

Park and Recreation Commission	Meeting Minutes
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Date: August 11, 2020

Place: Zoom Webinar

Commissioners Attending: John Bain, Nancy O'Connor, Clara Batchelor, Wendy Sheridan, Antonia Bellalta, Dan Lyons and Jim Carroll

Commissioners Absent:

Staff: Erin Gallentine, Parks and Open Space Director, Leigh Jackson, Recreation Director, Jessica White, Parks and Open Space Assistant, Justin Lawson, General Manger, Jon Lewitus, Assistant Recreation Director

TOPIC	KEY POINTS/DISCUSSION	
<p>Chairman's Welcome Approval of Minutes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> J. Bain opened the meeting. N. O'Connor moved for approval of the July 14, 2020 minutes. Seconded by. D. Lyons. All in favor. A roll call vote was taken. 	
<p>Public Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No public Comment 	
<p>Golf Course Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Justin Lawson introduced himself. His vision for the Brookline Golf Course is to continuously improve a community recreation asset that focuses on creating a memorable golf experience for all community groups; protecting and enhancing the open space for future generations; and being respectful and responsible in all processes. This is the foundation of the vision. <p>Approach to success</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The people- team of professionals The process- team orientated philosophy The product- community asset <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A short video presentation on what is going on at the golf course was shared with the Commission. <p>Covid Operational Update- Covid has reinvented golf.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 minute tee time intervals- improves social distancing and great pace of play. Online booking and prepayment required, no walk ups Capacity limits in place for the Golf Shop and Outdoor Dining areas. Social Distancing protocols in place throughout the operation including the Driving Range. They want to make sure it is a safe environment for all residents to enjoy. All touch surfaces throughout the operation are sanitized after each use 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All employees have been trained in safety protocols to work within the operation during the pandemic • COVID-19 is the reset button that most operations have needed <p>Brookline Golf Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value to residents and former residents • Golf Course Layout- Great 18 hole layout and driving range. • Tourism- showcase the Town to non-residents • Customer Service has skyrocketed • Staff- incredible resource of people at the golf course • Location- incredible demographic strength • Financial Position- strong and bright future <p>Brookline Golf Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety • Branding • Golf Course Master Plan • Golf Course Conditions • Community Engagement- i.e music festival • Fee Structure- opportunity for revisions and will be worked on in the off season • Infrastructure • Accessibility • Visibility • Versatility <p>Financial Analysis- what have we done, how are doing and what is the plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Lawson highlighted the FY20 financials. • He detailed the numbers of rounds of golf, the retained earning balance and the effects CV19 has had on the fiscal year. The year-end balance was detailed. • J. Lawson discussed the long term debt. <p>FY21</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. July featured 5,836 rounds vs 5,443 rounds in 2019. 2. Golf is emerging as a safe recreation activity that is attracting many golfers and it is a widely held opinion within the industry and will not slow down as long as golf remains safe 3. Driving range proved to be very busy and 5,832 buckets were sold at various sites 4. July has been one of the best featured months in memory 5. The costs are being kept at a moderate level to 	
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	<p>ensure goals can be achieved.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. Completing a thorough examination of all costs and looking for savings across the board and opportunities to reinvest in small projects that have been deferred for many years.7. Realigning the internal labor structure to allow additional resources to be utilized where they are needed most.8. Aggressively rebuild our retained earnings to a targeted \$200k level allowing us to be properly insulated for any stoppage of operation.9. Potentially the eyes of the world will be upon us in 2022. We are beginning the preparation of our image with small measured projects, over a long duration will have dramatic effects.10. Examine all fees for market positioning and adjust where necessary. <p><u>Financial Future</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review all golf pricing & club house rental rates this winter for market positioning• Cataloguing all expenses real time to help ensure more accurate budgeting & cost control• Exploring the use of some basic data analytics to help predict demand for labor• Redistributing financial resources to ensure priorities are being funded• Look at alternative activities to grow top line revenue <p>The capital improvement policy is a measured approach that is necessary to properly plan for the property and facilities. Every project is evaluated for priority, revenue generation, financial viability and impacts to other projects. The goal is to not do things twice, preserve and grow top line revenue, and to operate more efficiently.</p> <p><u>Capital Improvements</u></p> <p><u>Short term 1-5 years</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Clubhouse windows2. Driving range upgrade3. Golf Course Mater Plan4. Tree Canopy Plan5. Clubhouse Electrical Upgrade6. Clubhouse Heating7. Irrigation Pond, Pump House & Drainage Project8. Selective Tree Removal	
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Long Term 5-10 Years

1. Golf Course Master Plan Action
2. Irrigation System
3. Clubhouse Elevator Replacement
4. Parking Lot and Entry Sequence

The Capital Improvement list FY20 and FY21 for the Golf Course was shared with the Commission. This list consisted of completed projects, short term future projects 1-5 years and future projects 5-10 years.

