



THE CITY OF WORCESTER
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND
PARKS - PARKS, RECREATION, & CEMETERY
DIVISION

50 Skyline Drive, Worcester, MA 01605

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr. Assistant Commissioner Phone: (508) 799-1190 Fax: (508) 799-1293

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Meeting Minutes for
Thursday November 19, 2020 – 6:30 P.M.
Virtual Meeting
WebEx

If you choose to use the WebEx platform:

- 1) Go to www.webex.com
- 2) Click the “join” button on the top right side of the screen
- 3) Enter Meeting ID#: 172 708 4708
- 4) Enter password: Parkcomm11-19

Commissioners Present:

Bowen Lee
Scott Cashman
Nick Chacharone
Eric Goldstein
Julie Ann Lamacchia
John Lauring

Administration Present:

Robert C. Antonelli, Jr.
Jeffrey Tomaino, Recreation Coordinator
Milagros Pacheco, Sr. Accountant

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:

- Chair Mr. Chacharone called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
- A motion was made to accept the minutes for March 12, 2020.
 - Ms. Lamacchia made an observation of a correction that needed to be made on the minutes.
 - The acceptance of the minutes was tabled until correction was made.
- Mr. Chacharone turned the meeting over to the Assistant Commissioner, Robert C. Antonelli Jr. for his report:
- Grant Applications –
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Columbus Park- Awarded
 - Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant – Coal Mine Brook - Submitted
 - PARC & LAND Grant Program – Mulcahy Field – Awarded

- PARC & LAND Grant Program – Coes Pond Beach - Awarded
- Economic Development Initiatives –
 - NA
- Cultural Events-
 - NA
- Park Vandalism & Graffiti – NA
- Donations –
 - NA
- Capital Improvement Programs
 - Apricot Street Playground - NA
 - Ball Property - NA
 - Banis Street Playground - NA
 - Beaver Brook Park - NA
 - Bell Pond – NA
 - Bennett Field – NA
 - Betty Price Playground – NA
 - Blackstone Gateway Park – NA
 - Blithwood Park – NA
 - Boynton Park – NA
 - Burncoat Park – NA
 - Burncoat Playground – NA
 - Cascades Park – NA
 - Castle Park – NA
 - Common – NA
 - Coes Park (Knife) – Update
 - Stearns Tavern – Holding pattern only general maintenance has been done
 - Playground
 - Coes Pond – Update (Grant for the beach)
 - Columbus Park – NA
 - Cookson Park – NA
 - Cristoforo Columbo (East Park) – NA
 - Crompton Park – Crompton Park Skate Park Master Plan Meeting
 - December 17, 2020 (Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting)
 - Construction Update
 - Dodge Park – NA
 - Elm Park – NA
 - Newton Hill - NA
 - Fairmont Park – NA
 - Farber Field – NA
 - Grant Square – NA
 - Great Brook Valley Playground – NA
 - Green Hill Park Renovation – Update
 - Green Hill Farm
 - Community Gardens – Working on new application
 - WWI – Completed opened on Veterans Day
 - Greenwood Park – NA
 - Hadwen Park – Update
 - Harrington Field – NA

- Harry Sherry Field (S. Worcester) - NA
- Holland Rink - NA
- Holmes Field - NA
- Indian Hill Park – NA
- Indian Lake Beach – NA
- Institute Park – Update
 - Walkway Design – Railings are going up, estimated to open next year in the Summer
 - Salisbury Pond
- Kendrick Field – NA
- Knights of Columbus – NA
- Korean War Memorial – NA
- Lake Park – NA
- Lake View Playground – NA
- Logan Field – NA
- Morgan Landing – NA
- Mulcahy Field – Started construction
- Oakland Heights Playground – NA
- Providence Street Playground – Awarded construction for replacement of safety surfacing
- Ramshorn Island – NA
- Rockwood Field – NA
- Salisbury Park (Bancroft Tower) – NA
- Shale Street Playground – NA
- Shore Park – NA
- Spillane Field – NA
- Tacoma Street Playground – NA
- TY Cobb – NA
- University Park – NA
- Vernon Hill – NA
- Wetherall Estates (Duffy Field) – There was a discussion regarding Duffy Field Master Plan Virtual Meeting
- 149 West Boylston Drive – A lease was signed to manage this property, work will start soon to clear overgrowth
- Winslow & Pleasant - NA
- Aquatic Master Plan – NA
- Open Space and Recreation Plan – Meetings 1 & 2 were held prior to pandemic, the next 3 meetings will be virtual and will be held in December.
- North Lake Ave Linear Park – NA
- Community Development Block Grant – NA
- Art-in-the-Park – Request to keep Art Work in Elm Park - NA
- Dog Park, Licensing & Control of Dogs – NA
- Rectangular Field Development – NA
- Park Monument Review – NA
- Misc. items:
 - Keep Worcester Clean – NA
 - City Council Orders –
- Pilot Program relating to the installation of temporary speed humps/cushions
- Break down of the anticipated usage of funds associated with park projects in FY21
- The Upper Blackstone Treatment Facility to discuss the future sewer rates and maintenance plan

