



TOWN OF NORWOOD

566 Washington Street
Norwood, MA 02062

REGULATIONS FOR THE USE OF THE NORWOOD TOWN COMMON AND THE WALTER J. DEMPSEY MEMORIAL BANDSTAND

The following rules and regulations have been adopted in accordance with the General By-laws, Article XXXVII, "Rules and Enforcement of Use of the Town Common", to protect and enhance the public convenience and safety, to minimize vandalism and damage to Town facilities, and to optimize the use of the Town Common and its facilities in a manner conducive to the rights of all users.

1. **Permit Required Activities** – Permits are required for any of the following activities:
 - a. Activities by groups of twenty (20) or more, except for Town sponsored activities otherwise approved by the Board of Selectmen.
 - b. Use of the Walter J. Dempsey Memorial Bandstand for weddings, celebrations, concerts, political events, etc.
 - c. Use of the Town Common for passive activities such as art shows, political events, festive and religious celebrations, concerts, placement of display, etc.
 - d. The display, distribution or consumption of prepared foods or beverages, subject to any required permit from the Board of Health. Such food request must be indicated on the submitted application.
 - e. Events sponsored by any commercial organization or company with prior approval by the Board of Selectmen, including any fee that may be imposed per day or per event in accordance with Section 4.f.
2. **Impermissible Activities**
 - a. Possession, destruction, injury, defacement, removal, or disturbance of any structure, sign, equipment, monument, statue, marker, display, animal or plant.
 - b. Except as permitted in connection with an approved event under Section 1.e, the distribution or display of commercial advertising, or soliciting of business, or any other commercial transactions, except in conjunction with an approved Farmers Market and Town sponsored events.
 - c. Standing or loitering on the Town Common after the hour of 10 PM.
 - d. Possession of, or use of, alcoholic beverages, except in conjunction with an approved Farmers Market.
 - e. Unreasonably loud operation of audio devices.
 - f. Carnivals, picnics, birthday parties or similar events, whether sponsored by an individual, group or business organization.
 - g. Begging (private functions).
 - h. Disorderly conduct.
 - i. Gambling of any form.
 - j. Use of roller skates, rollerblades, skateboards, scooters, and bicycles, etc.
 - k. Games that exceed three players.
 - l. The use of any motorized or non-motorized vehicle without prior written approval.

- m. No heavy equipment or trailers of any type, which could cause damage to the grass or walkways, shall be driven or placed upon the Town Common.

3. Permit Process

- a. Applications to conduct permitted activities on the Town Common as listed above, shall be filed on the approved application form, BOS Doc #1, which is available on-line or at the Board of Selectmen's Office, no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the requested date for said use by a Norwood resident, organization/company, or non-profit group.
- b. Applications must be filled out completely in order for the application to be acted upon. Missing information might cause a delay in consideration or a denial of the permit. Late or incomplete applications may be considered at the discretion of the Board of Selectmen.
- c. Submitted applications shall include the following minimum information:
 - i. Name, address, contact number of applicant and e-mail address of applicant. In the case of a group or organization, the name, address, contact number and e-mail address of the responsible contact person.
 - ii. Date or dates and times requested.
 - iii. Estimated number to be in attendance.
 - iv. Nature of the event, i.e., political rally, concert, placement of a display, etc.
 - v. The beginning and end time of the event.
 - vi. Listing of special equipment and facilities to be used; i.e. electrical, etc.
- d. As a condition of issuing the permit, the Board of Selectmen may require the sponsor to pay for detailed police officer(s) as they deem necessary. In the case of activities with a duration of more than one day, this requirement may be imposed at any time it is determined to be necessary by the General Manager without advanced notice to the Sponsor(s).
- e. Permits are issued on the express condition that the Sponsor(s) shall maintain the area and any approved display, in good condition at all times. The Sponsor(s) shall leave the Common and/or Bandstand in substantially the same condition they were in before said event. All rubbish must be removed and properly disposed of by the Sponsor(s). The area must be cleaned and cleared by the Sponsor(s) by the end of the day the permit expires.