- J. Bain stated that it was a very refreshing informative report.
- W. Sheridan thanked Justin for his wonderful comprehensive presentation. She stated that it is clear that he has a handle on the golf course and it was clear he did his research on past discussions. She thanked him for the slide about the long term debts and simply clarifying where the golf course stands right now. It was concise and clear. She wanted to put a plug in for the master plan and she would love to see it moved up in the time line. She believes the master plan needs to be done sooner rather than later. She loved that J. Lawson said that we need alternative activities for top line revenues, that she agrees with but would add community engagement. J. Lawson stated that the Master plan is really the first thing that needs to done in terms of major capital improvements.
- N. O'Connor welcomed Justin to the Town/ Golf Course. She stated that he hit a lot of things talked about in past commission meetings and that tells her that he was reading minutes. She said that it is so interesting that all the things that she was jotting down he answered. She was curious about the health of golf and J. Lawson answered that. She was going to ask if any of these renovations are done annually and he showed the bunkers. She was going to ask about upcoming projects and he discussed that. She stated that she wanted to know about the overall tree health and he addressed that. She stated that these are all so important and she wanted to reiterate these questions because of their importance. She stated that the master plan is really important on

	<p>where we go to next. She stated that the versatility of the course and winter sports/ cross country are all important. She was curious about deferred maintenance. She wondered who was going to staff the grill on the green. She wondered if the lunch counter at the driving range is going to get attention in terms of accessibility and safety. J. Lawson stated that the bunker is ongoing maintenance, the team at the golf course were suffocated in terms of staffing. This has been made an important priority and it becomes a routine maintenance by removing invasive trees. There are little things they couldn't be done because of constraints. The bunkers were one of worst features on the golf course and his goal it to attack those that are subpar and in return make them strengths. He stated that the grill is staffed Friday-Sunday and has a great impact on the overall golf experience. The driving range grill is definitely an area of opportunity and it's lumped into the driving range upgrade concept plan he is working on. He stated that interim he discussed the irrigation program in front of the club house, so they are working on restoring irrigation capabilities, addressing plant health and looking at overall landscape areas. He will be reaching out to A. Bellalta to make sure the area is properly designed. He stated that in terms of the grill at the driving, he has been doing a lot of R&D/experimenting and he thinks Covid19 has had a negative impact on that facility. He thinks folks are maintaining distance and reluctant to congregate, so as of now they are trying to keep it an event space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• J. Bain and J. Lawson discussed vine ripe and food cart/beverage cart. J. Lawson discussed the weekly meetings that have been put into place with Vine Ripe. He is working with a reservation system and the food cart goes out every day.• J. Carroll stated that he appreciated the thoughtful actions he has taken in a short period of time, the results are really showing. He wondered if J. Lawson had anything specific in mind regarding winter activities at the golf course. J. Carroll stated that the Bocce Courts	
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	<p>seem to be a swing and a miss, and wonders if there was an opportunity to turn them into something or replace them. J. Lawson stated that in regards to winter activities he is looking at simulators in the club house, cross country skiing outside, snow shoe trails and the possibility of winter golf with no snow. He stated that the Bocce courts are underutilized drastically, and part of the driving range ungeared would involve renovating the putting green and expanding a short game into that area. He would take them out and make it a more usable space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Jackson wanted to thank J. Lewitus for all he has done, she is grateful he is here and appreciates all his insight and dedication • D. Lyons welcomed J. Lawson. D. Lyons and J. Lawson discussed how Covid19 and how it has changed the culture of golf. J. Lawson thinks there will be opportunities to grow the game even after the pandemic. 	
<p>Recreation Programming update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ J. Lewitus is here tonight to present to the Commission with an update on how summer camps are going. He stated that they are in week 6 of week 7 of camp. Recreation has had zero positive cases of CV19 for both staffers and campers. ▪ A breakdown of the four summer camps that are offered were shared with the Commission. Camp Chestnut, Camp Coolidge, Camp Washington and Nature Camp are each located at one of the elementary schools. The weekly breakdown of enrolled numbers and wait list numbers were shared per camp. ▪ He stated that week one was the lowest of all. He stated that none of the camps are sold out, they are at 80% but there was a wait list. The reason for that was to reserve a number of spots for summer partners. The numbers of spots taken per camp were detailed. ▪ The structure of the camp was detailed. The bus service was eliminated, swimming classes were eliminated, field trip were eliminated, eliminated extended day, the number of hours for camo were restricted, all staff was required to be 18 plus and t they transitioned full time 	