- Planned improvements relating to the accessible walkways from Coes Park to Circuit Ave. North
- Military discounts as part of discounts offered at Green Hill Municipal Golf Course
- Review potential software that will automate the tracking of labor, jobs, and materials
- Fencing at the WWII Memorial and fountain power coated or plastic coated options
- Install cameras at Duffy Field for illegal dumping
- The amount of funds held as a gift trust by the Treasurer for Veteran Memorials as well as names of the veterans associated with the funds
- Availability date for the city' survey concerning the Open Space and Recreation Plan to a later date
- Improve traffic and pedestrian safety concerns on Coes Street in the vicinity of Coes Park and Sterns Tavern
- Request Sheriff's Department to assist the cleaning in the vicinity of veteran memorials
- Request Public Works and Parks consider opening the Leaf and Yard Waste Drop-off site during COVID-19
- Granting individuals who wish to use their camera visuals as part of the WebEx call for the Duffy Field Master Plan\
- Cleaning and removing fallen trees/branches in city's public waters
- Green Hill Golf Course Charity Golf Classic to be held in the Fall 2020
- Repaving the basketball and tennis courts at Blithewood Playground
- Request of restoration and relocation of the Sullivan Memorial located in Melrose Street.
- City Manager requested to review best practices used throughout the US and world around sanitizing spaces
- Three Hundred Dollars and No Cents be transferred from special events account and be appropriated to Parks Account, Lincoln Square Memorial
- Safety concerns regarding Hillside Beach. Concerns of making safe or safer recreation conditions
- City Solicitor provide City Council with a report relating to acceptance of the gift of Hillside Beach to the City of Worcester
- City Manager will provide the community in Coes Pond area with communication concerning the proposed plans for Hillside Beach and a specific plan for Lakeside Apartments
- Request the Police Chief to provide City Council with police reports associated with Bancroft Tower
 - Petitions –
 - To install a Forebay at Salisbury Pond/ Institute Park
 - To install barrier to protect swans at Institute Park Pond
 - "No Dumping/Fine" sign at Duffy Field
 - Request Tacoma Street Playground be renamed Tacoma Park
 - Forestry Operations – Update
 - ALB (Asian Longhorned Beetle)
 - EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)
 - Arbor Day – May 1, 2021
 - Budget – Operational & Capital - Update
 - Parks, Recreation & Cemetery Division – Update
 - Capital Improvement Program – Update
 - City Five Point Financial Plan – NA
 - City Auditor Communications - NA
 - Summer Youth Employment Program – NA
 - Aquatics – NA
 - Christian's Law – NA
 - Recreation Worcester - NA

