

TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
JULY 12, 2016

Members Present: David S. Feldman, Chairman
Mark Elfman, Clerk
James J. DeVellis
Virginia M. Coppola

Others Present: William G. Keegan, Jr., Town Manager
Ms. Janet Kennedy, Resident
Ms. Heather Harding, Friends of Conservation
Mr. Jack Authelet, Friends of Conservation
Mr. Paul Hubbard, Friends of Conservation
Attorney Daniel Rich
Ms. Tina Walker, Rally Point Inn & Pub
Mr. Omari Walker, Rally Point Inn & Pub
Ms. Jess Enos, NPS, LLC
Mr. George Bell, Stadium Advisory Committee

Christopher Mitchell was not present for this meeting.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by David Feldman.

David Feldman read the agenda.

7:00pm – Citizen's Input

Janet Kennedy, Cocasset Street – Ms. Kennedy stated that the reason she was there was because she watched the meeting a few weeks ago about the boy that fell during a basketball game. This was a private business; people fell on Leonard Street and Sherman Street and no one cared. They never fixed the sidewalks on Sherman Street and Leonard Street and where she fell on Leonard Street, they never fixed that sidewalk. People's cars are parked on the sidewalks that they made which is a public safety issue. Her opinion is, before they criticize something you have to look at yourself especially the way the sidewalks are going uptown and on the side streets. It has been a year. The sidewalk on Leonard Street they never fixed and to her, it needs to be done and not just those sidewalks, anyone that walks around town; Leonard, Sherman, Cocasset and Wall Street the sidewalks are coming up and you need to fix them.

Mr. Keegan stated that they actually are planned to be done and Leonard is supposed to be done in a matter of a few weeks. Sherman is scheduled to be done as well. Mr. Feldman asked if that included the fix on Sherman in which Mr. Keegan stated yes. As far as Wall Street he will ask tomorrow because he has a meeting with Roger Hill tomorrow morning. Mr. Feldman asked for a follow at the next meeting on some of those issues. Mr. Keegan stated that he knows it is not

entirely accurate to say that the sidewalks has not been done because the sidewalk on one side of Leonard Street and Sherman Street has been done but not both sides. They have to actually remove the old sidewalk in some areas to be done. It is broken up concrete and it has to be repaired. Mr. Feldman asked if DPW was on that in which Mr. Keegan stated yes. Mr. Feldman asked for a follow up at the next meeting.

7:05pm – Friends of Conservation/James DeVellis - Presentation of Schneider Electric Grant for Lane Homestead on North Street Learning and Nature Center – Heather Harding, James DeVellis, Jack Authelet, Paul Hubbard

Ms. Harding stated that they were before the Board this evening to fill them in on what has been going on. They met with the Conservation Commission last night about a project that they have been working on and they voted unanimously that they wanted to go ahead with the project because it is on conversation land (Lane property) and they wanted to go to them first to make sure they were on board with everything before they went public with it. They wanted to come tonight to fill them in on what that project was.

Basically the Lane property is about 80 acres up on North Street and it includes about a mile of frontage on Neponset Reservoir. It used to have three houses on it, two of them were burned and one of them is private property and Edie Erickson who was a Lane still lives there. Ms. Erickson does a great job and she is the steward of that land; she takes care of it and she lets them know if there are problems. What they decided to do was that a couple of years ago Ms. Erickson came forward to the Conservation Commission with a proposal that she wanted to build a memorial garden up there in memory of Dave Risch. Dave was the towns first Conservation Agent and he served from 1978 to 2008 when he retired and he passed away in 2012. Ms. Erickson came forward with a proposal and the Conservation Commission liked it; the Friends Group started working on it and they went out to see if they could get the proposal going. Tree Tech stepped up, the Recreation Department, the DPW, Mr. Yeghian from Existing Conditions and they have been plugging away at it and then Schneider Electric and Jack Authelet reached out to Mr. DeVellis and then to Ms. Harding to discuss some community projects that they wanted to get involved in; they wanted to get more involved in the community. They met with them and they went over several options and several projects and this made one of the final three and at that point they went out and did some site inspections; talked about it some more, submitted a proposal and Schneider Electric ultimately decided that they wanted to go ahead with this project. That is what they presented to Conservation last night and what they wanted to let the Board know about tonight because this is on television and they wanted to let the public know and they would like to get some public involvement and that kind of thing.

