

# **TOWN OF DEDHAM**

## ***Parks & Recreation Department***

*Dedham Recreation  
Center  
269 Common Street  
781-751-9250*

*Anthony Mucciaccio Pool  
1 Recreation Road  
781-461-5991*



*Robert Stanley  
Director*

*Debra Anderson  
Assistant & Program Director*

*Tracey White  
Administrative Assistant*

May 14, 2019

Town Hall  
Lower Conference Room  
7:00 pm

Attendance:  
Chuck Dello Iaconno  
John Briggs  
Tye Donahue  
Lisa Moran  
James Maher

Robert Stanley – Director  
Debra Anderson -Asst. Director  
Tracey White – Admin. Assist.

### **Striar Property**

J. Briggs explained that under Open Meeting Law if you are recording a meeting you are required to notify the Chairman,

Kathleen O’Neil stated she was recording

J. Briggs shared a quick history of the property ...

2001 Article 18 at Town Meeting appropriated the funds to purchase Strair Estates which would be under the jurisdiction of the Parks & Recreation Dept., for future development of a Park,

2010/2011 the Avery School construction started and that’s when the DPW got involved. a place to store the fill was needed and it went over there and that’s when those piles started to appear,

Then started the Dedham Square project and the area was also used

Then fill from the ECEC was brought there,

2017/2018 when the MWRA project is going through Dedham, so the first contractor, Giosi needed a place to process what they were digging out of the streets, bring it somewhere, process it, crush it down and bring it off site. That has been happening with the MWRA project

Giosi currently done with the area

The second stage is RJV Construction they are just beginning, they have been there for about two months, so there was overlap for a couple of months, so there is much more activity

RJV will not be crushing, just screening of stone so the noise will be significantly less

We walked the site today with Conservation Agent and Joe Flanagan and an abutter and a neighbor, Mr Scheffler and Ms Keaveney.

Water/misting is being ramped up to mitigate the dust in the area, as are other measures such as street sweeping the area

Measured to the wetland, it was about 96 feet, if you are within a 100 feet buffer they can ask us to have conditions met, such as a silt sock around area, which we have already done

My intent is to move piles back and fill out whatever paperwork should be filled out; we will discuss as a board and vote on that, Thursday the Conservation Commission will be meeting.

If a construction site goes over one acre you are required to fill out a SWPP (Stormwater Pollution Protection Plan) and have that permit, that controls any overland contaminants which we weren't in violation of the Clean Water Act

We should have let the neighbors know when that went over one acre, he stated he is not sure when that was however if he were to guess it would be about 2016

Then there were two different contractors

Over nine years there has been three different Conservation Agents that has walked with the DPW or Parks & Recreation on this site information

T. Donahue stated that this taken very seriously, and trying to right any wrongs that have been done in the past, we are here to work together on issues that are impacting the neighbors

J. Maher stated that he appreciates the Chairmans words and wants to hear from the experts

L. Moran wanted to make sure we move forward working together, and doing all the proper paperwork

J. Briggs states that nothing was ever done with malicious intent and we are all here for the betterment of the Town

Mr Matthews, 6 Capen Lane who decided to expand the area from one acre to 3.9 ?

J. Briggs stated it was collective that there was no decision to expand, it just happened

Mr Matthews ask how much money was saved

J. Briggs stated he has no idea how much it saved the town since 2010, he has no idea

Robert LoPorto, Crane Street, May 2014 a wildlife Habitat report stated it was 3.9 acres of disturbed land, and it has doubled since then,

T. Donahue asked who did that report ?

Karen Palumbo, Sprague Street stated that under the Chairmanship of Chuck Dello Iaconno the board, made a decision to lease this property which was a change toward

Would you want to live where we do as abutters and neighbors?

