

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OPEN SPACE AND
RECREATION COMMITTEE
May 11, 2016 6:35 pm
Town Hall Banquet Hall Room**

Attendees: Dennis Visconti, Chairman, Steve Sylvester, Aldo Ursino,
Bill Previdi, Maura Campbell, Jack Bracciotti, James Sarno, Cynthia Hemenway & David Goodberg
Absent members: Stephen McDonough, Therese DiBlasi
Guests: Steve Angelo; New Recreation Director

Motion: For D.V to remain as Chairman, S.M to remain as Vice Chairman & A.U. to remain as Secretary, all motions passed unanimously.

We welcome our new members Cynthia Hemenway & David Goodberg.

1. RE: Ice Skating Arena –During the time the Arena was closed much work was done, painting, new rubber flooring & removing ice for inspection and repainting the floor. Although given the age of the floor (42 years) it has been determined that the floor needs to be replaced next year if possible. There are roof leaks that may still need patching or a new roof on the low roof section; the dehumidifier, heater, cooling tower and compressors may need replacing in near future also. A motion was held in regards for increasing hourly ice rental rates an extra 5.00 dollar s, it passed unanimously. James Sarno wants to see an expert ice arena consultant evaluate the Arena for the most cost effective fix that the Arena will need next year. Steve Sylvester made a motion if a financial advisor can look into if Bonds can be used for repairs and be paid back over a 20 year period, it passed unanimously. Never the less, after hours or non-seasonal time should be utilized to bring in more revenue and will create jobs. E.g. the Arena can be used by vendors, floor hockey events, etc. etc. Research is being done for the Arena to be more energy efficient, and Bill Previdi is working with T. A. on the solar panel prospect for the arena which will take some time, but prospects look very good in the near future.

2. RE: Recreation- The new Recreation Director was a guest at our meeting and has introduced himself to the OSR Committee, his name is Steve Angelo, and he is a fine gentleman. Steve is very motivated and was taught and runs things on a collegiate level. He is passionate about recreational work and is looking forward to making great programs for Stoneham's youth, and to help them with a variety of recreational needs they are looking for. He will bring a diverse program to our town, and states he has an "open door policy" which fits with this gentleman's personality. Even though he is centered in sports "recreation doesn't have to be all sports" there is always playing musical instruments, singing, reading, biking, etc, etc. This was his first day on the job and our committee was quite impressed so far,

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and we are hopeful that Steve Angelo will equip Stoneham's youth with a great recreational program, and start it from the ground up. Welcome on board Steve!

3. RE: Play Grounds/ Field Permits- We talked how some parks need to be utilized more as in Pomeworth Park and groups like AAU's may be able to use it. Also permits were brought up and how permits can be uniquely categorized depending on the event, in turn could change the cost of a permit more or less. Maybe adding a week end price that differs from a week day price. Dennis Visconti would like to see if he can put permit pricing list in the Stoneham Sun and information pertaining to going about getting a field permit.

4. RE: Golf Courses – Bill Previdi made a motion for T.A. to reconsider Oaks Green Fees for an all-day pass for more play, it passed unanimously. We should test the waters and ask Kevin if an 11+/- dollar play all day should be tried on weekdays. Greens started to be cleaned up from the winter they are looking better. T boxes still need cleaning up. Both Club houses cleaned up and look great with flat screen TV's in both. Restrooms still need a little attention, and the roof needs fixing. Appointments are now being made for T times with committed slots for leagues if 10 weeks of green fees are paid in advance and leagues have been advised of this. There is some flexibility and leagues could have an option to pay as you go if tee time slots are available.

5. RE: Community Compact- Stoneham will be given 20,000 dollars from the Commonwealth for OSR planning, since MAPC was unable to do the planning. This planning will have to be done soon because we are ending near of FY 2016. It will be paid to Stoneham in two installments 75% with execution of the state grant contract and 25% upon completion of the project and submission to Division of Local Services of an OSR report and results.