	<p>Recreation leaders to serve as camp directors per site.</p> <p>BCMH 19 individual campers 11 campers funded by Department of Public Health 8 campers funded by B-Rec</p> <p>Steps to Success 12 individual campers</p> <p>Brookline Community Foundation Grant= 15,000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A summary of partner campers and camp weeks was detailed for the commission• 14 Campers were provided free transportation by Recreation staff and Recreation vehicles.• Lunch was provided for free for all campers this year. About 50 % used this service at each camp.• Covid19 numbers/protocols were discussed.• J. Lewitus stated that one of the biggest challenges was the kid wearing masks. In general the kids did very well. The activities / curriculum allowed kids to be outside social distancing and time for removal of masks. However, when inside masks must be worn.▪ N. O'Connor is so proud of what was done with summer camp. She is stunned to hear the report. She stated that the presentation was amazing and the staff must be incredible. She is so happy that it worked and it is so great. This is a home run to her.▪ D. Lyons wanted to second what N. O'Connor said.▪ L. Jackson wanted to acknowledge how proud she is of J. Lewitus for all he has done.▪ J. Carroll and J. Lewitus discussed the Testing/ protocols for any staffer/camper who showed symptoms for CV19. Daily screening protocols were detailed.▪ J. Bain wanted to thank L. Jackson for the assistance she provided to the food bank. <p>L. Jackson provided the Commission with a Recreation Update.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summer camp is winding down▪ Recreation Therapy – Robust and well attended virtual programming continues. This has been run by Micah Barshay This has been offered since March and will continue into fall/Spring.	
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	<p>This will stay virtual until a backup plan is place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Robert T. Lynch Golf Course – Strong since opening day ▪ Aquatic Center Leadership Staff – 3 people, expected back to work 8/17/2020. The pool will open with adjusted hours/programming. L. Jackson discussed complicated staffing issues at the pool. Life guard certification was discussed. She would hate to open the pool and then close it because someone got sick. She stated that in order to open she is working diligently on continuance of operations right now and she will provide the Commission with an update as soon as she knows. J. Bain and L. Jackson discussed the guidelines she will work on to create a plan to open the pool. N. O’Connor and L. Jackson discussed the difficulty L. Jackson is having hiring pool staff. ▪ Soule Leadership Staff –2 people, expected back sometime week of 8/17/2020. She is waiting for the vote tonight from School Committee and a conversation with Dr. Jett to decide on the start date back. There will be a similar process as the pool regarding staffing. She stated that once everyone is on board and fully operational, they will begin discussions with the leadership team on an in person or hybrid option or both. She will be reaching out to serval commissioners to gain input on terms of messaging to the public and a final decision on which model Brookline recreation chooses. She thinks we are in a unique situation. She stated that there are 72 kids at Soule and they would need to reduce that number to at least 50. <p><u>L. Jackson provided an update on the following</u> <u>General Projects:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ IT Department – all staff will be trained on Zoom, Calendly (used to make appoints with Recreation) ▪ Fall Calendar will go on line asap, her goal date is end of August ▪ CAPRA – Accreditation project (3 – 5 years) underway. Recreation is starting with the pool. ▪ SmartRec – new registration software project has begun internally ▪ Team Meetings: Keeping up with COVID 	
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	<p>locally and regionally and how it affects Recreation business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ice Rink Task Force ▪ Outdoor Pool Task Force ▪ Strategic & Athletic Field Master Plan Feedback/Input ▪ Golf Course Improvements are underway ▪ Staff Training – Justin Lawson, Tyler Radicioni, and returning staff – ONGOING <p>Staffing Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recreation Leaders – considering furlough and potential layoffs to meet updated FY21 Budget Projections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Furloughs and Layoffs could start at end of Camp Season to meet budget projections ▪ Key essential staff will be retained to support community anticipated need for full day childcare. ▪ Big Shift due to COVID – Focusing energy and time on “Childcare”. L Jackson detailed the research/input she has done/received regarding full time/full day child care. She is waiting for Brookline Schools to make their decisions before she finalizes any plans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Considering offering Full Time Childcare ▪ Looking at staffing and locations now ▪ Timeline: Start in Fall, expand in the Winter. ▪ A potential location could be Newbury College. ▪ She is excited to share that they are planning on having Fall Soccer and Pickleball. These would not happen if the state mandates a roll back. ▪ They want to invest in Various Vendor Sports. She will provide the Commission with specifics at the next Park and Recreation meeting. ▪ Recreation Therapy & Senior Programming (Virtual). 	
<p>Recreation Capital FY21 & Future Years Presentation</p>	<p>Due to the adjusted budget for recreation for FY21 L. Jackson wanted to revisit capital tonight and will look for a vote in September.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Filter project is underway, the budget is 250,000 and is FY18-Current. This project started in 2018 and is currently ongoing. It has been broken down into 3 phases. The first phase 	

