

**CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION, PARKS, & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 9, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: Travis Simms, Chair; Shannon O'Toole-Giandurco, Steven Serasis, Michael Corsello

STAFF: Michael Mocciae, Recreation & Parks Director

OTHERS: Richard Strahota, CT Valley Porsche Club Executive Vice President; David Liberator, Norwalk Board of Education; Janet Evelyn, N.I.C.E. Festival; Mr. Cross, Norwalk Karting Association; Mr. Donahue, Norwalk Karting Association, Erin Herring, Norwalk Recreation and Parks Department

CALL TO ORDER.

Mr. Simms called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL.

Mr. Simms called the roll. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

August 10, 2016

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10, 2016 MEETING.**

**** MR. CORSELLO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10, 2016 MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED WITH THREE IN FAVOR (SIMMS, SERASIS, AND CORSELLO) AND ONE ABSTENTION (O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO).**

September 14, 2016.

**** MS. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 MEETING.**

**** MR. SIMMS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2016 MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED WITH TWO IN FAVOR (SIMMS**

AND O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO) AND TWO ABSTENTIONS (SERASIS, AND CORSELLO).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

There was no one present from the public that wished to address the Committee at this time.

OLD BUSINESS.

There was no old business to consider at this time.

NEW BUSINESS.

1. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement with “The Exchange Club of Norwalk, CT” to contract for the parking at Calf Pasture Beach, Shady Beach, Marvin School and Taylor Farm for the Annual Norwalk International In-Water Board Show to take place Thursday, September 21, 2017 through Sunday, September 24, 2017 for a sum not to exceed \$4,500.00. Account #016027-5258.

**** MS. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Mocciae gave a brief overview of this event and said that it had been taking place in Norwalk for many years.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH “THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NORWALK, CT” TO CONTRACT FOR THE PARKING AT CALF PASTURE BEACH, SHADY BEACH, MARVIN SCHOOL AND TAYLOR FARM FOR THE ANNUAL NORWALK INTERNATIONAL IN-WATER BOARD SHOW TO TAKE PLACE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017 THROUGH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017 FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$4,500.00 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement with The Connecticut Valley Region – Porsche Club of America for the use of Cranbury Park and Pavilion I for the Annual “Summer Concours” to be held Sunday, June 18, 2017 from 6:30 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Estimated attendance 125.

**** MR. CORSELLO MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Strahota came forward and gave a brief overview of the event.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CONNECTICUT VALLEY REGION – PORSCHE CLUB OF AMERICA FOR THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK AND PAVILION I FOR THE ANNUAL “SUMMER CONCOURS” TO BE HELD SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2017 FROM 6:30 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. Approve the use of Veteran’s Park by the Norwalk Board of Education for their Annual Norwalk River Fun Run to be held Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. with a rain date of Sunday, December 4, 2016. Estimated attendance 600.

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. David Liberator from the Board of Education came forward to present the overview of the event. Mr. Mocciae requested that the participants park on the marina side of the park this year due to the presence of the ice skating rink. Mr. Liberator made a note of it.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF VETERAN’S PARK BY THE NORWALK BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THEIR ANNUAL NORWALK RIVER FUN RUN TO BE HELD SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2016 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. WITH A RAIN DATE OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2016 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement with N.I.C.E., Inc. for the use of Oyster Shell Park for the Annual N.I.C.E. Festival to be held Saturday, July 8, 2017 from 11:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M. Set up to take place Friday, July 7, 2017 at 6:30 A.M. with tear down no later than 12:00 noon Monday, July 10, 2017. Estimated attendance 4,000.

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Ms. Janet Evelyn came forward to give an overview of the item. Mr. Serasis said that he had heard all good things about the event this past July.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH N.I.C.E., INC. FOR THE USE OF OYSTER SHELL PARK FOR THE ANNUAL N.I.C.E. FESTIVAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017 FROM 11:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2017 AT 6:30 A.M. WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON MONDAY, July 10, 2017 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. Approve the use of the Fodor Farm Barn by N.I.C.E., Inc. for a Pre-Festival Event Kick Off Reception to take place Thursday, June 15, 2017 from 3:30 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. Maximum attendance 150.

Ms. Evelyn came forward to speak about this new event and explained that it would be a fund-raiser to help support the N.I.C.E. Festival in July. She gave an overview of the event and explained that it was still in the planning stages.

The theme will most likely be Destination: India and may be a paid event. By using the barn, the group could have a demonstration of Indian cooking. This would help NICE, Inc. generate some funding for the larger event. She said that it would be advertised in the media and sent to the City officials and business leaders to come to support the event.

Mr. Serasis suggested that the Norwalk Public library be involved because they sponsor a number of cultural events. Ms. Evelyn said that she would coordinate with Ms. Bradley at the main branch. Mr. Serasis said that this would make the public feel that they were involved in the event.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE FODOR FARM BARN BY N.I.C.E., INC. FOR A PRE-FESTIVAL EVENT KICK OFF RECEPTION TO TAKE PLACE THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2017 FROM 3:30 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement with the Exchange Club of Norwalk, CT for the use of Taylor Farm for their Annual Car Show to be held Sunday, April 30, 2017 from 7:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. Set up to take place Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 12:00 noon with tear down no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, May 1, 2017. Rain Date of Sunday, May 7, 2017. Estimated attendance, 1,000.

