



ARLINGTON PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION
17 Irving Street
Arlington, Massachusetts 02476

Natasha Waden
Director of Recreation & Community Services

Telephone:
781-316-3880

COMMISSIONERS

Jen Rothenberg Leslie Mayer Shirley Canniff Phil Lasker Scott Walker Josh Fenollosa

MEETING NOTICE

The Park and Recreation Commission
Tuesday, November 4, 2025
7:00 PM – Arlington Recreation, 17 Irving Street
4th Floor Main Hall

AGENDA

- 1) Acceptance of Meeting Minutes October 28, 2025
- 2) Special Events/Requests
 - a) Ed Burns Arena parking lot/grassy area- Beer and Food Event- Arlington Hockey Club Winter Classic
- 3) Discussions
 - a) Pickleball noise complaint
 - b) Lesley Ellis- Use of Recreational space
 - c) Invasive Removal Form/Application
- 4) Capital Plan Updates
 - a) Menotomy Rocks Park
 - b) Crosby Court Design
 - c) FY27 CPA Application
- 5) Director Updates
 - a) Department updates
 - b) Staff updates
 - c) Program updates
 - d) Field/playground updates
- 6) Correspondence Received
 - a) Poets Corner
 - b) Parallel Park Fence
 - c) Grove Street Court Concerns
- 7) Comments/Items for Future Meetings:
 - a) Review of Commission Charter

- b) Special Event policies
- c) Adoption of Donation policy

8) New Business

9) Public Comment

NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENT

For members of the public who wish to address the Committee, there will be 20 minutes of public comment. Members of the public must sign up prior to the start of the public comment period. A sign-up sheet will be provided at the meeting. Depending on the number of people who sign up, time allotments may be reduced but will not exceed three minutes each. Based on the number of speakers and allotted time, the number of speakers may be capped or speaking time may be reduced at the discretion of the Chair.

Re: [External] Re: Poets Corner Update Please

From Tricia Flanagan <TFlanagan@iansresearch.com>
Date Tue 10/28/2025 9:46 AM
To Natasha Waden <nwaden@town.arlington.ma.us>

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hi Natasha,

Thank you for the response. This is extremely disappointing as I have noted before, Poets Corner has been in poor if not awful condition for at least 25 years. Every time I ask about the park, I get a response that money has been allocated for the next 5 years and then nothing happens. We continue to see so many other parks updated not only once but a number of times during this 25-year period.

I do understand there are extended issues with this park but the lack of effort has been extremely frustrating for those that live in the area. What can I do to make sure that it gets in the FY28 plan? This lack of upkeep to this park has been dangerous for children in the area and also affects our property values.

Please let me know what you suggest are the next steps to ensure this park gets into that plan.

Thank you,

Tricia

Tricia Flanagan

Director of Client Services

www.iansresearch.com

p: 617.417.5251

e: tflanagan@iansresearch.com



From: Natasha Waden <nwaden@town.arlington.ma.us>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 6:55 PM
To: Tricia Flanagan <TFlanagan@iansresearch.com>
Subject: Re: [External] Re: Poets Corner Update Please

Hi Tricia,

There are currently no plans being discussed for Poets at this time. That being said, there is mention of incorporating it into the FY28 plans to potentially look at the field and playground renovations. I will say that our capital plans to ebb and flow from year to year, but the Commission does seem interested in exploring the options available at Poets as the field is in poor condition and has been on their radar for some time now.

Best,

Natasha

Natasha Waden, MPA
Director of Recreation
Town of Arlington
17 Irving Street
Arlington, MA 02476
nwaden@town.arlington.ma.us
781-316-3880

From: Tricia Flanagan <TFlanagan@iansresearch.com>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 5:22 PM
To: Natasha Waden <nwaden@town.arlington.ma.us>
Subject: Re: [External] Re: Poets Corner Update Please

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Hi Natasha,

I was not able to come to the meeting you indicated that Poets Corner next step would be discussed. Can you provide any insight on what was determined.

The Poets Corner Community and I would love an update.