Mr. DeVellis stated that he was speaking as a volunteer resident and not as a Selectman tonight. Back in April, Schneider Electric reached out to Jack Authelet and they did the circle coming up with a project. They had several rounds and site walks to different projects and this is one of the top projects. Back in March they attended the Conservation Commission meeting and the tail end of that they had a presentation on the David Risch Garden so the Conservation Commission seemed excited about that. They presented that idea of one of six or seven in the discussion with Schneider Electric and as it grew, they got their corporative directive which was, as a company that has been here for over 100 years and 1,000 people strong here in town, they wanted to give

back to the community so they asked if the project could grow a little bit and be a little more substantive with a more town wide benefit. Looking at the Lane property as Ms. Harding had stated, two of the houses there were controlled burned which left one garage and as you come off North Street you can see the garage which is really a gateway to 80 acres of conservation and passive open recreation. There is camping, hiking and fishing but there is really no clear entrance. Schneider was scheduled to come here tonight but they chose not to for the reason that they are still finalizing the paperwork on the grant. They voted to approve the grant but until all the final work is done their corporate bosses said they can't speak publicly about it but they gave permission for them to speak there tonight. In recognition of that they moved forward with Conservation last night to give them a step up on the design/permitting process because it is an expedited construction schedule. Mr. DeVellis brought two boards of renderings and the boards are in the application that the Board had in front of them. He walked them through what the project is and then will circle back and talk about the benefits as well as a couple of reasons that they are there tonight in front of the Board.

Mr. DeVellis stated the first board did a nice job presenting what is around the site. He showed where North Street was on the drawing. He showed the garage that was remaining as well as the locations of the two houses that were burned. He stated if you continue up the road there is a gate which opens up to the reservoir area. There is a sign that states "Town of Foxboro Conservation Lane Property" that will stay and that will be the main focus as you come in; this is the Lane homestead. He showed the pictures of the garage and stated what they were envisioning was reusing this; renovating, putting a new roof on, putting new siding, change the doors and have that as an educational conservation indoor/outdoor classroom where you could teach things, have public meetings and things like that. It is open in the front and the back is buried into the ground a little bit. On the second level there is storage right now and he thinks they have a lot of farm equipment and things in there left over that they have to find a home for. As you go around to the back it says "In memory of five generations of Lane's who dwell on these acres for more than a century". This is still giving recognition to the family and they will move that to a more appropriate place because it is kind of hidden in the woods. There is more farm equipment and then the road leading back to the reservoir. As you come down to Crack Rock Pond you see swans, ducks, turtles, and frogs and it is a nice area that you can overlook that. What the plan is, is to renovate the road, it is paved but has long lived its life expectancy so they will repave that and where there is parking now it is just on grass and gravel. In talking with the DPW the plan is to use reprocessed/reclaimed pavement that they bring up and they just stockpile so that is going to be all redone. There will be handicap accessible parking. The pathway leading from the parking down to that area is going to be handicap accessible and then going away there will be signs that talk about geothermal, wind power, sustainable design and all the environmental things, maybe vernal pools or things like that, that the students or any visitors can take a minute to look at and learn as you go down. They are envisioning the garage to change the doors and have one large door or one that you pull over that you could sit inside the classroom and outside be on a patio and go in and out; three seasons. Mr. DeVellis showed the Dave Risch area that was proposed to Conservation and if you remember Dave Risch, he was a long term Steward/Conservation Agent of Foxborough. There would be a deck overlooking an area shown on the map. As you get to one section there would be native plantings, wildflowers and things like that where you could actually sit there and they envision someone setting up their easel and painting, doing classwork and just relaxing. There would also be a picnic area. That

whole area is just quiet, passive recreation but on a larger note it is a gateway to something really fabulous so rather than just driving by, you go in and enjoy it. The observation deck, Crack Rock Pond, the trails, parking and all of that, they did a cost estimate which is in back of the application and it comes up to about \$100,000 so it is really a nice opportunity for the nonprofit Friends of Conservation with public/private partnership with Schneider Electric that would fund it, design it, build it and it would probably be 6-8months to get from beginning to end. As Ms. Harding had stated, they were in front of the Conservation Commission last night and they unanimously approved it; one of their members is going to be on the design team so they can work together. Ms. Erickson who lives in a house on the property is on the design team so as they design it, they are not going in a direction that will impact her negatively. They have different members on the Friends of Group that are volunteering their time and he thinks the goal of this is to build this with the expertise that they have in the town; people who have stepped up before to hire them to build it. There is a set amount of money and a cost estimate so whatever they can get in kind donated services there will be more money left over to make it even nicer.

He hates to say that this is what they are doing and the Board doesn't have the authority but they aren't there for approval because it is not Selectmen land; it is Conservation land but where this is a public meeting and they can get some notoriety on being on cable just to make a request if there are people that want to have input on design because people have stepped forward that have had some great ideas they are trying to put into the plan. This actual layout came from Ms. Erickson putting this on a napkin and they put it in engineering form. Ms. Harding stated if anyone with skills would like to contribute, they take in kind services. Mr. DeVellis stated that he knows Tree Tech stepped up to donate tree services; Recreation is providing the benches; Mr. Yeghian is doing the surveying. Mr. DeVellis stated that you have seen Mr. Yeghian in the paper over the last couple of months and he has a neat survey that just shoots out and gets the information back and he said he would serve so all of that is on their cost estimate so now they can start to take back and they can do other things with that money.

Mr. Feldman asked how much involvement Schneider Electric was going to have in the overall plan; are they just providing funding. Mr. DeVellis stated that they expressed an interest in being involved in the design and their corporate offices are on the other side so they have direct access through paths so one of the things they thought was neat was their staff and their workers could come and visit this and use it. Their expertise would be incorporated into this such as their strong security systems so they are looking at how they could put their product there. The Friends of Conservation put in \$1,500 for a gate and they basically said that wasn't enough and they wanted more security because you don't want it vandalized and they will kick in their product to supplement this. They are very involved and they are going to write a check to the Friends of Conservation; the Friends of Conservation are going to run the project and then it is almost a turnkey to give it over to the town when it is all done. Mr. Feldman asked if that was going to be the name of the end result. Is it just going to be the Lane Property or is it going to be the Schneider Electric Learning and Nature Center. Mr. DeVellis stated they haven't gotten that far yet, for the application it says Schneider Electric Learning and Nature Center at the Lane Property. It is wordy and a lot and in fairness to Schneider Electric they are doing it to give back to the community but he is sure they would want their name on it somewhere. It is not going to be Schneider Electric property but somehow in harmony they could do both. They were in front of the Historic Commission and they expressed the same concern that there is a lot of history

when the town purchased this in the 1980's, it is town property but they still want to give recognition to the Lane family. Mr. Feldman stated that obviously the Dave Risch Garden is very well deserved.

Dr. Elfman asked if the grant was going to be for \$100,000 and Mr. DeVellis stated that basically it is \$99,216. The understanding is if it is \$1 more it is the Friends of Conservation's issue, they will not give \$1 more. If there is money to be saved it will be put into the project to make it even better so that is why they are stressing if there are people that can give in kind services or their expertise there is more money to put in and make it better for the town. They reached out and the project is just beginning so they didn't want to go too far until Conservation had seen it but he met with Superintendent Spinelli a week and a half ago and she is very excited to have science classes there. They used to at the school bring people in and have classes there and they stopped doing that so the outdoor classroom for science and art is a phenomenal asset to the town. They are also talking about the seniors getting involved and doing their classes there. Ms. Harding stated that she went to Recreation with it and Recreation is contributing to the project but they are also thrilled because they have a great art teacher that comes in and this just opens up another area for them that they can run programs with because now they can have people out on the observation deck painting or they have a yoga instructor now so in good weather they can do it. It opens up all sorts of other uses for the property that the Recreation Department could do. Dr. Elfman asked if there was someone that was going to oversee this, so that one day a busload of kids isn't coming at the same time the seniors are doing a quiet moment. Ms. Harding stated it would be kind of how they do it now; they all have to work together now and talk about who is going to be running what program. It is conservation land so ultimately they make all the decisions; they run everything by them and they will just have to do what they do now which is just keep in sync with what is going on where. Mr. DeVellis stated that this came up last night regarding building maintenance; after you build it, is there money in the budget to maintain it, police it and things like that. Conservation is not the best stewards of buildings and that is probably why the two buildings got control burned. Historically conservation is animals and critters so they will need some help and guidance. He thinks this building will work into the main facilities program that they have in town where there is one umbrella that takes care of all the buildings so this budget would have to supplement that in some way from Conservation. Mr. Keegan stated that he thinks that is the appropriate way and he wants to be clear that they are not using public funds to build this project. Ms. Harding stated that they have also been very cognizant of that they are not going to plant grass that needs to be mowed on a weekly basis and flowers that need to be tended to, it is going to be much more of a rural, natural setting that won't be a burden for anyone to maintain it.

Mr. Authelet stated that he just thinks one of the best things about this is if you go back to 1988 when the Lane property was purchased by town conservation you will look at what the Conservation Commission had in the Annual Report that year and everything you see here is essentially what they envisioned back then; what they had hoped this property would be used for and it has been to a lesser degree many, many times over the years but this would be a permanent welcome for a wide variety of community interaction. It is just a whole new world opening up, up there and that is just the most beautiful land and the setting and everything. It is just a real great opportunity for the town. Mr. DeVellis stated that inside the garage there is some old farm equipment and it has been locked up and stored and it is not a great money value but probably

very important to the town and they are looking to find a place for that. He doesn't know if there is a storage barn or shed in town so if there is anyone who has any ideas of what they could do with that equipment. Mr. Hubbard talked about restoring it and with his expertise he could get it to a point where it could be displayed. Mr. Authelet stated that there are some things developing for temporary storage and then at some point something permanent where it could be on display which would be quite appropriate for a farming community.

Ms. Coppola stated that this is wonderful use of the Conservation property and as Mr. Authelet stated, they have been waiting for a long time and it is also a nice tribute to the Lane Family under Ms. Erickson's direction and also to Dave Risch. Dave was their first Conservation Commission steward of the land and he was very instrumental in purchasing the land and taking care of the land and now this is a nice way of saying thank you. She hopes that Roberta Risch has been contacted in which Mr. DeVellis stated he thinks she was during the original project before he got involved with the Conservation Commission. Ms. Coppola stated that she is a very nice lady and she is sure that she will really appreciate this.

7:25pm – Rally Point Inn & Pub – Public Hearing – Discussion/Vote Transfer of License/Pledge of License (Ancient Marinere) – Attorney Rich, Tina Walker, Omari Walker

Mark Elfman read the public hearing notice.

Attorney Rich stated that he represents T&O Walker. He introduced Tina Walker and her husband Omari Walker. He stated that they have entered into a Purchase & Sales Agreement to buy the subject premises from her mother. They both have been businessmen over the years; Ms. Walker has been a realtor for over 30 years and Mr. Walker has his own business also. They had this opportunity to buy this from her mother. Ms. Walker has done a yeoman's work in obtaining financing which was very tough and now they entered into a Purchase & Sales Agreement and it is subject to the transfer of the liquor license that is currently there to T&O Walker, Inc. d/b/a Rally Point Inn & Pub but T&O Walker Inc., actually owns it. She is TIPS certified and she is hoping to keep the same staff that is working there now and his understanding is that they are TIPS certified and he thinks if she hires anyone else they will go through the TIPS training for the premises so it is subject to the Board's approval for the transfer. They had to pledge the license to the bank as part of their doing that and it is noted on their application.

