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TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

PARKS COMMISSION

APPROVED 6/24/2026

Town of Medway
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting
April 29, 2026 – 6:30 PM
Sanford Hall – Medway Town Hall
155 Village Street

Park Commissioners: Debi Rossi, Lyle Core, John Farrell, Rick D’Innocenzo, Rob Condon

Absent:

Others: Julie Harrington
Nolan Lynch
Kristen Salera
Adam French
Michael Hanson

Call to Order: Ms. Rossi called the meeting to order at 6:30 with 5 members present.

Public Comment: None

Other Business

1. Approval of Minutes: April 29, 2026.

There were a few corrections needed.

Mr. Core made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 29, 2026 with corrections. Mr. D’Innocenzo seconded the motion. Approved vote 5-0

2. Restructuring of Board and Welcome Tim Rice – Discussion/Vote

Ms. Rossi introduced Tim Rice as a new board member. She asked if anyone wanted to be Chairperson and no one volunteered. Lyle Core will be vice-chair.

Ms. Rossi made a motion for Lyle Core to be the vice chairperson. Mr. Condon seconded the motion. Approved, vote 4-0.

3. Eagle Scout project- Medway Middle School – Discussion/Vote

Adam French attended the meeting to present an idea for his Eagle Scout project: restoring MS football scoreboard. He doesn't have a final plan yet but wanted to see if board was interested. He has already received letters of support from Medway Youth Soccer, Medway Youth Football and Medway Flag Football. Adam is 13 and noted that the planning process starts as he reaches future phases of eagle scouts. Ms. Rossi and Mr. Lynch expressed concerns about the electricity for the current board, suggesting it might be more feasible to replace the scoreboard. Medway Football might be willing to help with funding. Members all agreed that it was a good idea to either restore or replace the scoreboard. One member suggested looking into solar powered options. Ms. Rossi likes the idea of multi-sport usage. Ms. Harrington suggested working with Rob Pearl, former AD who works for a scoreboard company.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve Adam French working on the restoration/replacement of the MS scoreboard as his Eagle Scout project. Mr. Condon seconded the motion. Approved, vote 5-0.

4. Flag Football Storage Container

Michael Hanson attended, he is vice president of Medway Flag Football. He noted that the organization recently separated from Medway Youth Football and has raised funds from partnerships and sponsorships. Mr. Hanson is requesting approval for a structure at the MS field for equipment storage and possible snack stand (no kitchen). They are seeking approval for a structure and location and will continue their research of options and bring a final proposal. They are looking to have it in place for the fall season. The storage will be mostly for equipment and a small section for storing pre-packaged snack/drinks for sale. It would be similar in size to the ones that are already there. He presented 3 possible locations, 1 would be near a power source, #2 would be if they used solar. Members said that #3 is not feasible. Ms. Rossi noted that most other organizations lease the storage containers. Mr. Hanson said they are thinking of more of a shed than a container. Mr. Core recommended a storage unit vs. a structure that needs to be built. Mr. Condon suggested trying to organize all sports to come up with a plan to have one uniform structure with storage space for each sport. Mr. D'Innocenzo suggested that Flag Football lease a container and Parks & Recreation should add a new structure project to the capital requests.

Mr. D'Innocenzo made a motion to approve the Medway Flag Football request for a storage container in proposed Location #1. They must coordinate placement with DPW on day of delivery. Mr. Core seconded the motion. Vote, approved 5-0.

5. Choate Park Events: Discussion/Vote

a. Mushrooms Art Festival – Art placement and Serving Alcohol in Park

The Medway Art Association requested a different location for the mushroom display and asked for approval to serve alcohol at the event. DPW does not support the location change that Medway Art Assoc. requested as it creates additional maintenance work for DPW. Ms. Rossi wants them to keep to their original location. Mr. Core proposed an alternate location that isn't a grassy area. Ms. Rossi declined allowing them to serve alcohol, there is a bylaw that states that there is no alcohol in the parks.

