activities, sports and enjoyment of our Seaside fresh air. I feel our board and staff support our community in this way. And we continue to work diligently to add more popular programming to our committee or turrent community. I'm so excited that pickleball initiatives have been huge successes. I can't wait to learn when the next event or tournament is because I would like to be in the front row wholeheartedly cheering on the teams. And just to let everybody know as a planning board member, It's my responsibility to consider zoning and parcel use in every application. I often have to remind abutters the purpose of our town, commercial center and general commercial zone. Living next to an open parcel doesn't mean the property owner will keep it that way forever. And when you live in or on the border of the town commercial center or general commercial zone. That means you're living in a high energy area that contains sounds, smells, traffic and everything else that are bustling town experiences. I would say the same goes for living next to a playground, they use it for outdoor activities and excitements. If one is looking for peace and quiet. We are fortunate enough to also have the National Seashore in our town, which occupies 80% of Provincetown. I look forward to developing more programming and encouraging healthy support and development of body mind and spirit in our community. Thank you Cathy.”

Cathy Nagorski- A board member has resigned, Heather Rogers. Appreciates and wants to thank Heather for all her time. Park process has ramped up and encourages all to look at the renderings. After the public meeting last Wednesday, the two proposed plans went before the select board and feedback was received. Proud to be involved with the process. Exciting to see the potential in that space. Reminds everyone of the heavy lifting ahead, such as funding.

3) New Business - Votes May Be Taken

A) Facility Use Request for Motta Filed from FLAG Football -Votes May be Taken

Jamie Morley is on the line. LGBTQ+ nonprofit league based out of Boston, looking to host some pick up games on Halloween Weekend. Things to note is everyone in the league is vaccinated and the anticipated number of attendees is 45 people.

Robert asks if any spectators will be at the field. Jaime says yes and if anyone is looking to play they will need to sign an insurance waiver. Robert also asks what part of the field they will be using, Jaime says they use the part of the field near the dugouts about 70% of the field is left open.

Kristin says it looks like fun.

Cathy asks Brandon if there are any Recreation events at that time and what the rate would be. Also who would be responsible for moving the soccer nets etc.

Brandon says no and it is \$250.00 and he would work with Jamie to coordinate the set up of the field.

Kristin moves to approve

Robert Seconds

4-0-0

B) Facility Use request for Motta Field from Curaleaf for Charity Drag Kickball Game -Votes May be Taken

No one from the organization is present. Brandon Motta explains that a group from Curaleaf would like to host a Drag Kickball game to raise money for Helping our Women. Brandon Motta is not sure of many details.

Kristin was wondering if they were going to give us extra money to use the field. They have raised tons of money for organizations and would need more detail. In the past about ten years ago, it was a fun event and I believe they may have sold raffle tickets and been very successful.

Cathy suggests we table this to the next meeting to get more details unless they join the meeting later.

Mike Miller joins at 6:08pm

C) Preliminary Discussion of Facility Use Request for 387 Commercial St. for Private Wedding

-Votes May be Taken

Brandon Motta shares some of the details from the application to gain input from the board about the first private event at this facility.

Max Sunniberg from Boston , June 24th wedding, 70 Attendants and Alcohol will be served. Set up at 3pm and party from 6-9pm

Cathy asks Brandon if this application came before or after Swim For Life, Brandon M informs the board it came before.

Robert is not really in favor. Believes places in town make revenue off of events like this. Not a fan of outdoor speakers. At first blush, not in favor.

Kristin- Figures weddings would be in the park. Not sure about the amplification of music and that they would need to stay in the allotted area. Would like to hear more about how they would set it up.

Mike Miller- Defers to the board because he was not a part of the conversation when the purpose of the park was determined.

Brandon Q. - Hears both Robert and Kristin's points. Would like to hear about the follow up from Swim for Life. Lives close to the park and it is in the Town Commercial Center. Amplification is in that area already. Concert would not be appropriate but some music he is not opposed to. If it were a small group of people it would be appropriate, a larger group would be questioned. Encourage all to use the park and consider the parcel similar to how they would consider it for other facilities. Possibly speak with DPW as well.

