



NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION

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Natural Resources Commission Votes to Name Field in Honor of Diane P. Warren

June 24, 2019 (Wellesley, MA) - The Wellesley Natural Resources Commission (NRC) voted unanimously at its June 20, 2019, meeting to name the Hunnewell 2/Multi-purpose field in honor of Wellesley resident and longtime girls' softball advocate, Diane P. Warren, pending Town Meeting approval.

The NRC took this action after being approached in March by Warren's family and friends. Her son, Peter, recounted his mother's active role in girls' softball since the early 1980's. Warren co-founded and served as Commissioner of Wellesley Girls Softball, where she recruited coaches, organized schedules, assigned teams and designed uniforms.

Long-time friend and Town Meeting Member Sandy Joseph said, "Diane was a fierce and tireless advocate for her girls, making sure they had the uniforms and equipment they needed to play. She stored the equipment at her home and carried it to the games. She did whatever it took."

Warren was also a dedicated and beloved educator at Schofield Elementary for 31 years. According to her son, "Everyone at school called her 'Mom.' She worked in her final weeks from her hospital bed ordering school supplies for the upcoming school year."

On having the field named in honor of his mother, Peter Warren said, "Thirty years later Wellesley Girls Softball is alive and well and on the brink of a new era after having already impacted the lives of thousands of girls. We are honored to see our mother recognized for her many years of hard work and dedication to the town of Wellesley, and are truly grateful for the love and support shown by the NRC and the Wellesley community."

The field's rehabilitation, in conjunction with improvements to the adjacent Lee Field, are part of a one-million dollar capital project approved at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting. Funding for the project includes \$500,000 from Community Preservation Act (CPC) funds and \$300,000 from the Town capital budget. Private fundraising will make up the balance. Donations to the softball field project can be made in Warren's honor by visiting <https://www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/diane-p-warren-fund>. Checks can be mailed to: Wellesley Little League-Softball, 1 Buckingham Terrace, Wellesley, MA 02482.

NRC Chair Regina LaRocque said that while she did not have the opportunity to know Warren, "Diane Warren is just the right kind of person to honor with the naming of this softball field."

The project is being led by the Department of Public Works and final permitting for the field designs is currently underway. The NRC will sponsor the warrant to name the field at an upcoming Town Meeting. For more information, [contact the NRC](#).

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