- Holiday Tree – There will be a virtual tree lighting held on Wednesday, December 9.
- Worcester Common Ice Skating Rink – Will remain closed due to Covid19
- Waterfowl in Park – NA
- Out-to-Lunch – NA
- Trash – NA
- ESCo – NA
- Park Permits –
- See Above
 - Access/ ADA – NA
 - Mobile Concession/ Food Truck - NA
 - ATV – Recreational Vehicle – NA
 - Veterans Memorials - NA
 - Misc. Information –
 - Article on Worcester is Filthy
 - Article on Worcester on POW/MIA Recognition Day
 - Article on Green Hill Park prefect place to socially distance
 - Article on Mass. Symphony Co-Founder Madelyn Levenson dies at Ninety- Six
 - Article on the International Golf Club & Resort in Bolton closes for good
 - Article on International Golf Club in files for bankruptcy
 - Article on Reopening is the plan at International
 - Article on Golfers eager, overly at times, to get back on course
 - Article on Worcester Bravehearts to play this summer, 18 home games
 - Article on Money sought for beach upgrades at Coes Pond
 - Article on Worcester earns “Tree City USA” honor for 34th straight year
 - Article on Worcester wants to keep Salisbury Cultural District going
 - Article on City Hall Notebook: Conservation restriction sought for park land near Doherty High
 - Article on Politics and the City: Advocate led Green Hill Park, Lake Quinsigamond out of the dark days
 - Article on Worcester closes dog park as coronavirus precaution
 - Article on Worcester budget planning
 - Article on Camera Requested at Worcester Duffy Field to Monitor for Dumping, Vandalism
 - Article on City Hall Notebook: Former Worcester Mayor Sara Robertson deserving of recognition
 - Article on Worcester cancels July 4th fireworks for virtual display
 - Article on 5 takeaways from the Worcester City Manager’s budget proposal
 - Article on City Hall Notebook: 25M loan sought towards Doherty construction
 - Article on Paul N. Johnson Senior Ruth officials, coaches hopeful season can be salvaged in wake of coronavirus pandemic
 - Article on Worcester water use on the decline
 - Article on Start on the Street
 - Article on Politics and the City: Surplus of uncertainty to new Worcester land
 - Article on Many happy to golf at Wachusett CC
 - Article on Worcester capital plan calls for \$76M in new borrowing
 - Article on Green Hill course to remain closed after spike in coronavirus
 - Article on Mass. Golfers can tee off earlier than expected

- Article on Golf course owners angry as elsewhere its' game on
- Article on Millbury alleges Clearview golf course is open illegally
- Article on Worcester announces plans for reopening park activities
- Article on Instead of destroying Duffy Field, city should leave it alone
- Article on \$250M in borrowing approved for next phase of Doherty High replacement project
- Article on Worcester closes beaches, pools because of storm
- Article on Summer jobs are funded for Worcester parks, pools, cemetery, but hiring on hold
- Article on Parks and recreation next on reopening list in Worcester
- Article on Then & Now: Worcester City Hall
- Article on Public hearings set on future of Duffy Field
- Article on Tools sought to solve Worcester trash problem
- Article on Worcester is poised to take ownership of Sterns Tavern
- Article on Holding out for a HERO: Clark University program studies the positive effects of trees in urban areas
- Article on Politics and the City: Jet skis make waves- and noise- at Indian Lake in Worcester
- Worcester School Committee gives OK to fall sports, spectators
- Article on Softball league shaken up after youths storm field in Worcester
- Article on City officials hearing out all sides of Vernon Hill softball incident
- Article on Clinton pool closed after lifeguard tests positive for COVID-19
- Article on State closes Fitchburg pool after positive COVID-19 test
- Article on City Hall Notebook: Sarai Rivera wants Edward M. Augustus to settle Columbus Statue controversy
- Article on Worcester's Christopher Columbus statue stays, as City Council votes against removal
- Article on Hike Worcester Challenge spotlights city's numerous trails
- Article on Coronavirus causes Green Hill superintendent Jason Brostrom to put new passion on hold
- Article on Hot in Worcester-heat wave or not
- Article on 6 new COVID-19-related deaths: Cape town's restrict beaches
- Article on The heat is on- much of Worcester, Central Mass. Under advisory
- Article on Greenwood Spray Park temporarily closed
- Article on Repair made, Greenwood Spray Park in Worcester opens at noon Monday
- Article on Summer heat settles in for a spell
- Article on State releases guidance on youth sports
- Article on Worcester playing field reopen; permits required
- Article on Worcester DPW worker test positive for coronavirus
- Article on Indian Lake off limits Thursday for algae treatment
- Article on Heat advisory in place for Worcester
- Article on Retiree cleans up after lakeside litterbugs, urges city enforcement at Orcutt landing
- Article on Beach at Coes Pound closed
- Article on Conservation board backs restriction for land abutting Audubon sanctuary in Worcester

