



OFFICE OF THE PARK COMMISSION  
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## **PARK COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Approved: **September 14, 2021**

Meeting Date: **August 10, 2021**

### **Scheduled Agenda Items:**

1. Review and approval of meeting minutes: July 8, 2021.
2. Financial Status Discussion
  - A. New Invoices and Bills
3. Recreations Topics
  - A. Field Applications and Use Discussion
4. Parks Topics
  - A. Status of Larter Field Maintenance: Irrigation & Sheds
  - B. Status of Residual Spring Tasks Awarded: SU Ballfield
  - C. Tennis Court Update
  - D. Relocation of Mitchell Bench
  - E. FY22 Budget
5. New Business, As Needed

### **Meeting Minutes.**

1. This was a joint meeting of the Park Commissioners and the Recreation Commissioners conducted using the Zoom video conferencing application.
  - a. Attending the meeting for the Park Commission and a quorum being present: Tiffany Naughton, Philip DeNyse, and Jean Phelan.
  - b. Attending the meeting for the Recreation Commission and a quorum being present: Tiffany Naughton, Charlie Lippman, Dawn Dorr, and Brian Locapo.  
Not present: Jeffery Hastings.
2. The meeting came to order at 7:04 PM. Meeting minutes from the previous joint committee meeting of July 8, 2021 was reviewed and approved by a vote of 3-0 for Parks and 4-0 for Recreations.
3. Financial Status Discussion.
  - a. New Invoices and Bills. Invoices and bills are listed in the attachment and were approved by their respective committees.
4. Recreation Topics.
  - a. Field Applications and Inquiries. Cricket Field. Mr. Puzak Oza, resident of Dunstable and cricket enthusiast gave a presentation for the addition of a cricket

pitch at Larter field. Mr. Oza provided proposal details and explained some of the particulars of cricket and how much field space would be needed to play the game. The initial layout of the pitch area is consistent with preserving the two soccer fields. Additional details on cost are needed and the impact of relocating the irrigation lines. Mr. Lippman will continue to work with Mr. Oza to refine the proposal's details and costs.

5. Parks Topics.

- a. Residual Spring Tasks Not Awarded: Swallow Union Ballfield Refurbishment. The committee reviewed this task which was previously approved and again agreed the task should be completed. The task is scheduled to be completed before the start of school.
- b. Tennis Courts. Mr. DeNyse provided an update on the tennis court refurbishment project. Mr. DeNyse contacted GPR-Inc of Groton an engineering services firm for a quote in support of design plans for the tennis court refurbishment proposal. The scope of the services discussed included survey of the adjoining wetlands, preparation of site plans, preparation and submission of a Notice of Intent, and consultation with the Conservation Committee. The proposed cost is \$8800. Concerns were raised by committee members this work was unnecessary because the vendor will provide these design services. Mrs. Dorr to research this question by contacting a vendor. Mrs. Naughton expressed a concern CPC funds could not be used to purchase these services since this was not part of the original funding request. Mr. DeNyse to work with the Town Administrator to understand the feasibility and risk to the project if these services are included in the proposal.
- c. Relocation of Mitchell Bench. Mr. DeNyse presented a summary of the remaining actions to relocate the Mitchell Bench nearer to the current Swallow Union Playground. The bench will be positioned midway between the two maple trees on the south side of the playground. A quote for the work was reviewed and approved by Parks (3-0). Work will be accomplished by Luz Memorials of Lowell.
- d. New Walking Path. Mrs. Sue Psaledakis discussed with the committees her vision for creating a walking path starting at the Town Common and continuing to down to the tennis courts. The committees expressed interest in the concept and look forward to hearing more information on the project.

6. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Philip J. DeNyse  
Park Commissioner

Attachments:

1. Parks and Recreations Bill Summary for July 8, 2021
2. Presentation by Mr. P. Oza, Cricket in Dunstable, August 10, 2021

Parks and Recreations Bill Summary Discussion List for July 8, 2021 Meeting

Invoice Date	Company	Service Provided	Amount (\$)	Responsible Committee
7-1-2021	Cataldo	Monthly Landscaping # 202165153	6,142.85	Parks
6-30-2021	Instant Portables	Rental & Service of portable bathrooms	540.00	Recs

# Cricket in Dunstable / Greater Boston

Mr. Puzak Oza, Dunstable Resident and Enthusiast

Presented to Joint Parks and Recreations Committee Meeting  
on August 10, 2021

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## Agenda

- Introduction
- Cricket in New England / Greater Boston
  - Leagues, Teams, Season timeframe
- Proposal for cricket field in Dunstable, MA
  - Larter field for cricket, soccer, beach volleyball, basketball, baseball/softball and batting cage/net practice
  - General maintenance
  - Building a Cricket pitch at Larter – budget, fund raiser, fee to use the fields for cricket
  - Corporate games
  - Youth cricket – Fall 2021 and continuing seasonally every Summer /Fall from 2022
- Growth of the town of Dunstable, increasing community participation and promoting small / medium businesses

