

City of Revere, Massachusetts



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Michelle Kelley

Councillor-at-Large

Office of the City Council

To: The President and Members of the Revere City Council
From: City Councillor Michelle Kelley, Chairwoman
Committee on Parks & Recreation
Subj: Committee Meeting
Date: November 26, 2024

Please be advised that the Parks & Recreation Sub-Committee will hold a meeting on **Monday evening, December 2, 2024 at 5:30PM** in the City Councillor Joseph A. DelGrosso City Council Chamber, Revere City Hall, 281 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151 for the purpose of discussing the following Council Order(s):

24-139 Motion presented by Councillors Jaramillo and Argenzio: That the City Council order to a public hearing to the following ordinance for the purpose of increasing safety by expanding recreational opportunities for young people: An Ordinance Further Amending Chapter 2.57 Parks and Recreation Department of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere.

AN ORDINANCE FURTHER AMENDING CHAPTER 2.57 PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF REVERE.

Be it ordained by the City of Revere, MA as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 2.57 Parks and Recreation Department of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere is hereby amended by deleting Section 2.57.010 in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following new section:

2.57.010 - Responsibility and Definitions

There is created and established in the city the parks and recreation department. The department shall be responsible for and shall promote and carry on recreational activities sponsored or conducted by the city. The parks and recreation department shall be under the general supervision of a director, who shall be appointed by the mayor, subject to the provisions of Chapter 31 of the General Laws.

The following terms are defined for the purposes of this chapter:

- A. "*delegated safety official*" means a firefighter, a member of the public works department, police officer, public health, or other public safety official in the City of Revere to whom the Mayor or the director the power to turn on and off the lights has been delegated
- B. "*director*" means the director of the parks and recreation department of the City of Revere who shall have the general supervision of the department
- C. "*lights schedule*" means a schedule set forth by this chapter for the parks, sports fields and courts throughout the city
- D. "*department*" means the parks and recreation department, referred to in this chapter as the "department."
- E. "*Revere Public Schools*" means any school under the purview of the Revere Public School Department.
- F. "*outdoor space facility*" means any outdoor recreational park, playground, commons, sports court, or sports field that is public property of the city of Revere including but not limited a that certain parcel of land known as Harry Della Russo Stadium.
- G. "*live calendar*" means a calendar that is updated in real time when there is a scheduled activity at a city outdoor space facility.
- H. "*organic play*" means non-scheduled or rented play and access to an outdoor space facility

- I. "special permit" means a permit that circumvents the provisions of this chapter not to be limited to.
- J. "*commercial organization*" means an applicant for a special permit that is a for-profit corporation or a surrogate for a for-profit corporation
- K. "*fee schedule*" means a system of fees for special permits granted to commercial applicants that is tiered for the type of event being held at an outdoor space facility.
- L. "*youth*" means a resident of the city of Revere between the ages of 15 and 36 years of age.
- M. "*regulations*" means regulations set forth by this chapter.

Section 2. Chapter 2.57 Parks and Recreation Department of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere is hereby amended by deleting Section 2.57.030 Director-Appointment in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following new section:

2.57.030 – Director - Powers and duties.

The director of the parks and recreation department shall have full charge of the department and shall be responsible for all recreation programs sponsored or conducted by the city. The director may also have delegated responsibility for all public reservations or outdoor space facilities which are owned or controlled by the city, as of or after the effective date of the ordinance from which this article is derived, and which are or may be used or known as parks, commons or playgrounds. Such delegated responsibility shall be in accordance with Section 2.57.010.

The director shall either themselves, their staff, or a delegated public safety official shut the lights at all the outdoor space facilities in the city, barring a special permit, no earlier than 9pm Monday through Thursday evenings and 10pm on Friday and Saturday evenings and the evening before a holiday and while the Revere Public Schools are not in session for the summer break. Further, the mayor shall delegate the closure of the courts to align with the lights schedule set forth by this chapter to a delegated public safety official and said official shall ensure that there are no people using the outdoor space facility after closure. Further, the department and the director shall create regulations for the rental and scheduling of the outdoor space facilities prioritizing organic play in these public spaces and those regulations shall not be prohibitive in nature and must be constructed in conversations with the commission, youths, the director of diversity, equity and inclusion, and community partners.

These regulations shall include but are not limited to regulations that:

1. Establish a process by which people or entities can apply for a special permit that at the least includes a paper application, and or through an application form accessible to fill out and submit online.
2. Prioritize Revere based residents and non-profit organizations in the special permit process.

3. Establish recurring blackout dates and times for the purposes of prioritizing organic play.
4. Establish a timeline for application and approval of a special permit.
5. Establish a nominal fee schedule for a special permit granted for commercial applicants.

Further, the department shall make publicly available on the city's website, its social media channels, the mayor's newsletter, and or their own website a live calendar of events happening at an outdoor space facility.

Section 3. Chapter 2.57 Parks and Recreation Department of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere is hereby amended by deleting Section 2.57.040 Director – Powers and duties in its entirety.

Section 4. Chapter 2.57 Parks and Recreation Department of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere is hereby amended by deleting Section 2.57.060 Commission-Composition-Terms in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following new section:

2.57.060 Commission—Composition—Terms.

The parks and recreation commission shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the mayor and subject to confirmation by the city council, which shall satisfy the following criteria.

- i. At least one (1) member who is male
- ii. At least one (1) member who is female
- iii. At least one (1) member who is youth
- iv. At least one (1) member from a non-profit organization in the city
- v. At least one (1) member from a commercial organization in Revere or surrounding communities that engages in the recreation of young people in the city of Revere
- vi. At least one (1) member from a labor union that represents the department of public works
- vii. At least one (1) member who is a current member of the Revere City Council appointed through the sole authority of the City Council President.

Section 5. Section 2.57.070 Commission – Powers and duties of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere is hereby amended by inserting the following new sub-section:

- E. The director must present the regulations set forth under this chapter by no later than June 1, 2024 and said regulations must be approved by the commission. Amendments to previously approved regulations under this chapter may only be offered by the director. The commission must approve the regulations set forth by the director no later than September 1, 2024. The regulations will go into effect four (4) months after approval by the commission.

Section 6. Chapter 2.57 Parks and Recreation Department of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Revere is hereby amended by inserting the following new section:

Section 2.57.090 - Fees, logistics, and exemptions.

For the purposes of this chapter the director in their discretion may, in collaboration with a representative from the Revere Public Schools, grant a special permit to the Revere Public Schools for the purposes of scheduling games, practices, or other activities hosted by the Revere Public Schools.

The new regulations must be publicized and easily accessible in the city's website and the department's website.

Any application process, form, communications, and materials prompted by this chapter must be interpreted and translated to any language other than English that is spoken by at least 5% of the Revere Public Schools population or the most up-to-date American Community Survey or United States Census.