	<p>is complete and they are now moving onto the 2nd and third phase.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="565 268 1230 703">2. L. Jackson proposed to delay the Soule Classroom, the budget is 100,000 and it is approved for FY21- She is suggesting to move it out to future years FY23. This project was supposed to use retained earing but that was drained due to Covid19. L. Jackson and N. O'Connor discussed the location of the outdoor classroom. C. Batchelor has real concerns about a 100,000 not being sufficient to do the job. She thinks there is a lot of excavation and drainage issues. L. Jackson will have a more appropriate number for next month's vote.<li data-bbox="565 709 1230 1908">3. Eliot Expansion is proposed for FY21, the budget is 800,000 (retained earnings) and this has been moved to future years FY23; FY24. She proposes to delay and move to future years. The Eliot Recreation Center is home to many of Brookline Recreation's Administrative staff and houses many community programs and services. The center is in need of renovations including an updated HVAC system, as well as utility and network infrastructure upgrades. The project includes an additional 1000 sq. ft. space build out over the current boiler room to accommodate a badly needed conference room and storage space for equipment, as well as upgrades to the perimeter drains around the building. Historically, there have been drainage issues that have impacted the first floor during significant weather events. The project would also include renovation of the public bathrooms on the first floor. W. Sheridan asked L. Jackson if she knows what is happening with the Lynch Center and asked if BEEP moved out of that building is there a possibility that the building could be used for administrative staff for Recreation. L. Jackson stated that there is a conversation that need to happen with the school committee about the opportunity for Recreation to begin using its asset again. W. Sheridan is happy it is on her radar, but W. Sheridan wants L. Jackson to make sure this is exactly what she wants before she invests the 1 million. N. O'Connor thinks it would be really great for L. Jackson to see the physical space.	
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She thinks it's a good opportunity in this lull time to discuss as much as possible. She thinks it's a great time to get the conversations moving.

4. Putterham Woods is proposed for future years, the budget is 1 million and moved to FY25. Putterham Woods at the Putterham Golf Course has suffered from a significant forestry issue, where there is a lot of down trees and failure of the tree canopy. She stated that public safety is at risk. There is also idea for a use of Putterham Woods for potential multi use, including the Friends of Putterham who want to look at potential trails excettera. She stated that it is time to identify where Putterham Woods fall on the Capital Plan. N. O'Connor stated that this is long overdue. D. Lyons asked if it is safety issue with all those dying trees around the perimeter. L. Jackson stated that it is a safety issue that has been closed off.