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## Introduction

- Cricket is a team sport played by two teams comprising of 11 players each. The game is played with a bat and a ball on a “pitch” which is center of a ground and is ~22 yards in length and at each end of it there is a wicket (a pair of bails balanced on three stumps). The objective for each team is to outscore the other team by scoring more runs when batting and dismissing the opponents for a lesser score
- Different formats of the game are played ranging from 20 overs a side to 40 - 50 overs to Test match cricket which is over 5 days (few sessions each day spread over 5 days in test match cricket)

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## Cricket in New England / Greater Boston

- There are several leagues in and around Boston and as a result several teams/clubs formed by people passionate about the game and coming together to compete in competitive cricket leagues
  - To name a few – there is Massachusetts State Cricket League ([www.mscl.org](http://www.mscl.org)), New England Cricket association ([www.neca2020.org](http://www.neca2020.org)), Nashua Cricket League (NCL), Merrimack valley cricket league (MCL)
  - Each of the clubs have their own teams and conduct social, family events as well as contribute to promoting the sport in the region
- The leagues have about ~40-45 teams and players of which live in and around the greater Boston area. The league games are played typically on weekends and the season runs from mid-April through Sep / mid-October
  - Teams / cricket lovers typically practice on weekdays and play friendly / practice games then as well
- Few towns in MA that host a cricket field – Tewksbury, Acton, Wrentham, Shrewsbury, Westborough, Ashland, Norton, Boston, ([Venues \(mscl.org\)](http://Venues.mscl.org)) and [Venues \(neca2020.org\)](http://Venues.neca2020.org)

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## Proposal for Cricket field in Dunstable MA

- We propose to use the facilities in Larter field for growth and promotion of cricket in Dunstable / greater Boston
- The proposal includes to construct an Astro turf cricket pitch with poured concrete construction underneath of about ~32 yards x 4 yards in center of Larter field. This hosts the wickets on each end (analogous to bases in baseball)
- The construction site has been carefully planned and proposed keeping in mind that the existing soccer fields that GDRSD uses, are not compromised and will be in center of Larter field with the soccer fields on either sides
- The batting cage in southwest corner of larter field can be resurrected /levelled as well for baseball as well as cricket practice!
- We will work with GDRSD and Town of Dunstable for scheduling and permission to play cricket / use of the fields for cricket related activities
- Larter field facilities provide soccer, beach volleyball, basketball, baseball/softball and we request to introduce Cricket as another sport to use this multi-facility in Dunstable

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## Proposal for Cricket field in Dunstable MA (continued)

- Teams that request to use the field for cricket activities will reserve the field in advance over the town web link and pay in advance a fee
  - This fee will go towards maintenance of the field
- We can also provide / promote corporate games for companies in the area to have cricket matches, soccer / volleyball / baseball outings for employee events
- Cost to build the cricket pitch is ~\$10-12k. Request the Dunstable recreational and park commission to support. No amount is small. We can also plan a fund raiser via Gofundme campaign and request support from community and/or Small-medium business to contribute as well to help defray some costs
- We also plan to run Youth cricket camps to share and promote and educate children between 5-16 years about the game and promote the growth of cricket in this region. Children from Dunstable and nearby towns such as Groton, Pepperell, Littleton, Westford, Tyngsborough, Chelmsford, Nashua, Hollis may participate

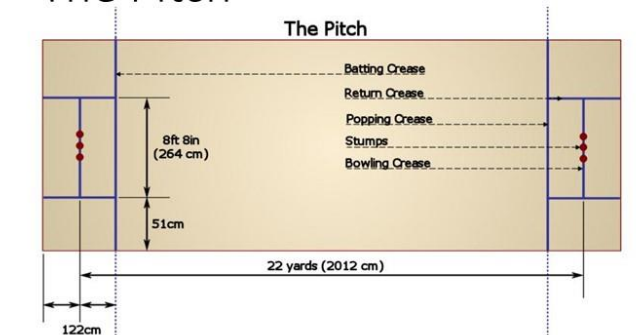
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## What this means for town of Dunstable

- Promotion of small / medium business in Dunstable such as Farm house café, West Auto, Dunkin Donuts, Gas station, Rose of Sharon, Tully farm to name a few by influx of human traffic for cricket and other sporting and social activities at Larter field
- Increase community participation, plan social / gatherings around games / sports
- Inspire young families to consider Dunstable as a town to start / build their lives

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## The Pitch



Cricket pitch playing dimensions

[Cricket Pitch Construction - PSI Pavements - YouTube](#)

[\(7\) Facebook](#)

[\(7\) Facebook](#)



Astro turf / concrete area sample pic  
Approx 10-11' x 100' (ft)

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At Larter Field will be marked with cones / markers that will be removed and stored carefully in shed after play. These form a circular boundary around the cricket pitch ~70 yards around the pitch



## Next steps

- Quotes for concrete slab construction
  - Purak Oza is working with Longo landscaping for getting a quote and possibly others as well. Charlie mentioned he will reach out to two other companies as well
- Dunstable Parks / Recreation committee to meet and discuss this proposal. Purak Oza is available any convenient time to meet and take the proposition forward, plan the construction
  - All of the funds will go towards the construction and any remaining for procuring any supplementary items such as field markers / nets / cones / cricket stumps / bails
- Costs / Budget consideration – post parks and recreation committee meeting



Thank you

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