

# Medfield Parks and Recreation Minutes

## Pfaff Center 10/29/08 7:30 AM

**Attending:** COMMISSIONERS: Toby Burrell, Lisa Louttit, and Steve Farrar.  
DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION: Jim Snyder  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Kevin Ryder  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Paula Carroll

### 1. Review 10/15/08 Minutes.

**AMMENDMENT TO 10/15/08 MINUTES:** Note that bullet #4 under “Why Hinkley Pond” it is stated that The Fire and Police Department expansion “has been approved and funded – they are awaiting Parks and Recreation to find a new location”. This is wrong, they are not approved nor are they funded. This will be stricken from the minutes and the minutes will be re-posted by Paula.

**Motion: Approve 10/15/08 Minutes. Vote: Motion carries (3-0).**

### 2. Unfinished Business - There is no unfinished business.

### 3. Update on New Building

The plans for seeking town approval and funding for the new building have been postponed until the future financial status of the town is revealed. This is a temporary intermission. Once economic conditions are viable, the pursuit of a new building will re-commence. At that time, aside from the Hinkley Pond and McCarthy Park locales, the Board may look into the leasing of an established commercial building, such as the former “Potpourri” building. In the meantime, the second paragraph of Toby’s letter to the editor of the *Medfield Press* will be posted on our web site to notify citizens that for the time being, the pursuit of a new building has been put on hold.

### 4. Update on Proposed Skate Park - There is no update on the proposed skate park.

### 5. Report on MARPA State Conference

Jim and Kevin attended the October 27-28 MARPA State Conference. A lot of information was gathered, as Parks and Recreation Departments among the cities and towns do not compete against each other for territory, and are willing to share procedures, pricing, programming, and strategy. In particular, Jim and Kevin gathered data pertaining to the following: increasing fee schedules, keeping the media updated, establishing a CIT summer training camp, instituting new evaluation procedures for summer camp staff, marketing targeted at emphasizing the benefits to the community (not the individual), and locating funding sources for Parks and Recreation buildings (NOTE: this packet will be passed on to Tom Caragliano and the Board would like him to look into the listed sources). Also, it was learned that hiring one or more dedicated landscaping employees (as opposed to outside vendor contracts) was overwhelmingly the preferred method for field maintenance.

### 6. Medfield Youth Baseball Proposed McCarthy Softball Field Conversion

Instead of converting the softball field at McCarthy Park to a regulation size baseball field, an alternative dual-usage solution was presented by MYB. Thus, allowing both baseball and softball to be played on the same field. The Board will advise MYB to come up with a detailed plan and impart it to Josh Murray and Nick Brown. If they are on board, then MYB should further pursue the support of Parks and Recreation.

**Meeting adjourned:** 8:55 AM.

**Next Meeting:** TUESDAY evening, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at Town Hall. NOTE: This is the budget meeting, which will take the place of the usual bi-weekly commissioner’s meeting.

**Following Meeting:** Wednesday morning, November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 AM at the Pfaff Center.