- Article on Billings Square monument reinstalled as part of rotary reconstruction
- Article on swimmers waded into new normal at Crompton Park pool
- Article on Crompton Park pool to open Wednesday
- Article on Citing bacteria, city closes Shore Park Beach
- Article on Recreation Worcester, city parks scramble to fill summer jobs
- Article on Lifeguarding during a pandemic: New Hampshire's Hampton Beach guards adjust to "new normal"
- Article on Mass Audubon announces layoffs, seasonal staff won't be hired
- Article on Worcester's statue joins national debate over monuments
- Article on City Hall Notebook: Park advocates sound alarm on Doherty project
- Article on Precautions urged for West Nile virus, EEC
- Article on 30th Annual Latin American Festival in Worcester postponed until next year
- Article on Worcester recreation sites awaken from COVID slumber
- Article on Beach at Coes Pond in Worcester closed after high E.coli counts
- Article on Cool news: Crompton Park pool in Worcester staying open five more days
- Article on Plan to bulldoze closed Hillside Beach on Coes Pond in Worcester meets opposition
- Article on Golf: Area courses take measures to combat spread of coronavirus
- Article on City Hall Notebook: Fire Dept. seeks FEMA grant for training
- Article on Central Mass. Trails closed but not empty
- Article on \$266M loan authorization towards new Doherty High School
- Article on Worcester's Mulcahy to get a face-lift
- Article on Meet the Indian Lake hype man, Carl Gomes
- Article on Detroit Parks & rec Suspends Summer Operations
- Article on President Trump signs Great American Outdoor Act

- Addendum:

- Duffy Field Public Meeting
- Columbus Park
- Hillside Beach at Coes Pond
- Wetherell Park/Duffy Field- Trail available and Safety
- Master Planning for Duffy Field
- Stern's Tavern – Increase Accessibility
- Open Water Swim Lessons
- Maintenance of city's Veterans Squares
- Street light request at Burncoat Park

- Golf Course:

- Mr. Antonelli turned the meeting over to Heal Golf Pro, Matthew Moison for updates.
- Mr. Moison discussed the following recommendations:

- Fees

	Annual Memberships			
	2020 Rates		2021 Proposed	
	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident
Unlimited Pass	\$ 1,350.00	\$ 1,625.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,675.00
Weekday Pass	\$ 975.00	\$ 1,175.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,200.00
Senior Weekday Pass	\$ 850.00	\$ 1,025.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 1,125.00
Student Pass	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 450.00	\$ 450.00
Junior Pass	\$ 125.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 250.00
Millennial Membership	\$ 800.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 950.00
Monthly Pass	\$ 275.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 375.00	\$ 425.00

Daily: fee and cart rates

	2020	2021
NON RESIDENT DAILY FEES	Walking	Walking
18 Holes Monday - Thurs	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
18 Holes Friday, Sat, Sun, Holidays	\$ 45.00	\$ 50.00
18 Hole Friday, Sat, Sun, Holidays 12:00	\$ 40.00	\$ 45.00
18 Hole Friday, Sat, Sun, Holidays 3PM	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
9 Holes Fri., Sat., Sun., Holiday	\$ 31.00	\$ 31.00
9 Holes Mon- to Thursday	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00
9 Hole Senior Mon to Thursday*	\$ 21.00	\$ 21.00
WORCESTER RESIDENT DAILY FEES	Walking	Walking
18 Holes Monday - Thurs	\$ 35.00	\$ 35.00
18 Holes Friday, Sat, Sun, Holidays	\$ 40.00	\$ 45.00
18 Holes Friday, Sat, Sun, Holiday 12:00	\$ 35.00	\$ 40.00
18 Hole Friday, Sat, Sun, Holidays 3PM	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00
18 Hole Senior Monday/ Thursday*	\$ 32.00	\$ 32.00
9 Holes Fri., Sat., Sun., Holiday	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00
9 Holes Mon- to Thursday	\$ 21.00	\$ 22.00

