



Lowell City Council

Parks & Recreation SC Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: April 15, 2025
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber/Zoom (Hybrid)
375 Merrimack St., Lowell. Ma.

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Mercier, Belanger and C. Gitschier. Also present were Keith Rudy (Board of Parks), Peter Faticanti (Rec. Dept.), Corey Williams (City Solicitor), C. Descoteaux, Heather Larkin (Sec. Bd. Of Parks) and C. Robinson.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Mercier called meeting to order noting attendees and the agenda item regarding updating the Board of Parks rules and regulations.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Mr. Rudy commented on current tournament fees and the case-by-case basis currently used by the Board. Mr. Rudy noted the need for structure and raising fees based on current situation and review of other communities. Mr. Rudy provided some proposed fees for synthetic and natural fields noting the increase would be substantial but much less than other similar communities. Mr. Rudy noted that there are other fees associated with the use of the fields, such as garbage removal and custodial. C. Mercier noted proposed fees are still much less than others and requested Law Department review any proposed changes. Atty. Williams noted fee schedule was an ordinance which must be amended if changed and that would require a public hearing on the matter. C. Mercier noted that the entity or person to pull permit must be on any insurance coverage for events. C. Gitschier noted that any event on City property should have insurance coverage. C. Gitschier noted fees should be adjusted fairly and to the benefit of the City and recognized that other fees should be increased as well. Mr. Rudy informed the body that the High School is not charged for events. C. Mercier opened meeting up to public and Mr. Gil Vigeant addressed body outlining his association with this process. C. Descoteaux questioned access to bathrooms and control of the keys to those facilities. C. Descoteaux noted



keys should be available to permit holders. C. Gitschier questioned scheduling procedures for the fields noting outside entities control over that schedule. C. Mercier noted that updated policy will be fair, and not all will agree with it. C. Gitschier noted the issue regarding Mr. Vigeant over the stand at McPhearson Park but stated there is proper procedure that must followed. Atty. Williams noted he was not familiar with past but stated that procedure of buildings on City property is usually transferred back to the City. Atty. Williams noted that the discretion of the Board of Parks is wide and should controlled in some manner and that any event must be insured. C. Bellanger noted that regulations need to be updated, and the Board must be a part of that. C. Robinson noted the efforts of the Board and of Mr. Vigeant and that any policies will apply across the board. Mr. Faticanti questioned which event should be insured and noted that costs will increase tremendously for users. Atty. Williams noted discretion to waive fees. C. Mercier noted the Board of Parks is the governing body with final authority.

ADOURNMENT:

Motion "To Adjourn/Recess" by C. Mercier, seconded by C. Gitschier. So voted. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk
