

**TOWN OF ARLINGTON**

**Recreation Department**  
Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation



**Recreation Department**

**PARK COMMISSIONERS**

Shirley Canniff  
Leslie Mayer  
Jen Rothenberg  
Phil Lasker  
Scott Walker  
Josh Fenollosa - Associate  
Sarah Carrier- Associate

**MEETING NOTICE**

The Park and Recreation Commission  
Tuesday, April 11, 2023  
7:00 PM

Second Floor Community Center, 27 Maple Street

**AGENDA**

- 1) AHS & Public Art Request Review – Cecily Miller & Rachel Oliveri
- 2) Bench Donation Request – Open Space Committee Ann LeRoyer – Reservoir
- 3) Approval of Minutes – 2/28/2023
- 4) Capital Project Updates
  - A - Spy and Parmenter Playgrounds
  - B - Robbins Playground Design Process
  - C – Arlington Reservoir Phase II – Complete with punch list in spring
  - D - Stratton, Peirce, Bishop ARPA Project –Complete with punch list in spring
  - E – Hurd Field Project
  - F – Poets Corner Discussion
  - G – Arlington Court Needs Assessment
  - H – FY 2024 CPA Requests – Hills Hill Mountain Biking Project
- 5) Discussion of Town Meeting Warrant Article 12 - Artificial Turf Moratorium
- 6) Town Public Forum on Artificial Turf Fields – May 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 7) Comments and Items for Future Meetings:
- 8) Correspondence Received: N/A
- 9) New Business
- 10) Public Comment

ARLINGTON COMMISSION FOR ARTS AND CULTURE			
REMEMBRANCE OF CLIMATE FUTURES ARLINGTON			
A YOUTH-LED PUBLIC ART PROJECT BY 12 HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS AND TOM STARR			
Marker #	Location	Marker Text	Date
1	Sign pole, in front of Scoop N Scootery, 112 Mass Avenue	Storm waters surge over Amelia Earhart Dam, creating Arlington's first climate refugees.	October 22, 2032
2	Za Restaurant, 138 Mass Avenue, masonry wall to the left of entrance	Arlington Tree Committee plants first of 1,000 trees on Mass Ave to reduce heat island effect.	May 1, 2031
3	Fox Library, masonry wall to the right of entrance on Mass. Ave	Final flat roof along Mass Avenue painted white to decrease urban heat island effect.	October 5, 2041
4	Hardy School - fence along Lake Street	1,500 residents opt up to renewable energy through Arlington Community Electricity.	December 31, 2023
5	Proposed for sign pole, Thorndike Field	Thorndike Park renamed Thorndike Beach at its 150th anniversary floating lantern ceremony	June 20, 2087
6	Proposed for sign pole, Spy Pond Park	First winter without Spy Pond Hard Freeze marks the end of an era and identity for the town.	March 19, 2020
7	Sign pole, in front of Calvary United Methodist Church, 300 Mass Avenue	First Clean Air Shelter opens after death toll rises due to poor air quality.	November 12, 2061
8	Sign pole, in front of Column Health's Certified Wildlife Habitat Landscape, 339 Mass Ave	Native plant initiative transforms 50% of Arlington lawns, increasing biodiversity and oxygen production.	no date, 2043
9	Proposed for fence Spy Pond Park	Floating wetlands installed in Spy Pond to filter water and reduce toxic algae	June 1, 2028
10	Gateway Entrance Sign, Minuteman Bikeway at Swan Place	Minuteman Bikeway closes permanently due to dangerous flooding.	May 17, 2039
11	Light pole at bus stop, in front of Playtime, 283 Broadway	Last gas powered bus retired. Bus service becomes 100% electric.	December 31, 2040
12	Light pole at bus stop, in front of Papa Gino's, 457 Mass Avenue	Public transit becomes free to all, reducing traffic and emissions -	July 4, 2029
13	Light pole, Russell Common Municipal Lot, 78-92 Chestnut St (behind Mass Ave in Arlington Center)	Dangerous temperatures break 100° (15 days) and 105° (7 days) setting new record.	Summer, 2048
14	Light pole, Mass Ave in front of Town Hall	Arlington holds its first ever zero waste Town Day	September 13, 2025
15	Light pole, Mass Ave in front of Town Hall	90% of homes & businesses now use 100% renewable energy	December 31, 2032
16	Light pole, Mass Ave in front of Town Hall	Arlington meets its 2050 goal of net zero greenhouse gas emissions from all sources one year early	no date, 2049
17	Proposed for Menotomy Rocks Park	The formerly southern pine beetle kills 50 pine trees in Menotomy Rocks Park.	August, 2047
18	830 Mass Avenue (corner of Newman Way), masonry wall	High school students and artist Sophy Tuttle paint mural to advocate for native plants.	May 15, 2022
19	Light pole, in front of CVS (near AHS), 833 Mass Avenue	Support space opened here to help those struggling with the mental health consequences of climate change.	no date 2027
20	Light pole, Mass. Ave in front of Arlington High School	Student advocacy brings comprehensive climate crisis curriculum to K-12 Arlington Public Schools	no date, 2026
21	Brattle Court Pumping Station, chain link fence (permission request under consideration)	The Brattle Court Pumping Station begins running on electricity solely from renewable sources.	December 6, 2042
22	Chain link fence along the Bikeway bordering DPW facility	Arlington opens first facility to support mandatory composting	March 5, 2034
23	Roasted Granola, 1346 Mass Avenue, masonry wall left of entrance	First Knotweed Café opened here, serving local and safely foraged invasive plants.	June 1, 2035