4. General Conditions

- a. Permits are non-transferable and are only valid for the date(s), time(s), and activity(ies) specified.
- b. A permit may be revoked by the General Manager, if a sanctioned event engages in activities that are not within the specifications of the permit.
- c. Needs for electricity and lighting must be coordinated by the Sponsor(s) with the Norwood Municipal Light Department, who shall arrange for permitted uses. The Sponsor(s) shall be responsible for all related costs.
- d. Displays: Request to place a display on the Town Common are limited to an area not to exceed 225 square feet. In the event that additional displays are permitted within the same period, the Town reserves the right to require any display to be placed in a manner as to allow other displays equal visibility, no display shall be placed so as to obscure or interfere with any other display.
- e. Sponsors of a display shall provide, at their own cost, a sign of professional quality with a minimum size of 12 inches by 20 inches clearly identifying the Sponsor(s) of the display and the following message "The Town of Norwood welcomes free expression but does not endorse any particular viewpoint or religious denomination."
- f. The Board of Selectmen may impose a fee for any use of the Town Common or Bandstand.

- g. Amplification of sound from any other audio device requested and allowed may be restricted by the Board of Selectmen. The General Manager or a police officer may restrict the level of amplitude without prior notice during an event, if they deem it is in the public's best interest.
- h. The Norwood Police Department shall be the enforcement agency for any and all portions of these Regulations in accordance with the General Town By-Laws, Article XXXVII.
- i. Violations of these regulations shall be punishable according to the following schedule of penalties: First Offense \$25.00; Second Offense \$50.00; Third Offense \$100.00; Fourth and Subsequent Offenses \$300.00.
- j. All situations not defined in these regulations, or request for exceptions, must be ruled on by the Board of Selectmen.
- k. The Board of Selectmen may, at their discretion, may require a bond, a deposit and/or a liability insurance policy to protect the interests of the Town of Norwood.
- l. The Town, its agents, servants, and employees shall be held free and clear of any and all liability and the person(s) and/or entity(ies) shall indemnify the Town for all cost, expenses and claims made upon it, liability or otherwise.

5. Grounds for Denial of Permit Request

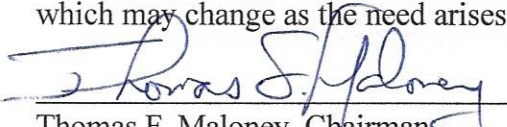
- a. A permit has been or will be issued to another entity for that date and time.
- b. Event is believed to present a risk to the public health or safety, including the availability of Town resources.
- c. Event is such nature or duration that it cannot reasonably be accommodated in the area applied for based on the projected number of attendees.
- d. Event will, in the opinion of the Board of Selectmen, cause unacceptable interference with use and enjoyment of the Town Common by the general public.
- e. Permit is requested for a date(s) that conflicts with official celebrations of the Town.

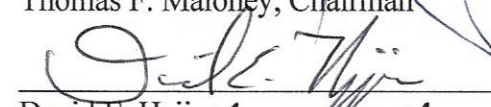
6. Provisions

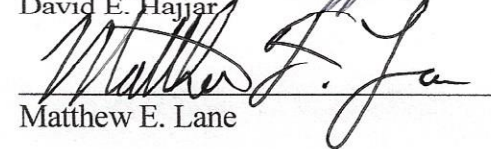
- a. If any part, section, or subdivision of this policy is held to be invalid, unconstitutional, or inoperative as to any particular person(s) or conditions, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions of this policy, which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this policy are declared to be severable.
- b. Any inconsistencies between provisions of these rules & regulations and statutory law shall be resolved in favor of statutory law.
- c. The Board reserves the right, at any time, to modify or amend these rules & regulations or to adopt such other additional provisions as the Board deems necessary.

The Norwood Board of Selectmen:

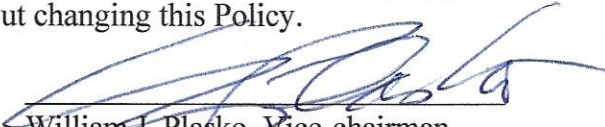
which may change as the need arises without changing this Policy.

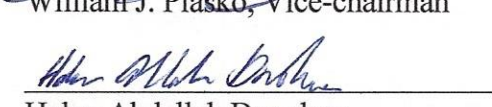

Thomas F. Maloney, Chairman


David E. Hajjar


Matthew E. Lane

APPROVED: 7 / 20 / 2021 w/BOS Doc #1,


William J. Plasko, Vice-chairman


Helen Abdallah Donohue