

Hopkinton News

Flame to Reach Hopkinton on Saturday, April 19



Above, David Foster of the Ashland Planning Board at this afternoon's briefing at the Hopkinton Police Station. Ashland was the original start of the Boston Marathon, and has a park at that site on Pleasant Street dedicated to that history.

April 8, 2008 — The Flame of the Marathon Run, a gift from Hopkinton's Twin City, Marathon Greece, is tentatively set to arrive at the Hopkinton Common and then the Hopkinton Police Station for temporary safekeeping on Saturday, April 19. The flame will continue to burn on the Common until Patriot's Day, and the start of the race.

The flame, which was lit for the first time last November at the tomb of the warriors of the Marathon battle of 490 b.c., will first arrive in Boston accompanied by the Mayor of Marathon, Greece, Spyros Zagaris, and the son of winner of the 1946 Boston Marathon, Dimitri Kyriakides, on Wednesday, April 16.

Board of Selectman Chair Muriel Kramer said today "Hopkinton is very much looking forward to a weekend of celebratory events in honor of our receiving the Flame of the Marathon Run.

"We are pleased to continue to build our sister city relationship with Marathon, Greece.

"Hopkinton is especially proud to have the flame housed permanently to honor the start of the Boston Marathon and our connection with Marathon, Greece," she said.

Timothy Kilduff, President of the Hopkinton Athletic Association, said today that he hopes the flame will have a permanent home at a planned Marathon Museum on East Main Street. He was also quick to make the point that this flame has no relationship to the Olympic Flame, over which there have been many recent protests.