Cathy- Really love private events and when we made the rules of the park accessible to the public so that would be something we would make sure that is still the case. Worries the park may be under construction at that time and feels urgency to tell them an answer. Wanted to add this to the agenda to have a preliminary discussion and then have them on the agenda for an upcoming meeting.

Brandon Q. chimes in about Roberts comment about taking away from other businesses. If the fee is not high enough for the park he worries about taking away future parties and events from businesses.

Cathy thinks of another place in town that would be able to accommodate a party such as this.

Kristin asks about a partial day rental, and suggests possibly making a motion to put this on a future agenda.

D) Resignations on the Recreation Commission, and Replacement Process-Votes May be Taken

Brandon Motta informs about Heather Rogers resignation from the board and David Oliver wishing to become an alternate. Two regular member seats are open. Go to the town clerk's website and fill out the application on their online portal. The Select Board will appoint.

Brandon Motta hopes some alternate members can become full time and that we fill all positions.

Cathy asks how long until the Select Board is able to appoint? Brandon Motta says there should not be any lag. Any applications should be processed at the next meeting. Two wishing to have the same spot may delay interviews.

Kristin thanks Heather for her service and hopes David puts in an application for an alternate.
Brandon Q. reminds the board that under the charter, a member of Truro and Wellfleet can apply to be an alternate.

4) Sub Committee Reports: Votes May be Taken

A) 387 Commercial Street Working Group Update

-Planning update- Votes may be Taken

Cathy and Brandon M. update the board on the community meeting that took place on September 22nd. A majority of the working group were in attendance as well. The same presentation was also presented to the Select Board on September 27th. The hot topic was restrooms and the request that they be added. Weston and Sampson will now need to go back to the drawing board and how they may be able to incorporate restrooms into the design.

Cathy goes over the two proposed design concepts and the feedback that was received.

Robert- They are great. Asks about the circular area and if it stays within the rentable area. Reason he asks is because he is not sure what open space the public would still have. Leaning more towards the second one

Kristin- Wow! The company is clearly impressive. Understands what Jay was saying about designers wanting to fill in space. I Do not think this is where we are going to end up. Not sure about fitting bathrooms and maybe another town building can be converted into bathrooms
Thanks the sub-committee for their work as well as the designers.

Mike- Looks great and thanks the group for all their hard work and backing up the recommendations from the board.

Brandon Q.- Echoes the board. Plans are amazing. Living near the park and seeing how it is used sides with the select board about incorporating bathrooms is essential. Thinks a porta-potty would ruin the site. Really excited about the plans and definitely would be awesome to work with them for Motta Field. Brandon Q. also says the importance of bathrooms is to help eliminate the public coming into restaurants.

Cathy fears bathrooms will chew up available space. Looking to see what the firm comes back with.

B) Motta Field Subcommittee Discussion and Recreation Representative Selection- Votes May be Taken

Cathy would like to get this off the ground. Replicate the same process as the Waterfront Park. Brandon M. had an initial discussion with Asst. Town Manager about the letter and who will be selected. Little issue with how the Select Board can be involved. Seems like the best option is to send a letter to abutters.

Another town employee should be on the board. Suggested the Town Planner, Thadeus. He is on board. Letters have not been sent out but will go out soon.

Cathy asks about the Recreation Commission members and what two should be on it.

Kristin suggests that the chair or vice chair should be a part of it.

Robert and Brandon Q. are very interested.

Kristin motions the two reps for the Motta Field Subcommittee should be Brandon Q and Robert Enos.
Mike Miller seconds
4-0-0

5) **Old Business:**

A) West End Parking Lot Access Point Discussion Continued -Votes may be Taken

Chris M. updates the board on what has changed since last time. The Bicycle Committee had met and it was unanimously approved for additional bike racks to the West End Parking Lot.

Kristin asks about the cost of revenue that will be lost. Curious about the Parking Departments thoughts. Chris has not. However he believes losing two spots would not be a big thing in totality.

Robert is worried about the two spots being taken away.

Brandon Q. is in full support of adding bike racks. Encourages the board to try and discourage people from driving to Provincetown because we are building parking lots on beautiful sites. I Do not think it is a big deal to lose spots. In full support of Chris.