9 Hole Senior Mon to Thursday•	\$	20.00	\$	20.00
Junior Greens Fees (under Age 18)				
18 Holes Weekdays After 11:00 A.M.	\$	24.00	\$	24.00
9 Holes Weekdays After 11:00 A.M.	\$	17.00	\$	17.00

SPECIAL RATES:

18 Holes Monday-Friday 9AM	\$	39.00		
Amend Mon-Thursday			\$	41.00
Veterans/Active Duty	\$	32.00	(18 Holes)	
Monday-Thursday	\$	20.00	(9 Holes)	

TWILIGHT RATES:

		Walking	Riding	Walking	Riding
Monday-Thursday After 5 PM	\$	18.00	\$	30.00	\$ 19.00 \$ 31.00
Friday-Sat-Sun and Holiday 5PM	\$	24.00	\$	36.00	\$ 25.00 \$ 37.00

Carts

		9 Holes		18 Holes
Seniors(62)	\$	11.00	\$	17.00
Regular	\$	13.00	\$	20.00
Single Rider Surcharge	\$	5.00	\$	10.00

• **Policies**

1. Amend Range Fob discount to a uniform 20% savings. Present policy allows for a 30% member discount and a 20% general public discount. This change will create cohesion when ringing in FOBS. It also allows for movement for Member to Pubic without issues.
2. Redefine discounts for season passes when adding a spouse or child. Amend policy to state: When adult pass is purchased, any additional family passes may be purchased at a 20% discount to a pass of equal or lessor value. Family includes spouse and children under the age of 18. Present policy allows for 20% off spouse pass and up to two children at no charge.
3. Change twilight golf league timeframe from 4PM Tuesday thru Thursday, to 3:30 PM Tuesday thru Thursday. This is to allow for added league capacity.
4. Amend morning special from Monday thru Friday before 9AM (\$39) to Monday thru Thursday before 9 AM (\$41). Not applicable to outings or special events.
5. Add to rules and regulations: Players under suspension are not entitled to refunds or credits during their suspension.
6. Add to rules and regulations: Two golf carts are allowed per tee time. Players wishing to ride solo and exceed the two cart maximum shall be surcharged \$5 for 9 holes and \$10 for 18 holes.
7. Amend special block of tee times to remove the Tuesday morning block that is set aside for the Greendale men's retired club.
8. Add active duty and veteran's green fee rate. Valid Monday thru Thursday \$32 18 holes and \$20 9 holes. Valid for resident or non-resident. Must show proper ID at the time of purchase.

Outings

1. Eliminate donation of 4-some for golf outings.
 2. Eliminate outing shotgun starts on weekends. Tee time only events.
 3. Amend minimum number of players for an outing from 24 to 32 players.
 4. Amend fee structure. \$65 for tee time events and \$70 for modified or full shotgun event. Events fee includes, Cart, Green Fee, Range and \$5 per player prize fund. (Single rider surcharge applies.)
- There was discussions regarding fees being too low. Mr. Moison stated that as a Municipal Golf Course the mission is to keep the rates affordable.
 - There was a suggestion by Mr. Lauring to raise the (#4) Morning Special to \$45 rather than \$41.
 - Mr. Moison agreed that it could be done.
 - Discussions went on different fees and policies.
 - Mr. Antonelli suggested keeping the fees in accordance with Mr. Moison suggestions for this year and other fees can be looked at for year 2022.
 - Ms. Lamacchia suggested that if any increases will be happening in 2022 to make them slight increases to keep it affordable.
 - Mr. Moison gave a revenue update for the Green Hill Golf Couse. He informed that there has been an increase in 2020 over 2019.
 - Mr. Goldstein made a motion to approve recommendations with the one change to amend morning special from Monday thru Friday before 9AM (\$39) to Monday thru Thursday before 9 AM (\$45). Not applicable to outings or special events. Mr. Chacharone second the motion. All were in favor. Motion was approved 6 – 0.
 - Golf Course Donations:
 - NA
 - Mr. Goldstein motioned to adjourned, Mr. Lee second the motion. Motion was approved 6-0. Meeting ended at 8:22 PM
 - **A copy of this meeting is not yet available but once it is you will be able to view and listen to full meeting discussions at: www.worcesterma.gov/city-clerk/public-meetings/agendas-minutes**