**** MS. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Mocciae gave a brief overview of this event and said that it had been taking place in Norwalk for many years.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE EXCHANGE CLUB OF NORWALK, CT FOR THE USE OF TAYLOR FARM FOR THEIR ANNUAL CAR SHOW TO BE HELD SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2017 FROM 7:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2017 AT 12:00 NOON WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON ON MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017. RAIN DATE OF SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2017 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement with the Norwalk Karting Association for the use of Calf Pasture Beach for their Spring and Fall Racing Season to be held on the following dates from 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

Spring 2017: March 18, 25 April 1, 8, 15, 22 May 6, 13
Fall 2017: September 16, 30 October 7, 14, 21, 28 November 4, 11, 18

If rain on Saturday, Sunday may be available. Estimated attendance 100+

**** MR. CORSELLO MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Cross and Mr. Donahue from the Norwalk Karting Association came forward to speak about the karting races. They have been having this event for 47 years. They recently had a Mayor's Cup Race and Senator Duff won. There was also a match between the Police and Fire departments for their favorite charities. Mr. Moccia said that he supports this organization because they will often patch and repair portions of the Calf Pasture Beach Parking lot at their own expense for their races.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORWALK KARTING ASSOCIATION FOR THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR THEIR SPRING AND FALL RACING SEASON TO BE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING DATES FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.:**

SPRING 2017: MARCH 18, 25 APRIL 1, 8, 15, 22 MAY 6, 13
FALL 2017: SEPTEMBER 16, 30 OCTOBER 7, 14, 21, 28
NOVEMBER 4, 11, 18

IF RAIN ON SATURDAY, SUNDAY MAY BE AVAILABLE. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100+ PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement with Color Vibe 5K for the use of Veterans Park Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. Set up to take place Friday, April 7, 2017 from 9:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. with tear down no later than 12:00 Noon Sunday April 9, 2017. Estimated Attendance 3,000.

**** MR. SIMMS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Ms. Erin Herring said that this was the second year for the event and it was very well attended last year. It's a fun event. She said that there was only one complaint last year and it has been scheduled for an earlier time so that no one would be inconvenienced.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO**

ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH COLOR VIBE 5K FOR THE USE OF VETERANS PARK SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 11:00 A.M. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON SUNDAY APRIL 9, 2017. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 3,000 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Approve the use of the Brien McMahon Casagrande Field by Sal Talerico for a Norwalk High School Brien McMahon High School Alumni Football Game fundraiser to be held Monday, November 21, 2016 from 4:30 P.M. – 8:30 P.M. with a rain date of Tuesday, November 22, 2016. Estimated attendance 250.

The applicant was not present. Mr. Mocciae said that it was a private event. Last year, it was done through the Board of Education.

**** MS. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10. Authorize the Director of Recreation and Parks to increase the change order on Project #3692 Flax Hill Park Utility Improvements from \$4,280.00 to a sum not to exceed \$13,265.00 for additional removal of debris and additional paving. Account numbers #0915-6030-5777-C0178; 016031-5585; 09176030-5777-C0588.

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Mocciae explained that this project was just to bring water into Flax Hill Park. When the contractor tried to run the line, they found large amounts of rocky fill and had to run a trench along the sidewalk and then had to repave the sidewalks.

Mr. Mocciae also said that there was one more account number to be added to the list: 016010-5585.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS TO INCREASE THE CHANGE ORDER ON PROJECT #3692 FLAX HILL PARK UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS FROM \$4,280.00 TO A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$13,265.00 FOR ADDITIONAL REMOVAL OF DEBRIS AND ADDITIONAL PAVING. ACCOUNT NUMBERS #0915-6030-5777-C0178; 016031-5585; 09176030-5777-C0588 AND THE ADDITIONAL ACCOUNT 016010-5585 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED TO ADD AN ITEM TO AGENDA.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11. Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling, to enter into an agreement with Probuilt Design, LLC for project #3659, Ina Clark Community Garden, San

Vincenzo Place for a sum not to exceed \$97,200.00. Account #TBD 50% by State DEEP Grant.

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Mocciae explained that the original contractor could not get the insurance needed in order to do the job. The second lowest bidder has agreed to hold his price for the job and to install the gazebo.

**** THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PROBUILT DESIGN, LLC FOR PROJECT #3659, INA CLARK COMMUNITY GARDEN, SAN VINCENZO PLACE FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$97,200.00. ACCOUNT #TBD 50% BY STATE DEEP GRANT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

DISCUSSION

Capital Budget 2017-18

Mr. Mocciae presented copies of the budget to the Committee members. He highlighted a number of projects.

Mr. Serasis said that he had gotten some complaints about the Tracey school playground equipment near him and also about Devon's Playground equipment having jagged edges. Mr. Mocciae said that he had not gotten one complaint. Mr. Serasis said that he would go there and check it out.

Ms. O'Toole-Giandurco asked about the amount for the beach in 2018. Mr. Mocciae said that the new requirements want permeable pavement and drainage swales so that the water goes into the ground rather than drains into the Sound.

Mr. Mocciae said that the department had already gone through their budget for removing trees this year.

The Testa Field Replacement is the third replacement. It was installed in 1999.

Mr. Mocciae said that he would like to see the two Little League teams merge and have turf fields that would be more durable. He gave the details of how this could be done.

Mr. Mocciae said that the Nathan Hale fountain pieces were at Fodor Farm waiting to be restored.

Mr. Mocciae said that he would present the Operating Budget to the Committee in December. He said that he expected it to basically remain the same. The key focus will be on items that have to do with safety concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services