

TOWN OF MENDON
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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2015 ANNUAL REPORT

The Parks and Recreation Department had a very successful 2015 season. The parks, playground and sports fields are constantly in use and the town beach was packed all summer long. As always the Parks Commission remains focused on maintaining and improving our existing parks facilities in addition to seeking new opportunities for recreation in Mendon.

This year also brought some changes and improvements to the Department. The Parks Offices were relocated to the 3rd floor of Town Hall following a renovation of the basement. Several new additions to our facilities as well as repairs to existing facilities were completed. We have continued our great partnership with the local athletic groups who share our fields and worked together to improve our parks.

The annual election in May saw the election of a new member to the Parks Commission, Thomas Belland, to fill the open seat left by long term member Joe Flaherty.

The Mendon Parks Commission would like to thank Joe Flaherty for his 15 years of service to the Parks Department. His 15 year tenure oversaw the creation of 4 new ball fields, a playground reconstruction, the creation of our Recreation Program, and many more successful projects. The Parks Commission wishes him all the best on his future endeavors.

As always the Parks Department would like to thank Alan Tetreault and the Highway Department for their continued help and support.

**To keep up to date with activities and events offered by
the Parks & Recreation Dept. please visit us online:**

www.mendonma.gov/parks

The Parks Department would like to thank all of our employees for the 2015 season:

Parks & Recreation Director – Dan Byer

Lifeguards – Sam Morin, Carly Thibodeau, Julie Cavanaugh, Jen Morin, Josh Stiles, Noah Puchovski, Chenoa TracyStone, Joseph Roberto, Zack Tamagni, Garret Roy, and Olivia Scott

Snack Shack Staff – David Byer and Stephanie Morrison

Recreation Director – Alan DeAngelis

Recreation Staff – Jackie Welch and Katherine Machione

Maintenance Supervisor – Erich Slagal

Maintenance Crew – Andrew Calzone, Scott Flaherty, Tyler Cameron, and James Perro

Projects Completed in 2015:

Grady T-Ball Field Dedication:

The Mendon Parks Commission was honored to dedicate the T-Ball field adjacent to the Tennis Courts as Grady Field in honor of the Grady family's many contributions to recreation in the Town of Mendon. At a ceremony on opening day on April 25th, 2015 the Commission presented the Grady family with the following citation:

Proclamation to name Grady Field:

WHEREAS,

the Grady family has been involved in Mendon's Baseball and Softball programs since 1963.

WHEREAS,

members of the Grady family have contributed over 60 years of coaching to Mendon's youth.

WHEREAS,

the Grady family has contributed greatly to the success of Mendon's Baseball and Softball programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE the Board of Parks Commissioners of the Town of Mendon,

Massachusetts, do hereby declare the T-Ball Field located at Memorial Park shall now be known as Grady Field from this date onwards, April 25th, 2015.

Memorial Park Tennis Court Renovation Projects:

Work has continued on the Tennis Court renovations. In the fall of 2015, two requests for proposals were issued for the court surface and fencing. The contract for the Tennis Court surface was awarded to Sport Court New England (Court Builders of America) for \$75,000 and the contract for the fence was awarded to Mr. Fence for \$13,987.14.

Surface prep work was completed in October of 2015 in preparation for installing the finished court surface in the spring of 2016. The renovation and repairs to the fence were completed in December of 2015.

We hope to have the courts open to the public in the early summer of 2016.

Mendon Parks would like to thank the residents of Mendon for their support of this project through Community Preservation Funds (\$38,350) as well as the Massachusetts Parkland Acquisition and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant program administrated through the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for their \$50,000 grant.

Projects Completed in 2015 (continued):

Eagle Projects:

This year we are excited to announce the completion of two Eagle Scout Projects at our parks.

- Eagle Scout Conor Sweet completed a Volleyball Court at Memorial Park.
- Eagle Scout Matt O'Brien rebuilt the guardrail surrounding the Basketball Courts.

The Parks Commission would like to thank these two Eagle Scouts for their work to improve our Parks and expand the recreational offerings to the Residents of Mendon.

Lowell Softball Field Improvements and New Softball T-Ball Field:

The Nipmuc Youth Softball (NYS) program constructed a new T-Ball field adjacent to the existing Lowell Softball Field. This \$7,000 project was funded through the NYS program and over \$4,000 worth of donations from league parents. The new field will provide increased opportunities to the many children participating in the softball programs as well as expand the capacity of our facilities.