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**PARK and RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**422 Summer Street**  
**Arlington, Massachusetts 02474**

**Joseph Connelly**  
Director of Recreation

Phone 781-316-3880 Fax 781-641-5495

COMMISSIONERS

Jen Rothenberg

Leslie Mayer

Shirley Canniff

Phil Lasker

Scott Walker

Sara Carrier Scott Lever

GIFTS FOR PARKS FORM

Contact Name: DAVID MORAN Date of Request: 02.08.23

Organization: Town of Arlington

Private or Non-Profit Group(501 c3): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 730 Mass. Ave.

Phone: Home 781-316-3012 Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email: dmoran@town.arlington.ma.us

Intended Gift (please select one):

Park Bench

Picnic Table

Bike Rack

Planting/Tree

Donation Costs: (Actual equipment + installation fee + estimate of maintenance over 8 years)

Park Bench \$ 3000.00 (installation & maintenance for 8 years)

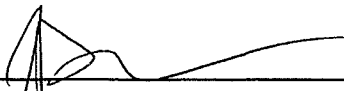
Picnic Table \$ 4000.00 (installation & maintenance for 8 years)

Bike Rack \$ 3000.00 (installation & maintenance for 8 years)

Park Requested: Arlington Reservoir - see attached requested location

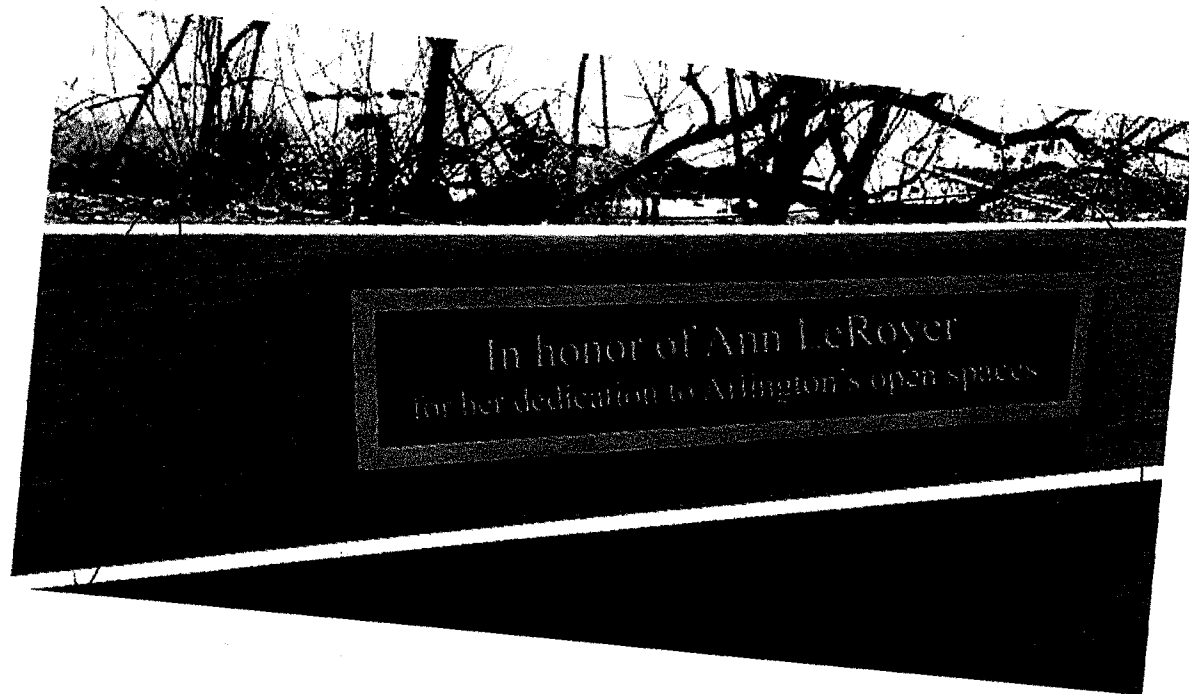
Recognition Plaque Text (see attached policy details for specifics):