Ms. Coppola asked if there were going to be any substantive changes to the facility. Ms. Walker stated other than possibly expanding the menu a little bit and marketing they don't foresee any huge changes right away. Over time as the business grows they may add some different things otherwise her mother has done a really great job with the business so there is no reason to go in and make any major changes right off the bat. Ms. Coppola stated that she knows renovations have been done and asked if they were all completed. Ms. Walker stated the exterior of the business they hope to add some signage and possibly spruce up the exterior of the building but just sort of over time just to make it more appealing from the street just because it is an older building and her mother was focusing more on the interior over the last few years so hopefully it is something that they can do. Ms. Coppola stated that right now it is a combination hotel and

restaurant/lounge and will they be expanding on the lounge and the dining area. Ms. Walker stated that the building as it sits right now, there really isn't a lot of room to make any expansions as far as that goes but mostly just expanding the menu for more options and maybe some small plate options and those kinds of things but as far as the makeup of the building it should remain as it is right now. Ms. Coppola asked with just the change of the name in which Ms. Walker stated yes.

Dr. Elfman stated that she is the manager going forward and has she been a manager in the past also. Ms. Walker stated that her mother has been there for 16 years and she has worked almost all of those 16 years off and on between having a family and those types of things but her longest term there was just under 3 years and she did managers work, bartended and did just about everything that needed to be done.

Mr. Feldman asked if this was going to be her first time as a Manager of Record as license holder. Ms. Walker stated yes. Mr. Feldman stated that going through the paperwork it is a sizable investment; she has been in the business and she worked side by side with her mother for a while off and on and asked if she was ready for this. Ms. Walker stated that she thinks she is and that they had spent a lot of time talking about it so she thinks she is ready to jump in with both feet. Mr. Feldman asked if she was familiar with FoxCares. Ms. Walker stated that they are just learning about it but yes and she is interested in finding out more about it. Mr. Feldman stated that he suggests she reach out to them because being a new first time manager they can act as a support system to her and sharing best practices and can guide her through some of the pitfalls. They are a great resource and he highly recommends it.

Ms. Coppola asked if she would be the Manager of Record but will she also be on site and how many hours. Ms. Walker stated that she will be probably be working 60 hours right away and they will be in the process probably over the next couple of weeks of securing someone that can be onsite overnight because it is an inn or a hotel so they need someone that can sleep there and be there if something were to happen. They haven't secured that person yet but they are working on it. Ms. Coppola asked if that was a legal requirement if you have an inn to have an employee on site 24 hours. Ms. Walker and Ms. Carlson stated no. Ms. Walker stated that her parents have always been there and she thinks just if something were to come up in the night you want someone there to be on site so they will be securing someone so it is covered 24 hours/7 days a week by some sort of a manager. Mr. Feldman stated that will have nothing to do with the restaurant or lounge it will be just for the premises in which Ms. Walker stated yes.

Motion by Mark Elfman to close the public hearing. Seconded by Virginia Coppola. **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to approve the Transfer of the License to T&O Walker Inc., d/b/a Rally Point Inn & Pub 9, Mechanic Street, Foxborough. Seconded by Virginia Coppola. **Vote 4-0-0**

7:34pm – NPS, LLC – Public Hearing – Discussion/Vote on New England Patriots 2016 Season Application – Jess Enos, NPS, LLC, George Bell, Stadium Advisory Committee

Mark Elfman read the public hearing notice.

Ms. Enos stated she was here before the Board this evening for the 2016 New England Patriots Season License. The license application is essentially identical to last year. They don't have any significant operational changes to their set up this year. They are requesting:

- (1) Open stadium training camp and they will have the additional training camps open and onsite beginning on July 30, 2016;
- (2) Preseason games;
- (8) Regular season games; and
- (2) Playoff games.

The open practice will be on August 1, 2016 and then they have two Thursday evening games; three 1:00pm Sunday starts; one 1:00pm Saturday start and then an 8:30pm Monday and an 8:25pm Thursday so they are kind of all over the board this year. They do have some good starts and then also the NFL as always reserves the right to shift those with 10 days notice. They have done that in the past where they have flexed their games as it depends on how their opponents are doing in the games leading up so if that happens they will notify public safety and make the shift.

They are requesting parking lots to open 4 hours prior to the game; gates 2 hours prior and then parking lots to close immediately after which is standard operating.