Call for Support – Vote in September

1. Golf Course Master Plan to include tree canopy
2. Soule Outdoor Classroom – Deferred to future years
3. Eliot Renovation – Deferred to future years
4. Putterham Woods – FY22

- N. O'Connor and L. Jackson discussed the pool staffing issues and lifeguard training.
- W. Sheridan wanted to make a few comments. She would like to build time in for comments/discussions for future agendas. She asked L. Jackson and J. Lawson if at the Commission meetings when you are reporting back main programs, one of which is golf, she wonders if you would come up with a matrix that is meaningful to commissioners to define success. She cannot wait to roll out SmartRec. She stated that if the school department doesn't know about success of camps it needs to know. She stated that it seems like to her with the success of camp maybe that is why L. Jackson would like to shift focus to child care. She wants to make sure that that we don't lose sight that it is a Recreation Department not childcare Division. W. Sheridan stated that we need pickle ball courts. She would like to think about

	<p>that in park design in future years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Carroll stated that what struck him about L. Jackson’s staffing issue is the redundancy, it’s a whole back up crew and he can see how that it would be difficult. He wanted to compliment L. Jackson on her recent hires. • N. O’Connor stated that she wanted to reiterate to login into the strategic master plan and provide feedback. She stated that in terms of a child care piece, she is curious about ages/locations/potential to be in Newbury and how charging would run. It seems like a new industry and thinks it would be great to be on the forefront of it. L. Jackson doesn’t have any answers now, but will be reaching out to the Commissioners for input. 	
<p>Park and Recreation Subcommittee Presents: Athletic Facilities Allocation Policy Update- Review and Vote Schedule to Resume Fee Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N. O’Connor stated at the bottom of page 1 the policy states “The Town reserves the right to revoke any permit as necessary to fulfill its obligations and responsibilities to the Town, for reasons including, but not limited to, any violation of the guidelines set forth in this policy. She then stated at the bottom of page 5 the document states “The Town has the right to revoke any permit(s) issued due to the group causing damage to the facility by inappropriate behavior or activities caused by the group’s use of the athletic field or court. Any person(s) violating the established Rules and Regulations or constituting a public nuisance may be required to leave the premises”. She thinks this information should all be together. W. Sheridan stated that the most important one is the comprehensive sentence that says you would lose your permit if you don’t abide by policy stated at the bottom line of the first page. N. O’Connor moved to keep that language on the first page and add it to page five of the revocation clause. Seconded by J. Bain. • W. Sheridan stated that under Page 4 the residency requirement stated “that any child participating in Brookline Public School System qualifies under this policy as resident”, but she stated that the discussion in the working group was that you have to attend school in Brookline it doesn’t have to be Brookline Public School. The sentence reads any child participating in 	<p>The Chair moved to vote acceptance of the Town-Owned Outdoor Athletic Facilities Allocation Policy presented here tonight with the minor edits. Seconded by D. Lyons. All in favor. A Roll call vote was taken.</p>

	<p>Brookline Public School system qualifies under this policy as a resident, but the next sentence says “their name, home address and Brookline School should be provided”. She thinks it should just read Brookline School not Brookline Public School. W. Sheridan moved to change the language to “any child attending a Brookline School qualifies as a resident under this policy”. Seconded by N. O’ Connor. All in favor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• N. O’Connor is struggling with the 100 percent participation. She is a firm supporter of it, but she just doesn’t know how realistic it is. She stated that if you have one kid who has played youth sports for 6 years and his family moves, but they let him play and stated that it would make the youth program pay the nonresident rate. E. Gallentine stated that we spent a lot of time talking about this at the sub-committee level and the decision was to allow the Recreation Department the discretion to allow a student to stay with the program through the full season. N. O’Connor suspects that you will need the language to say that. W. Sheridan thinks that if there is a situation where a particular group has this exact concern, then they can show up at a Park and Recreation Commission Meeting to present the particular situation. N. O’Connor agrees with that, but wonders if you add the language to come and petition the Commission. E. Gallentine stated that on the first page she would change the wording to “Applications for additional use, programs or exemptions not covered by the Town-Owned Outdoor Athletic Facilities Allocation Policy should be addressed in writing to the Park and Recreation Commission, Recreation Department, and Parks and Open Space Division or by submitting a Special Event Application to the Recreation Department”. N. O’Connor stated that would be fine with her. J. Bain moved to approve the language E. Gallentine stated above. Seconded by N. ‘Connor. All in favor.• W. Sheridan would like consistency of the name of the document. It should read “Town-Owned Outdoor Athletic Facilities Allocation Policy”. Moved by Chair. Seconded by N. O’Connor.	
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	<p>All in favor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chair moved to vote acceptance of the Town-Owned Outdoor Athletic Facilities Allocation Policy presented here tonight with the minor edits mentioned above. Seconded by D. Lyons. All in favor. A Roll call vote was taken. • Leigh Jackson stated that she would be looking to set up a meeting to set and discuss fees now that the policy was finalized. • E. Gallentine stated that it would be helpful if L. Jackson had some recommendations based on market to share as we go into the next meeting to look at rates. She is hopeful that this would not take a lot of time for the sub-committee. L. Jackson will work on this and bring something forward 	
<p>Parks and Open Space Capital Improvement Plan Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Gallentine stated that the Commission will vote on the CIP Plan in September. She stated that we will be advertising that for that for 2 consecutive weeks prior in the Brookline Tab. • E. Gallentine presented the FY22-27 summary sheet that was presented at the July Commission Meeting. Every project was covered, the existing conditions, the goals of the project and estimated budget was discussed. She stated that each Commissioner received a packet that contained a detailed summary sheet and detailed cost estimate. This will be reviewed/ revisited in September. She wanted to share that Murphy and Robinson are really important and would like to have them kept in the CIP for next year. These have been pushed out. Robinson has the final Design Review Committee Meeting on August 26th and Murphy is moving through the design review process now. There are two open houses planned for Murphy Playground in the next few weeks. She stated that J. Carroll brought up Boylston Street Temporary Bridge that is going in at Davis Path and then a permanent bridge being constructed/ She stated that it is going to be very disruptive to the park/field and that the park renovation should follow installation of the bridge. She has since moved design money moved from FY22 to FY25 and construction money from FY23 to FY26. She wanted to get a sense from the 	