In honor of Ann LeRoy  
for her dedication to Arlington's open spaces

  
Signature

02.08.23

Date



In honor of Ann LeRoy  
for her dedication to Arlington's open spaces

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## ARLINGTON PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINTUES

February 28, 2023

The Town of Arlington Park and Recreation Commission came to order for its online virtual meeting via Zoom on Tuesday February 28, 2023 at 7:00pm.

**Commission Members:** Leslie Mayer, Shirley Canniff, Phil Lasker, Jen Rothenberg, and Josh Fenollosa. Phil Lasker and Sarah Carrier were not in attendance. Recreation Director Joe Connelly and Captain Richard Flynn were also present.

**Anticipated Speakers :** N/A

**Preliminary Matter:** Phil Lasker, Park & Recreation Commission chair, took formal attendance via a roll call and read a statement pertaining to Governor Baker's Public Meeting Law change due to COVID-19 regarding virtual meetings. Meeting business ground rules and procedures were also covered by Mr. Lasker.

### Special Event Request – Reservoir Path – 6/10/23 – Joyce Murphy

Mr. Connelly briefly reviewed the request by Ms. Murphy for the Alzheimer's walk around the reservoir beach on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. The event is sponsored by a Lexington based organization. Ms. Murphy reviewed the request and reason for requesting the location. The Commission and Ms. Murphy discussed the event.

Ms. Mayer motioned to approve the request with the following conditions, seconded by Ms. Rothenberg and approved 4-0.

1. Dogs must be on leash at all times and the event must advertise that fact
2. Trash In and Trash Out
3. Registration and Snacks to occur in grass area beyond vehicular access gate to left of boat ramp.
4. A food license is obtained through Arlington BOH

### Off Leash Dog Program Review

Mr. Connelly and Mr. Lasker reviewed the reason for the Park Commission discussion regarding the off leash dog program and set some meeting parameters:

- 1 – General Review
- 2 –No major changes will be made without a greater public process
- 3- Start of a longer discussion and process
- 4 – Cannot change the town bylaw

Captain Flynn gave a brief overview of the program from an APD perspective and updated the commission as to the process for filling the vacant ACO position.

The Commission asked Captain Flynn and Mr. Connelly where the trouble areas seem to be:

- Menotomy Rocks Park
- McClennen Park
- Thorndike
- Spy
- Leashing dogs when DPW in the park an issue at each park



Mr. Connelly reviewed the importance of self-policing which was so successful when the off leash program was first implemented. Ms. Rothenberg suggested reaching out to the Friends of Parks for liaisons to assist in spreading the word on the program rules and assist in organizing the self-policing efforts. Mr. Connelly will bring this up at the next Friends of Parks meeting.

The Commission discussed the impacts of the pandemic on the current dog issues.

The Commission brainstormed ways to get the word out including:

- Education and sign off while registering dogs
- Signage
- ACO Meet and Greet
- Information during annual clean-ups and other public events

**Approval of Minutes:** 1/24/2023

Ms. Rothenberg motioned to approve the minutes of February 14, 2023, as amended, seconded by Ms. Mayer. Approved 3-0-1 by roll call vote.

Ms. Rothenberg – Yes

Ms. Mayer – Yes

Ms. Canniff – Yes

Mr. Lasker – Abstain

**Comments and Items for Future Meetings:**

- a) AHS & Public Art Request Review – Proposed meeting 3/28 to discuss locations and alternative signs.