This year a couple of small changes that they do have is they will have the additional hotel which hopefully is on track to open and be operational for the regular season so that will be nice to have that additional amenity. The Renaissance currently is sold out for every home game so it will be nice to have additional rooms for fans so they can come down. They also will hopefully have the Scorpion Bar up and running for the regular season as well so this would be another offering for fans coming pre-game or post-game waiting for traffic to clear up which can help clear up congestion which is a nice option. They are doing some work in experimenting with the Pedestrian Crossing from their P-10 lots to the stadium side of Route 1 and they are working with the State Police and local police. It is really the biggest snarl in the traffic experience which is having to stop and making sure that traffic is stopped safely so that their patrons can cross the street. They are working now in shifting that footprint just slightly to make sure that it is a clearer shot right across Route 1 into the venue through to Patriot Place. They will continue to do minor tweaks like that, they are always looking to figure out ways to upgrade the experience to smooth out things that aren't necessarily running as well as they hoped but with that being said there are no significant operational changes. They have the clear bag policy that they implemented in 2014 across the league and they also have foam bags at all of their gates now for enhanced security. There are some other security enhancements that they are doing around the venue like closed circuit televisions and their conduct policies to ensure that their fans take ownership in the experience. They found that the fans themselves are their best line of defense when it comes to ensuring that everyone has a safe and pleasurable experience at the stadium so they are going to continue to operate their conduct text line but they actually may have some upgrades rolling out midseason on that as well.

Ms. Coppola stated just out of curiosity it stated that "the Patriots have modified their Pass It Forward ticket exchange program for season ticketholders thus eliminating their potential

liability and the program will be administered through Ticketmaster.” Ms. Coppola wanted to know what was the Pass it Forward program. Ms. Enos stated that Pass It Forward is a program that they have now. There are actually two programs right now that are being referenced there and Pass It Forward is if you are a season ticket member and you want to essentially ensure that your ticket stays within your family when you are no longer a season ticket holder rather than surrendering your account number and surrender your account and hope that your family gets bumped up on the listing gets their tickets, this way you can actually sort of will them to your family so an account can stay in the family. In addition to that they also have a program that they have with the NFL that allows their season ticket members to put tickets for games that they can’t attend on an online system and then purchase tickets through one another so it is a fan to fan resale site without any up charge and that way it allows season ticket holders that can’t come to the game and they know that is a big financial responsibility and rather than trying to sell a ticket to a random stranger or go to Craig’s List or pass one off in a different manner, you can go to the resale site and essentially exchange your tickets and then another fan on the wait list has an opportunity to purchase those so you are absolved of any liability with respect to your account because they have one of the strictest codes of conduct in the NFL and if you pass your tickets off and someone misbehaves it comes down on you whether or not you were in the building so now you have the option of alleviating that financial responsibility. Another season member who is a wait list season member has the opportunity to go and everyone is invested in the experience and they have found that it has really been helpful for current season members and wait list members; they will have a lot more access to tickets now.

Mr. Feldman asked Mr. Bell if he had anything to add. Mr. Bell stated that they have reviewed the application and they feel the Patriots have been very proactive from a security standpoint and they are very happy to have them continue to do this. They did feel that the pedestrian crossing should help; it seems like it is going to be much wider and a straight shot in. The good news for the town is that they have increased capacity so they have added approximately 1,800 additional seats based on once the Optum Lounge and the second area within the stadium was built out and they have been able to do that. They felt very positive to recommend based on public safety officials received all of their requirements that they need to carry forward their public safety.

Mr. DeVellis stated that he knows the Optum Lounge issue has been going back and forth for a while now; is he hearing it right that now there are more seats because of the Optum. Ms. Enos stated that there are physically more seats in the building. As the build out was complete and then the sections that were taken out were finished there were seats actually added back on to the manifest. Mr. DeVellis asked how that works with the process they are going through right now. Mr. Keegan stated that the net difference is not that significant right now. Ms. Enos stated that she doesn’t believe so but honestly she wouldn’t be the person to speak on it. Mr. Keegan stated that really it is within a matter of maybe 100 seats at the most. Ms. Enos stated that it isn’t significant but she wouldn’t venture a guess right now. Mr. Feldman stated maybe they could discuss this at the next update. Mr. Keegan stated he will get back to the Board hopefully at the next meeting with some updates on some of those areas. They have been working on a different approach they are looking at in terms of licensing and things of that nature very proactively. Mr. Feldman stated that it is an open issue that they would like to put to bed. Mr. Keegan stated that the additional seats are a good offset against that so he is not sure how much of an impact that would have.