	<p>Commission to see if they agree with Commissioner Carroll that it makes sense to wait until after the bridge construction project is complete to renovate the park. The bridge money funding was discussion. The construction schedule of the bridge/ temporary bridge was discussed. There are possible grant opportunities that could offset the dollars for the Town of Brookline. E. Gallentine stated that it is a very important connection, and the value of doing the temporary bridge or not is something they are going to have to weigh in on and get community input on. A. Bellalta and E. Gallentine discussed the neighborhood feedback to public works in terms of the desire for a temporary bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helen Charlupksi stated that the Boylston Street playground would then be under construction when Pierce is at the OLS. She stated that the schools have also requested that this temporary bridge be done as soon as possible. E. Gallentine stated that the temporary bridge could stay in place longer and the permanent bridge happen in later years. W. Sheridan thinks it makes a lot of sense to move it out. Her one request would be do it by the evaluation of the current state of Boylston Street playground and to make sure it's safe. She stated that it is tired and dated, but it doesn't mean that it is unsafe. She would like the playground structure to have a full assessment.• E. Gallentine stated that there is a holding place for a feasibility study as it relates to fields, ice rink and an outdoor pool.• E. Gallentine stated that she added field conversion, light field and facilities. Sher stated that if you read the strategic plan update one recommendation was to covert two of the existing fields to synthetic turf and add lights. We should be talking about it. There is a lot of work/ research to be done with that recommendation, but she at least thought it should be talked about.• E. Gallentine stated that M. Paluszek is a strong advocate for lighting at the Pierce Basketball Courts and has asked that the Commission to consider installing professional lighting at the	
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	<p>Pierce basketball courts. These courts have had a lighting assessment and modified LED lights. She stated that after dusk the lights come on by motion sensors and stay on until 9:30pm in the summer and 8:30 pm in in winter months. J. Bain stated that neighbors and players are comfortable with lighting there now.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N. O’Connor stated that she was trying to take a look a couple of days and see what the activity is at those courts. She discussed the activity she saw on Saturday night. She is unsure she wants to take up a block in the CIP to add premier sport lighting for a park that has sufficient lighting. It is not a full sized basketball court. Cypress is going to be full-sized and lit and that is appropriate. She is not sure if at this time, when we are counting dollars, if we want to be upgrading lighting for something that is sufficient. She doesn’t think premier lighting is good for this location. A. Bellalta agrees with N. O’ Connor. She stated that if it’s sufficient now and it’s not a full court, the lighting seems to be going well. D. Lyons agrees that lighting is adequate now and there is no reason to spend additional funds on better lighting. • E. Gallentine will not include this in September and wanted to share that she had this request again. E. Gallentine and N. O’Connor discussed that the lighting was in the budget in past years, but it was bounced out. 	
<p>Parks & School Grounds as Outdoor Classrooms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E. Gallentine has received many letters, that she has shared with the Commission, from parents encouraging the Parks and Open Space Division and Park and Recreation Commission to support the Brookline School Department in their request to use outdoor space to help them with capacity and reopening the schools for the 2021 school year. She stated that there has been many phone calls/meetings to discuss Baker, Heath, Runkle, Lincoln, Old Lincoln School, Pierce, Lawrence, Driscoll, Coolidge Corner School and Brookline High school and what spaces could be available where the School Department could put a seasonal tent that could support classrooms. She is committed to working with the school to offer them maximum flexibility to best support the 	