J. Maher stated no

T. Donahue stated no

J. Briggs probably not, I would want to spend time in your backyard experience the soot on the windows and what you are experiencing, but no

C. Dello Iaconno stated that he lived through the Middle School construction and that they have over 1,000 feet of buffer zone and he had only 300 feet,

L. Moran if I was right on Sprague Street no wouldn't want to live there, Crane street where my parents live, I have no problem

K. Palumbo stated that it seems that some legal mistakes were made by the Commissioner, Federal, State and local permits were not filed, wetlands were not considered, air and noise pollution was not considered traffic not considered, the towns financial protocols were not followed and these monies have been removed from your revolving fund to the towns general fund

In regard to the bidding process were all laws followed?

J. Briggs stated that there was no bidding process, all laws were followed

K. Palumbo asked, Did any of you on this Board check to see if this land is protected from Industrial work under Article 97 of the Mass State Constitution?

J. Briggs it is in a commercial zoned area so the assumption was that it was allowed

K. Palumbo asked, did any Commissioners check the contracts to see if any harmful materials were in the road waste?

J. Briggs answered that MWRA has to check soil samples and so sub-contractors do as well

K. Palumbo asked if the board had those tests?

J. Flanagan through the Chair answered yes

K. Palumbo asked that they be given those test results

j. Flanagan stated he will check with Council tomorrow

K. Palumbo stated as an asthma sufferer she is basically a prisoner in her home, hasn't been able to open her windows in three weeks, can't work in her garden. What are the health implications to grinding up asphalt and it traveling through the air?

Some particles are large enough to see with the human eye, some are 30 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair. If you could envision waking up in the middle of the night and trying to breathe through a straw.

What is being disbursed through the air? Will you ask the Board of Health to study it?

J. Flanagan stated no air quality tests have been done

K. Palumbo begged that the Board have them done, she asked what the Commissioners plan was to assist residents who's health issues are exasperated due to this industrial work and expenses spent due to having to have homes professionally cleaned

J. Briggs are you asking what you want us to do to clean your home?

K. Paulumbo I'm asking your plan

J. Briggs stated that they will wait until Thursday and see what the Con Comm has to say, and we will discuss with the Board of Health we will ask about air quality and grinding and the impacts

K. Palumbo asked about Lack of communication? she stated that DOT has had two meetings in Riverdale, the DPW has a Facebook page to update residents on road closings, but Parks & Recreation decided to allow stone crushing on their land, and the only way we found out about it ws because we started to investigate,

J. Briggs stated that they are trying to put the concerns on the website

K. Palumbo how are you going to communicate in the future?

J. Briggs stated that moving forward they will work on coming up with a notification way to inform residents of issues or situations

David O'Brien, 164 Crane Street asked about contracts after these contracts are up will there be others

J. Briggs stated that we thought we were saving money for the town

C. Dello Iaconno stated if we develop the land there will be work there

D. O'Brien asked if more trees would come down.

J. Briggs answered no more trees will come down

Dave Anastasia, 38 Poplar asked how it got to the Parks & Recreation, having it be a construction zone/

C. Dello Iaconno answered that originally the MWRA wanted to do this processing on the front lawn of the Endicott Estate, we thought it a more of a remote area than the Endicott Estate, we didn't realize the volume of the work that would be done

D. Anastasia would like the work stopped all together

Gentleman in audience said stop using the term good guys

Kevin Nangle, 7 Capen Lane direct abutter, stated the Parks & Recreation dept. leased out the land without doing their homework, the noise echos throughout the neighborhood saying that mistakes were made along the way doesn't make sense, I have been involved with this Manor Fields and it has been shady from the get go, I think when they saw the opportunity to start clearing the land they took it.

J. Briggs stated that was Mr Nagle's opinion and not the case at all, furthest from the truth in fact

K. Nangle stated that there were some pretty shady characters on the board

C. Dello Iaconno asked Mr Nangle if that was his intent when he cleared land to expand his land?

K. Nangle answered he did know what he was talking about

J. Maher stated there was a scoping committee and Pat MacQuire stated that that fill was not adequate for playground

K. Nangle stated it was a good start to the footprint of clearing the Manor Fields area

J. Maher stated that he was the only Commissioner who voted No to having the contractors there.

K. Nangle said that it needs to be fixed

Elizabeth Gustin, from Riverdale stated she doesn't think this board has the right to do a licensure,

J. Briggs stated that according to Town Council we do

Jean Zelliher asked how this came up? Was there consulting with Town Council?