Mr. Feldman stated they do have the report from fire and police. Mr. Feldman asked Chief O'Leary to come to the table. Mr. Feldman stated that being this was his last approval letter for the New England Patriots he just wanted to say thank you for leading the charge in public safety up at the stadium. Chief O'Leary thanked him.

Motion by Mark Elfman to close the public hearing. Seconded by James DeVellis **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to approve the New England Patriots 2016 regular season schedule. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**

7:45pm – Selectmen's Update

Mr. Feldman wanted to send out their condolences to Cathy Brady whose father passed away last week unexpectedly and wanted to send out their thoughts and prayers to the Brady family.

With Mr. DeVellis' presentation earlier that evening with Schneider Electric giving back to the community and they know the Kraft Group gives back to the community in different ways he thinks it is just a great display of public/private partnerships with businesses that are actually giving back to the communities. It is a great message to send to the residents of the town and they are very fortunate to have groupings like this in our community.

7:46pm – Town Manager Update – William G. Keegan, Jr.

Mr. Keegan stated in addition to what Mr. Feldman had just described, they are furthering the partnership with the Economic Development Committee and they are seeking a member from Schneider Electric to help them with that committee so they can help assist with the downtown redevelopment process because they themselves will benefit significantly from a redevelopment of that downtown area. They reached out to them and asked them for participation and they have been very enthusiastic about doing that. Recently they partnered with them on a couple of other things as well to assist them in the recruitment process. They have the Community Partners Group that included Schneider Electric, the Kraft Group, the local clergy, and the local YMCA so they have really tried to enhance the partnership discussion and they are going to continue to do more with that because they think it is really important that the community understands that they are working on many different fronts, it is not just one issue or another, there are many different fronts in which they are working in partnership with on this so it has really worked out well. He also wanted to note that this past year from a financial perspective the stadium events actually generated a 34% increase in revenues and it was the highest increase revenue that they have ever taken in from the stadium; it was nearly \$1M in addition to what they normally take in. The highest year they ever had was in 2014; this year they took in almost \$1M higher than that so it was a very successful year. Based on what they see planned over the next year it would be another successful year. Some of the events that certainly contributed to that were of course the Winter Classic which was very successful and of course the Copa Soccer Events which was a 3-4 day event. Upcoming for next year they are looking at NCAA Lacrosse which will be about a 3-4 day event there as well and he is sure there will be other international soccer events that will be coming back because they do like playing here under the big venue. They are actively working

and they have nine concerts planned for this current season; actually eight because there was one in the last fiscal year so it would be eight going forward for this year. That is all positive revenue for the town so they are going to continue and work and develop that in many ways and assist in that process.

Things that they are working on is the Police Chief search which he mentioned earlier and they have narrowed the field and they are down to a semi-final process now. They are not in the final process so they haven't revealed names yet but the next step in the process will be to go to an assessment center which they will use an outside agency to do that. They just recently did a double panel interview process which narrowed the field from seven down to four and they have not identified those names yet and they have not indicated that to those candidates yet so he just wanted to let them know that this process is moving along quite well. The response he has gotten from those that participated in the process has been extremely positive. They have some terrific candidates and he thinks the town will be very pleased with the selection that they come forward with.

It is important to note that drought conditions have been established by the Mass DEP so therefore the Town of Foxborough have implemented their own restrictions on water which are reflective of the drought conditions which means that watering of lawns is actually prohibited unless it is done with a handheld hose and there will be no irrigation allowed in the town at this time. A handheld hose would have to be between the hours of 5pm and 9am. It is only a five day event so it does not include weekends. They just want to make everyone aware that this is in place right now because water has obviously been very scarce this past year; it is a very dry season and they don't anticipate a lot of rain, even this week; we may see a little bit on Thursday or Friday but hopefully they will get past this and have better conditions to report out.