	<p>community and students. She thinks that it is important that we do that.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• She stated that largely they have been looking at both hard court spaces and looking at all corners and where they might be able to incorporate these tents. Also, at the same time looking at what is convenient and accessible. She stated that we are looking at some properties that are under School Committee jurisdiction and some under the jurisdiction of the Park and Recreation Commission. There could be some impact on user groups. BHS could possibly be interested in using Cypress athletic field. She stated that if that happened it would be for fall use only. The High School leadership understands that the intent is to enter into a contract for construction of those fields at the end of November. E. Gallentine stated that the school staff she spoke to remained very committed to Cypress Athletic Fields, the playground being renovated and completed in tandem with the renovation and expansion project. She stated that she wanted to inform the Commission of this. She stated that we are committed to the community and providing an opportunity for flexibility for the school department and wanted get any feedback from the Commission on the next steps. J. Bain and E. Gallentine discussed the timeline of the tents.• The tents would only be up thought the fall and put back up in spring if successful and benefited the schools.• Helen C. wanted to thank E. Gallentine and the Commission for considering and stated that they are also looking into purchasing as opposed to renting tents• L. Jackson stated that taking a quick look from a recreation standpoint, based on initial look there won't be big impacts to then recreation side. She wants to support this effort.• C. Batchelor thinks it's great that we are doing that, but to say they it won't impact recreation is not true. She stated that in her neighborhood those basketball courts are always filled with kids and she wants to present a realistic acknowledgement that something has got to give. She thinks it will impact recreation, but	
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	<p>understands that everyone is desperate to get schools started again. L. Jackson wanted to clarify that she was referring to permitted programs, but knows that it will impact general recreation for the public. She was directly speaking to her role in permitting these areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N. O’Connor knows that E. Gallentine will be looking at these sites with the School Department and considering the least impact to current uses. She thinks it’s a great collaborative effort and thinks that is a great opportunity to be part of the solution. She looks forward to working with the school department on future projects. E. Gallentine and N. O’Connor discussed the Cypress Playground construction schedule. N. O’Connor stated that in terms of Cypress she wonders if tents will go in the quad. She wonders if the Town could close Greenough and put tents along the street and not use the street for a period of time. E. Gallentine stated that she and Helen talked about the quad. E. Gallentine received a consensus from the Commission to move forward and make the decisions she needs to support schools. 	
<p>Appoint Outdoor Swimming Pool Working Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Bain appointed Lynda Roseman, Richard Robinson and Alisa Jonas to the Outdoor Swimming Pool Working Group. 	<p>J. Bain appointed Lynda Roseman, Richard Robinson and Alias Jonas to the outdoor swimming pool working group.</p>
<p>Other Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W. Sheridan stated that Isabelle Iguchi was appointed to the Jack Kirrane Skating Rink at Larz Anderson, however her school is back in session and she is moving back to DC. Isabelle Iguchi has since declined to participate and she wanted to ask J Bain if she could recommend a replacement task force member. W. Sheridan would like to recommend David Driscoll. W. Sheridan provided the Commission with D. Driscoll’s background information. • J. Carroll greatly appreciated L. Jackson’s effort to start daycare. He appreciated E. Gallentine involvement in working with the school department. He thinks a great collaborative effort and shows the true spirit of the Park and Recreation Commission. 	<p>J. Bain appointed D. Driscoll to the Jack Kirrane Larz Anderson Skating Rink Task Force.</p>

Park and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes 8/11/20

Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• N. O'Connor moved to adjourn. Seconded by J. Bain. All in favor.	
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Next Meeting: September 8, 2020

Location: Zoom Webinar

A true record

Attest Jessica White

Date: 8/11/2020