Kristin motions to move that we move to vote an endorsement
Brandon Q. seconds
4-0-0

B) Swim For life Follow up-Jay Critchley-Votes may be Taken

Jay C. shares his experience of the event held at the waterfront park. He is very impressed with the committee and the projects they have taken on. Thanks Brandon Motta for getting the stairs in. Logistical issues were electrical power from Pats Happy Park and not being able to have vehicle access to the park. Very grateful for the help of the neighbors and overall it was a successful and beautiful day.

The board thanks Jay for coming and sharing his input about the logistical issues such as power and parking/unloading on site.

C) Naming of 387 Commercial St. Property Process Votes May be Taken

Brandon Motta shares with the board the plan/document he had come up with when moving forward with the naming process. He believes that if the recreation commission is going to choose a name we gather input from the public and collect as much data as we can to support whatever final name choice is made.

Robert motions with moving to four words
Kristin Seconds
4-0-0

D) Preliminary Budget Discussion Continued-Votes may be Taken

Brandon Motta shares that he and Caroline will be sitting down within the next week or so to look over a work flow chart and how they can better distribute tasks and responsibilities amongst each other. He asks the commission to table this item til the next meeting after he and Caroline have had more time to talk.

The board agrees.

8) **Other:** Other matters that may legally come before the board not known at the time of posting - Votes
May be Taken

Approval of September 15th , 2021 Minutes

Kristin motions as written

Robert seconds

4-0-0

9. Tentative Meeting Schedule

October 13th and the 27th if needed.

Meeting adjourned

Kristin motions

Mike Seconds

7:23pm

Brandon Motta

From: Pike Design <pikedesignbuild@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 29, 2021 3:24 PM
To: Brandon Motta
Subject: West End pickle ball

Hi Brandon. Thank you for speaking with me this morning when I called the recreation department to get updated information regarding the follow up steps on the pickle ball courts on Nickerson Street from your September 15 meeting.

Your consideration of this issue is much appreciated and from our conversation I believe that you understand the considerable disruption that this is causing to nearby residents.

As I mentioned this morning the noise from the pickle ball seems unabated and as usual started promptly at 8 am this morning.

I think we agree that the recent decision by the commission to add signs to the courts is insufficient to address the untenable noise situation for the surrounding neighborhood.

Unfortunately it sounds like no additional consideration is being given to controlling or limiting the noise at this time.

I am writing to repeat my request that hours be limited to provide reasonable relief to nearby residents. This is a very fair request by those of us who are living with this disruption every hour of every day. This could be implemented immediately and it would cost nothing to implement.

Thank you again for your ongoing understanding and careful consideration of the issue, it is much appreciated by those of us who love Ptown and who are being directly impacted by the significant change to the nearby recreation facilities (playground and basketball courts) which we happily coexisted with for so long.

Thank you again for your time today.

Barry Pike
25 Tremont Street

Wednesday September 29, 2021

John George / Peter Maye
25 Tremont Street
Unit G-1
Provincetown, MA 02657

Re: Pickleball Courts on Nickerson Street – September 2021 Update

To the Provincetown Department of Recreation:

We are writing to thank the Recreation Committee for addressing this topic at their September 15, 2021 Meeting. We felt that the committee members listened to the concerns and provided thoughtful feedback and were open to a wide range of ideas to address concerns. Thank you for your continued thoughtful consideration.

There was an observation made that the amount of pickleball matches would diminish in September and the courts should quiet down. We are writing to tell you that it has not. As in the height of summer, play begins at 8:00 am and continues to sunset. Only rainy days quiet those courts.

As I wrote to you previously, I am among the working residents that is impacted by the constant noise from the game itself as well as from the players. This is not a peaceful game. I am truly worried about the impact, not only in the summer, but throughout the fall, at Thanksgiving and even into Christmas and then into the spring for those who will play no matter the temperature.

As you are researching, towns across the country are dealing with this topic. Other towns are grappling with this and are making adjustments. We ask that Provincetown do the same.

The West End is known for its peaceful and quiet nature. This game interrupts this and courts need to be relocated to other sports facilities in the town – namely Motta field where lots of greenspace and open courts exist today.

We are not alone in this concern. Many neighbors have expressed similar concerns. We appreciate your continued review and hope that relocation is the highest priority.

Thank you.
John George / Peter Maye