The Town Hall project is moving right along and if most people have been by they will see the steel is nearly completed. They are putting the decking on right now and the roof decks were assembled during the day. The roadwork in the town is also moving along and nearly 80% of the road repair work will be completed probably by the end of this week. There will be some sidewalk work of course and some minor work beyond that. They paved the new driveway by the Council on Aging today so that has been finished and a new sidewalk has been set up and put in place so now really all that is left is the landscaping piece and they will be finishing that piece up. North Grove was paved today and there were a couple of others as well.

They are doing a lot of hiring which are replaced positions that have been vacant; there is only 1 ½ new positions but there are a lot of positions that people have retired or left or decided to go on to different positions that they are filling right now. There are promotional activities and there is a lot on the H.R. side of things. Ms. Bernard is taking some badly needed vacation time this week and she will be back on Thursday this week because she has been working really hard on those areas.

Mr. DeVellis stated that it is nice to see that the revenue is up in the 30+% range just by the Kraft Group. At some point he would love to have a discussion of not 2 1/2 % and if this is going to be the year to do it. They weathered the storm prior to Mr. Keegan arriving with the economy dropping and he knows if they don't do the 2 ½% you give that up for infinity and beyond but if

at some point the revenue is coming in and it is unexpected, it would be nice to say take that chunk and go to 2 ¼% or 2 1/8% for once. He thinks they owe it to the town to at least discuss it and see how far they can get with that and maybe have a Plan A and a Plan B of different pullbacks because any household or any business, if the money is there, it will get spent unless they put the brakes on it and put that aside and say rather than put it off for a rainy day back it out to the taxpayer. Mr. Keegan stated that they could certainly have a conversation about that and he just wanted to remind everyone that those revenues can change from year to year so that is not a guaranteed amount of money. They certainly hope that it will be a good year for the next several years and there are a number of different factors that could play into that; a relocation of soccer or if there is other events that don't come to fruition that could certainly have an impact in a negative way on revenues as well so they just want to be mindful of that. They treat this as one time revenue so they don't plan on it every single year and it goes into a lot of their capital planning so that is really important. Mr. DeVellis stated that was very well said and he expected that answer but he still wants to have that discussion because it is an equal and powerful discussion. Mr. Keegan stated he is not saying that to take away from that he just wants people to be mindful that it is great news that they got that and he is really pleased to see that happen but they should have a conversation about when will be a good time to have them take a step back; when will be the right time to do that and what will be the right elements for them to do that. Mr. DeVellis stated the meals tax is at a record high as well so all those different pieces if you put them in one area and say what are the ramifications and when do they do that. Mr. Feldman stated that they look at it year to year or maybe a three year window and you can phase in over the next three years a percentage decrease based on what their revenue projections are. He thinks Mr. DeVellis is right and it is a worthy discussion. Maybe they can give something back or maybe they can't but he thinks it is worth having the discussion.

Ms. Coppola stated that she bumped into Chris Gallagher at Town Hall today and she asked him how the plans were going for the sewer and he said that Mr. Hill is finalizing the money part of it. Mr. Keegan stated that the Commission only had a partial group available this week so they are planning to meet next month on dealing with that so they are fully engaged for that discussion with the department. Mr. Keegan stated that the Board of Selectmen asked him to attend their next full meeting which will be in August so he will be planning to do that.

7:56pm – Action Items

Motion by Mark Elfman to approve the appointment of Edward O'Leary on the Council on Aging & Human Services Committee fulfilling Joanne Pratt's term which expires 5/1/2018. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to accept a gift donation in the amount of \$700 from Friends of Foxboro Seniors for the Paolo 3-Part Series Program in June and Fab 50's Program to the Council on Aging. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to accept a gift donation of 200 cups of worms from the Northeast Trade for the Recreation Department's Fishing Derby. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to accept a gift donation of hot dogs, buns, and packages of condiments from Bass Pro for the Recreation Department's Fishing Derby. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to accept a gift donation of 200 Bass Pro hats valued at approximately \$600 for the Recreation Department's Fishing Derby. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to accept a gift donation of 100 cases of coke products and 30 cases of water from the Kraft Group for the Recreation Department/Various Groups with Concession Stands. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**

Motion by Mark Elfman to adjourn at 8:00pm. Seconded by James DeVellis. **Vote 4-0-0**