In addition NYS took on a massive overhaul of the Lowell Softball Field. This project included excavating and leveling the infield area, replacing the infield material with a high quality clay material for better drainage, replacing all bases and mounds, repairs to the outfield, and correcting a safety issue with the backstop. This \$16,000 project was also funded entirely by the NYS program.

Finally, through the assistance of Community Preservation funding and the residents of Mendon, the Parks Dept installed a new water line with a hose spigot to service Lowell Field. This will ensure the new infield materials provide many more years of quality games.

Tetreault Field Improvements:

Mendon Senior Baseball, Whitinsville Christian Schools, and the Mendon Parks Commission continued to make improvements to Tetreault Field. In the late fall of 2015 a Home Run Fence was installed with the assistance of a \$4,300 donation from Imperial Cars. In addition, work was started on a drainage project to improve the playability of the field. At the November 17th, 2015 Special Town Meeting, \$5,000 in Community Preservation Funding was approved to create engineering drawings for a drainage system. Plans to aerate, top-dress, and re-seed the outfield are also in the works for 2016.

Online Registrations and Payments:

Starting in January of 2015 the Department began offering online registrations and payments for Parks programming. In addition, credit cards were accepted at the Beach and Rec Program for the first time. Over 60% of our swim lesson registrations were done online, along with many other program registrations.

2015 Parks Department Program Updates:

Field and Facility Use:

Memorial Park, Veteran’s Park, Clough Elementary School Field, and Grover Field were all filled to capacity with various events and sports programs over the course of the season. The Parks Dept. received and approved 27 requests for facility use. 1,400 children of all ages participated in the many recreation offerings through the many athletic associations and leagues who call Mendon home. Our facilities were host to more than 1,000 games in the 2015 season.

Again, the Scout Pavilion was very popular this year. There were 7 permits issued for events in addition to the frequent use by the general public. This summer the Pavilion was also used daily by the Kids ‘N’ Us Summer Rec program for lunch.

Thanks to a grant from the Mendon Cultural Council the Blackstone Valley Community Concert Band was able to perform at the Pavilion on July 7th 2015 for the 4th year in a row.

Mendon Parks would like to thank all the sports organizations (Baseball, Softball, Soccer, Basketball, and more!) who went above and beyond in their efforts to maintain and improve our parks.

FY2015 Facility Use P&L	
Permits Issued	27
FY15 Income	\$3,400.00
FY15 Expenses	\$6,258.02
FY15 Profit	\$(2,858.02)

Fitness Programming:

The Parks Dept. has continued to offer Zumba classes on Monday and Wednesday nights taught by certified Zumba instructor, Deb Fowler-Clare. This year also saw the addition of a new class, Barre Fit on Wednesday nights with great success. This year we held 7 sessions of classes serving approximately 100 students from Mendon and the surrounding communities.

The Department also offered Yoga classes in the spring of 2015. Unfortunately there was not enough interest to continue a second session.

2015 Zumba P&L*	
Class Enrollment	113
Income	\$6,185.00
Instructor Fees	\$4,020.25
Profit	\$2,164.75

2015 Yoga P&L*	
Class Enrollment	9
Income	\$599
Instructor Fees	\$500
Profit	\$99

The Parks Dept. will continue to explore offering additional fitness classes in the future.

More information on these classes along with online registrations can be found at mendonma.gov/parks-fitness

**Please note: these figures are based on the 2015 calendar season (1/1/15 – 12/31/15) and not the 2015 Fiscal Year (7/1/14 – 6/30/15).*

2015 Parks Department Program Updates (continued):

Kids ‘N Us Summer Recreation Program:

The Kids ‘N’ Us Rec Program had a very successful summer. This year saw some of the highest enrollment numbers since 2005 with over 100 children registered. We took several exiting field trips visiting the EcoTarium, Regal Cinemas, John Smith Soccer Center, Southwick’s Zoo, and Honey Pot Hill Orchards. The program ran for 10 weeks, providing daily activities including swimming, games, arts & crafts and more.