Thank you,

Tricia

Tricia Flanagan
Director of Client Services
www.iansresearch.com
p: 617.417.5251
e: tflanagan@iansresearch.com



Re: Parallel Park fence

From Natasha Waden <nwaden@town.arlington.ma.us>

Date Thu 10/30/2025 3:23 PM

To Jim Feeney <jfeeney@town.arlington.ma.us>; Christa Kelleher <christakel@verizon.net>

Cc Patrick Hanlon <patrick.m.hanlon@gmail.com>; Catherine Farrell <clf_scw@hotmail.com>

Good Afternoon Christa,

Thank you so much for your inquiry. I will pass your comments on to the Park and Rec Commission. I think I speak for the Commission when I say that they too were disappointed that the fence was unable to be incorporated as part of the renovation. A recent estimate for the replacement of the fence was \$42,000.00. Unfortunately, when this project went out to bid it came back over the amount we had requested for this project. As such we had to find additional money to move this project forward, so there is no additional money that can be allocated to the fence at this time. I do not know when additional funding will become available, but I will relay your concern to the Commission for further consideration.

Best,

Natasha

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From: Christa Kelleher <christakel@verizon.net>

Sent: Friday, October 24, 2025 9:50 AM

To: Natasha Waden <nwaden@town.arlington.ma.us>; Jim Feeney <jfeeney@town.arlington.ma.us>

Cc: Patrick Hanlon <patrick.m.hanlon@gmail.com>; Catherine Farrell <clf_scw@hotmail.com>

Subject: Parallel Park fence

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Good morning!

As someone who lives and enjoys Parallel Park--even as my kiddos are no longer little kids--I have been looking forward to the renovated park with one of the most important upgrades being the green border fence surrounding the park. I just learned that the black fence will be installed only at the park entrance.

I'm sure costs have gone up since the project was put out to bid but am very disheartened to learn that this beautiful new park will not be surrounded by a new black fence. This isn't what I saw in the design plan.

Is there a plan for replacement of the current fence? The fence is chipping, twisted, and poky in places. Has it been deemed safe? I assume there's no lead concern with the current fence but wanted to check.

Is there a way to find funding for replacement fencing by adjusting plans for another project which could still go forward with a modification for cost savings to ensure Parallel has a new fence?

Many thanks in advance,

Christa Kelleher

153 Medford Street

TMM precinct 5-until 4/2026 as 11pm end for Town Meeting is simply too late!

ave New Message Add Forward Print Print Attachments Tools Return

Recreation Facility Concern Details

* Select Recreation Facility: ▼

* Provide details here:

Is this request COVID-19 related?

Message History

Date

On 10/27/2025 7:51:55 PM, System Generated Message to (wellingtoncourts@arlington.com):

Body:

Thank you. Your request has been submitted to the Arlington Recreation Department. You will receive a response, in most cases, within one business day.

10/27/2025 7:51:54 PM
Recreation Facility Concern
Reservoir Beach

Dear Arlington Recreation Department, Request: Implement Scheduled Open Play Hours for Grove Street Pickleball Courts The Grove Street tennis and pickleball courts serve as a vital resource for Arlington's growing pickleball community. However, access to these courts has become increasingly limited for many residents due to the current reservation system. Current Problem: The same individuals reserve the courts during prime evening hours (after-work times) every night, effectively blocking access for working residents who cannot play during daytime hours. This monopolization of the reservation system prevents fair access to what should be a shared community resource. Proposed Solution: We request that Arlington adopt a scheduled open play model similar to neighboring towns. For example, Bedford designates specific evenings by skill level: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: Open play for friendly beginner to intermediate players (2.75-3.5) Tuesday, Thursday: Competitive play (3.5-5.0) By posting these schedules through the town rather than allowing individual reservations during these times, no single person or group can monopolize court access. Why This Matters: Grove Street is the only court in Arlington with pickleball-height nets. Tennis-height nets eliminate "dinking"—a fundamental aspect of pickleball—making effective play impossible elsewhere. With demand for pickleball continuing year-round (even through winter), equitable access to this singular facility is essential. Requested Action: Please eliminate individual reservations during designated evening hours and instead post scheduled open play times by skill level on the Playtime Scheduler, similar to the system used in Bedford and other nearby communities. Thank you for considering this request to ensure fair access for all Arlington residents.

Do NOT respond to this email. It is for informational purposes only.

Track the issue status and respond at: https://arlingtonma.mycusthelp.com/WEBAPP/_rs/RequestEdit.aspx?rid=183022