Ms. Rossi made a motion that the mushroom placement for the Medway Art Association's display in Choate Park needs to be where originally approved and confirmed that no alcohol is permitted in the park per the bylaws. Mr. Condon seconded the motion. Approved, vote 4-0-1 (1 member abstained).

6. Grooming with Machines on Softball and Baseball Fields – Discussion/Vote

Steve Carew asked Mr. Lynch to discuss that softball and baseball volunteers are doing some maintenance on the fields themselves, but it is often making it worse for DPW staff. They realize that the volunteers are trying to help. DPW grooms the field weekly. Mr. Lynch would like to have a policy to specify what DPW would permit them to do and what they should not do. For example, no unauthorized mechanical grooming equipment. Ms. Harrington will add a clause to field rental policies. Mr. Core suggested having a pre-season meeting with coaches to show them what is permitted and how best to do it.

7. Motorized Vehicles at Parks and on trails - Update

Mr. Lynch and Ms. Harrington met with Chief Fasolino and Chief Kingsbury. They confirmed that the bylaws would have to be changed in order to enforce any new rules on the trails. The Chief recommended seeing what other towns have done for sample policy wording. There is a bill going through the state but would not be effective until 2028. Mr. Lynch and Ms. Harrington will write something up to get approval for a vote at the fall town meeting. Mr. Lynch noted that it would be passively enforced. Lieutenant Watson has a detailed list of types of vehicles that they can reference.

8. Dog Park Sign: Discussion/Vote

Ms. Harrington noted that a member of community approached DPW with a suggested new sign at the dog park with a price of \$950. Mr. Lynch will go and look at the current sign and determine whether a new one is needed. Mr. Core suggested that they respond and say that the person requesting the sign should approach Parks to get on the next agenda.

9. Trash at Choate: Discussion/Vote

Mr. Lynch said that the trash in the Choate Park bathrooms is overflowing. It's not just paper towels from the bathrooms. He suggested putting up a sign on the door of the bathrooms that trash is for bathroom trash only. DPW has added another cleaning day to try and keep up with it. It's worse on Mondays after the weekend. Ms. Harrington suggested starting with some new signs, perhaps in a few different languages. Mr. Core suggested a larger barrel.

10. Purchasing Policy: Discussion

Ms. Rossi noted that this was suggested when Ms. Harrington had a meeting with Patrick McIntyre from the School Dept. and he questioned why the Parks Department did not pay the bill for the scoreboard repairs. Ms. Rossi suggested that they create a policy for submission and approval of field expenses. Ms. Rossi asked Ms. Harrington to work on a policy for the committee to review

11. Spring Fields Update

Ms. Harrington noted that she is working on invoicing to get money in before the end of school year. Mr. Condon asked if the fields were clean after the recent tournaments and she and Mr. Lynch responded they did not have any complaints.

There was flash flooding last week at Hanlon and Scorpions and other groups reached out to Ms. Harrington right away.

Ms. Harrington received a call from the AD complaining that the Scorpions went on the field early, prior to their scheduled time. Toar Winter noted that the track coach had told them that they could go on the fields since the track meet was over.

12. Chair Update

None

13. DPW Update

Mr. Lynch noted that at Town Meeting they approved funding for design/bid package of Lamson and North fields. They have already met with Gayle and Associates. They are working on drainage and test cutting.

Also approved at the Town meeting were repairs for the parks at North and Winthrop Street. DPW will assess next steps. Mr. Lynch is going to bring the proposal for \$18,000 for 123 Holliston St. for capital improvement approval at the Fall town meeting.

14. Director's Update

Ms. Harrington noted the fishing Derby is May 30. The first summer concert is in a month.

She is concerned about the fall schedules, now that flag football is asking for lights. 123 Holliston Street field could be an option.

Adjourn: Mr. Core made a motion to adjourn at 8:33. Mr. D'Innocenzo seconded the motion. Approved, vote 5-0.

Future Park Meeting Dates:

June 24, 2026

Respectfully submitted by,

Marianne Boynton, Recording Secretary
Commonwealth of Massachusetts