2015 Summer Recreation Program P&L*	
Participants	110 kids
Income	\$42,987.50
Payroll	\$14,832.77
Expenses	\$3,468.71
Profit	\$24,686.02

Mendon Town Beach:

The town beach opened full time for the season on June 20th and remained open daily 12pm-7pm until August 28th serving over 1,700 patrons. Admissions were \$2/person for Mendon and Uxbridge residents, \$3/person for non-residents, and free for children 2 & under, and seniors 65 & over. Season passes were \$50 for residents and \$125 for non-residents.

Unfortunately this summer there were several issues with water quality, forcing the closure of the beach. The Parks Department will continue to work closely with the Board of Health to ensure the facilities remain safe and to ensure compliance with Title V Septic Requirements for all properties on and around the lake.

2015 Beach Usage*	
Season Length	69 days
Mendon Residents	680
Non-Residents	591
Season Pass & Free*	438
<small>*ages 2 & under / 60+</small>	(14 passes sold)
Total Usage	1,709
2015 Beach P&L*	
Admissions	\$3,133.00
Passes	\$1,150.00
Lessons	\$3,579.75
Total Income	\$7,862.75
Guard Payroll	\$9,825.75
Profit	\$(1,963.00)

Again, this summer the Town Beach hosted two free concerts sponsored by ABMI Cable 8. “Southern Rail” on Aug. 5th and “Brass Connection” on Aug 12th. For the third year in a row, we obtained a one-day liquor license to sell beer and wine at these concerts.

Thanks again to the entire crew at ABMI Cable 8 for sponsoring these concerts!

**Please note: these figures are based on the 2015 calendar season (1/1/15 – 12/31/15) and not the 2015 Fiscal Year (7/1/14 – 6/30/15).*

2015 Parks Department Program Updates (continued):

Snack Shack:

The Snack Shack was also open daily, 12-7pm. They served up a variety of refreshments including 407 burgers, 294 dogs, 176 orders of fries, and 1,756 slushies and ice cream treats!

2015 Snack Shack P&L*	
Income	\$8,297.41
Payroll	\$4,931.25
Expenses	\$3,314.32
Profit	\$51.41

Swimming Lessons:

This year our swim lesson program saw a 241% increase (70 students vs last year's 29). This increase was due to an agreement worked out with Pout Pond in Uxbridge to take over their lesson program. In exchange Mendon offered Uxbridge residents the same discounted "Resident" price as Mendon residents.

2015 Lesson Enrollment*	
Mendon Residents	24
Uxbridge Residents	23
Non-Residents	18
Total	65
2015 Lessons P&L*	
Income	\$4,119.50
Payroll	\$1,192.50
Profit	\$2,927.00

**Please note: these figures are based on the 2015 calendar season (1/1/15 – 12/31/15)
and not the 2015 Fiscal Year (7/1/14 – 6/30/15).*

2015 Parks Department Finance Report:

Financial Statement for the Parks Dept Revolving Acct (M.G.L. Ch. 44 §53D)
and the Mendon Town Beach Accounts for
Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1st, 2014 – June 30th, 2015)

Parks Revolving Account FY15 P&L	
Opening Balance	\$8,462.62
Income	
Kids 'N' Us Rec Program	\$ 18,858.00
Snack Shack	\$ 3,405.00
Zumba	\$ 5,755.00
Field Use Fees	\$ 3,400.00
Total Income	\$ 31,418.00
Payroll	
Kids 'N' Us Rec. Prog. Salaries	\$ 11,498.78
Snack Shack Salary	\$ 3,519.72
Zumba Instructor Fees	\$ 3,606.45
Total Payroll	\$18,624.95
Expenses	
Kids 'N' Us Rec. Prog.	\$ 1,381.03
Snack Shack Food	\$ 3,327.97
Field Maintenance	\$ 6,258.02
Other Expenses *	\$ 1,430.40
(*equipment/vehicle repairs & maintenance, beach supplies/maintenance, advertising, insurance)	
Total Expenses	\$ 12,397.42
Closing Balance	\$ 8,858.25
FY15 Revolving Profit/Loss	\$ 395.63

Town Beach FY15 P&L	
Income	
Beach Admissions	\$ 2,651.00
Beach Season Passes	\$ 1,000.00
Swim Lesson Fees	\$ 5,557.75
Total Income	\$ 9,208.75
Lifeguard Payroll	\$9,632.54
Profit/Loss	\$ (423.79)

Respectfully Submitted,

Mendon Board of Parks Commissioners:

AJ Byrne, *Chairman*

Dan Byer

Thomas Belland