

Dear Ms. Bonenfant:

I am requesting that Beaver Meadow Golf Course be designated a park and treated as any other park under Parks and Recreation in Concord and ask that you forward this request to all parties involved in such a move.

Beaver Meadow Golf Course occupies a park setting that offers, like other Concord parks, recreation opportunities, some of them for a fee. Soccer and baseball fields, pools for use by non-residents and field rentals for non-sports events bring in fees to the City. However, their first purpose is to provide recreation for the citizens of Concord. Beaver Meadow is no different from any other park in Concord in that respect.

On December 11, 2023, a City Council hearing heard considerable testimony against a proposed clubhouse at Beaver Meadow. Additional opposition was provided in writing. Despite this, a resolution to build the new clubhouse and bond the \$10+ million expense has been before the City Council for months. Taxpayer opposition has not decreased.

Ranking Beaver Meadow as a park fully under the aegis and control of Parks and Recreation, and treating it as one of Concord's many parks, would involve a number of changes.

- Renovating the current building so that bathroom facilities in the existing building are in good shape, perhaps with vending machines that offer snacks and drinks, would keep Beaver Meadow similar to what is offered at other Concord parks. Clubhouse plans do not qualify it as a community center by the CDFA. A \$10 million building is not necessary.
- The rest of Concord's parks are not staffed by sport professionals. Eliminating Golf Pros at Beaver Meadow would save significantly in salaries and benefits, as indicated in the FY2025 budget for golf expenses, without impeding anyone's ability to play golf or ski. Temporary staff would only be needed during the golfing season, not year-round.
- The rest of Concord's parks do not offer or coordinate catering services for residents, although individuals renting a park may make and pay for such arrangements on their own. Beaver Meadow would need to comply with that policy.
- Concord's parks do not offer liquor; Beaver Meadow would need to comply with that policy.
- The rest of Concord's parks do not sell consumer goods. Beaver Meadow would need to comply with that policy.
- The rest of Concord's parks charge non-residents significantly higher rates for all their services. Beaver Meadow would need to comply with that policy.
- The rest of Concord's parks do not offer electronic games, such as golf simulators, to the public. Beaver Meadow would need to comply with that policy.
- The rest of Concord's parks do not have their own website. Beaver Meadow would need to comply with existing rental and usage policies provided under Parks and Recreation for use of parks in the city.

	2025 Budget
<b>Expense</b>	
Full Time	\$429,435
Part Time	\$21,143
Temporary	\$208,590
Overtime	\$26,440
Allowance	\$600
Retirement	\$61,680
FICA	\$51,649
Beneflex	\$147,620
Worker's Compensation	\$6,405

And most important – Concord parks do not exist for the purpose of enticing non-residents to the City nor for creating a venue for weddings, banquets and charitable events. Concord's parks exist for the recreation of Concord residents, paid for by Concord taxes. Making the changes listed above would keep Beaver Meadow as a recreation area for the few Concord residents who use it, without the tax burden, currently under consideration by the City Council, to the many who do not use it.

Your acknowledgment of this email is appreciated. If this request will not be readily accommodated by City personnel, I ask that they advise me what steps taxpayers should take to get this proposal enacted and ensure that taxes are not spent on measures at Beaver Meadow apart from its role as a park.

Sincerely,

Marcy Charette  
marcynnh@gmail.com