**Correspondence Received:** Were reviewed by the Commission

**New Business:** N/A

**Open Forum – Public Comment:** Public Comment was as followed pertaining to the Off Leash Dog Program Review

Liz Reisberg – What are other towns doing?

- Ms. Mayer - The density and land distribution make each town unique

Christina Waxlax – Afternoon hours should be a consideration

- Mr. Connelly reviewed the process for changing/amending the bylaw

Marie Meteer – Few problems, let's hear positive voices, parks for everyone including dog owners

Eve Evan – Menotomy is a positive place, discussion should take place in a larger public forum, afternoon hour consideration

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Johanna Meyers – Thanked Commission for positive discussion, a second dog park or area to allow off leash additional hours, dog licensing time for education

Michele Meagher – Additional locations and hours, don't let a few bad actors ruin the program, agreed liaisons a good idea

Hazel Davis – Covid changed working hours as well which could impact usage, reservoir construction changed people's location, education is necessary

Kate Woll – Menotomy community having active conversations, park shared by entire town, would consider being liaison, ACO meet and greet great idea

Andrew Lane – Support continued use at Menotomy, parks shared by entire community, support ideas mentioned previously

Ville Lehtenon – Support use at Menotomy

Mr. Connelly summarized the action steps moving forward.

- Education and sign off while registering dogs
- Signage
- ACO Meet and Greets
- Information during annual clean-ups and other public events
- Setting up a wider public forum once new ACO in place

Ms. Rothenberg motioned to adjourn at 8:51pm, seconded by Ms. Canniff. Approved 4-0 by roll call vote.

- Ms. Rothenberg – Yes
- Ms. Mayer – Yes
- Ms. Canniff – Yes
- Mr. Lasker - Yes

The Arlington Park & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes were respectfully submitted by Joseph Connelly

CC, including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto; or take any other action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager and Clean Energy Future Committee)

**ARTICLE 11 VOTE/ESTABLISHMENT OF CIVIC PARTICIPATION STUDY GROUP**

To see if the Town will vote to establish a study group to evaluation current civic participation practices in Arlington, best practices in other communities, and findings of the Community Equity Audit, and to develop strategies that will remove barriers and encourage residents to volunteer and/or run for elected office. The goal of this study group would be to make recommendations to the Select Board, Town Manager, Town Meeting, Town Appointing bodies and the School Committee on topics that include, but are not limited to:

- Existing barriers to civic engagement;
- Volunteer/candidate development, including recruitment, training, and retention;
- Standardized recruitment and appointment practices that prioritize diversity and inclusion;
- The pros and cons of term limits;
- Best practices for advertising open positions;
- Specific policy and bylaw changes needed to achieve and identified improvements

at the next Annual Town Meeting; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Elizabeth Dray and ten registered voters)

**ARTICLE 12 VOTE/THREE-YEAR MORATORIUM ON THE INSTALLATION OF ARTIFICIAL TURF ON TOWN LAND**

To see if the Town will vote to adopt a moratorium by bylaw or otherwise, on the construction or installation of any artificial or synthetic turf on any land owned by the Town for a three-year period beginning on May 1, 2023 and ending on May 1, 2026 to allow futher study of the cost effectiveness, safety, environmental impact; and further to establish a study group to conduct such study, and set forth the membership of same; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Beth Melofchik and ten registered voters)

**ARTICLE 13 VOTE/APPOINTED TOWN CLERK**

To see if the Town will vote to convert the office of Town Clerk from an elected to an appointed position through ballot question or referendum pursuant G.L. c. 41 §1B, home rule legislation, or other suitable method; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of the Town Manager)

**ARTICLE 14 VOTE/STRATEGIC PLAN FOR NEW GROWTH**

To see if the Town will vote to create a study group, composed of staff and other appointed residents, for the purposes of developing a strategic plan to increase new growth; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Lenard Diggins and ten registered voters)

**ARTICLE 15 VOTE/BOARD OF YOUTH SERVICES UPDATES**

To see if the Town will vote to amend or disband the Board of Youth Services' organization, name, mission, and terms, including, but not limited to, changing its name, removing residency restrictions for members and updating board operations; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Board of Youth Services)