J. Briggs stated that Mr Flanagan asked if they could stage for Giosi and then RJV that were doing work for the MWRA project, there was no consult with Town Council

K. Palumbo asked why MWRA didn't use Fed Corp?

J. Briggs answered that he couldn't answer for the sub contractor, they were asked

Joanne Keaveney stated that this is about communications, they would like the minutes so they can take healthy responsibility, you work for us, don't forget that. Activatus

Gustav Burkett, Cherry Lane, it isn't about appeasing the neighbors, it is about doing what's right.

J. Briggs apologized for the wording

Kerry Hawkins lives on Sprague Street heard she that there weren't supposed to be on Sprague Street before 6am and after 8pm, and I have heard it's against the law.

C. Dello Iaconno town of Milton has a truck ban and we can't control what trucks go from Boston onto Sprague Street

I just purchased a home on Crane Street, please have a better

Steve Davey, asked to communicate to the whole town

Jonathan Pape, I can't make that meeting, can you commit to sharing your findings on Thursday night?

J. Briggs stated that yes they will share information and put on website

Micah \_\_\_\_, typically what usually happens in these cases in the future could you share in the future

J. Briggs this project could be using Central Ave

J. Flanagan explained the history of

D. Anastasia

J. Flanagan stated that

Bob Scheffler asked why neighbors on Walnut Street got to say no why couldn't we

J. Briggs answered it was the Endicott Estate Commission

E. Gustin stated she spoke to the MWRA today that it is an issue throughout the state, maybe we should think of another issue

R. LoPorto, Crane St. asked neighbors to raise their hands, per the state of Massachusetts we know this is a construction zone we need to get permits. So per the deed Article 18, can you use this as a construction zone?

J. Maher stated it was a pure sand pit and a gravel yard that was closed up.

R. LoPorto stated that since this is supposed to be used for recreation, not industrial. Who is paying for this,

J. Briggs stated that Joe Flanagan is paying for it

R. LoPorto asked is the vehicles were being washed when entering and exiting the site, as suggested by Bill Gorman last week?

B. Gorman stated he did not suggest washing the vehicles

R. LoPorto asked if these contractors are being monitored so as to make sure they are not bringing materials in from other projects, savings them hundreds of thousands of dollars.

J. Flanagan stated that they monitor the contractors,

R. LoPorto asked why there isn't a 6 foot fence there like there is one on a house build on East Street?

T. Donahue answered that OSHA standards require a fence if a trench or foundation is dug.

R. LoPorto asked if a fence was put up around the area, would it be at our cost

J. Flanagan answered it would be at the contractors cost

R. LoPorto asked when the permits would approved?

J. Briggs answered that they have already

S. Davey stated he drove by last night and the gate was open

J. Flanagan stated he left the gate open, police can now drive in area when gate open

Christine Ryan, Oakdale Avenue have you reviewed the special conditions that are on this expired form and will you reconcile these with what you are doing now

J. Briggs stated no, they will wait to hear from Conservation Commission, that form is from them

C. Ryan stated that she has an old map section that has been clear cut, Transitional Wildlife Forest 2014, talks about wildlife and vegetation, I don't know if you made a wildlife assessment when you clear cut the forest, it's important to know what we did and not do it again

J. Keaveney stated that neighbors have seen doe and coyotes and the area since there is so much noise

J. Maher stated that those assessments were done for the Manor Fields study

R. LoPorto thanked Jon Briggs and Bob and Joe for coming to the meeting

J. Briggs stated he had business card with his email and number and that they would have another meeting, just not sure when it would be,

C. Dello Iaconno made a motion to adjourn, with a second by L. Moran, all voted in favor.

C. Dello Iaconno