



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Location: Zoom

**Meeting Date:** October 1, 2021

**Time:** 3:30 PM

**Attendees:** Phil Kearns, David Shofi, Pete Nichols, Dennis DiPinto, Bob Schneider, Amy Platt

**Subcommittee: (Check One)**

- ☐ Aquatic & Program
- ☐ Budget & Policy
- ☒ Buildings & Grounds
- ☐ Marketing, Promotion and Memberships
- ☐ Special Services, Community Outreach, Customer Services
- ☐ Strategic Planning & Annual Goals

**Agenda**

1. **Agenda:** Motion to approve made by Phil Kearns, and seconded by David Shofi.
2. **Minutes:** Motion to approve made by Phil Kearns, and seconded by Dave Shofi.
3. **Items Discussed:**
  - Reviewed actions taken to investigate noise issue at Martin Park and findings to-date.
    - During the week of 9/27, decibel readings were taken on (3) different days from the shared driveway located near 24 Great Pond Road (approx. 250 feet away from Martin Park Pickleball courts). Sound was monitored for approximately 10 minutes on all (3) occasions while Pickleball Open Play was underway on 2 courts.
    - Average decibel readings:
      - 40 during no play with a slight breeze and normal levels of ambient noise
      - 47 during play
  - Further mitigation options available to P&R and estimated costs:
    - Quieter Foam Balls (\$12 for 6) – currently out of stock everywhere online
    - Quieter Polymer Core Paddles (\$100)
    - Use Indoor Pickleballs Outdoors (\$14 for 12)
    - Acoustical Fencing or Noise Grabber Vinyl Sheet (\$1,800 + shipping & cost of install)
    - Install 10' wooden fence (\$20,000-\$25,000)
    - Plant a row of hemlock trees along the fence (\$8,000)
    - Relocate courts to a new area of town (\$75,000-\$125,000 new/\$40,000-\$50,000 upgrade existing tennis courts). Not all locations would be available during the



school year, and would take away from public tennis.

- Report-out plan for Commission meeting
  - Review Martin Park deed
  - Share decibel readings & sound recording with other Commissioners
  - Revisit the rationale for why Martin Park was determined the best location for new courts

Motion to adjourn at 4:40 PM made by: Phil Kearns, and seconded by David Shofi.

Minutes submitted by: Amy Platt