

**CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
September 13, 2017**

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

STAFF: Ken Hughes, Acting Director

OTHERS: Wilfredo Perez
David Cole
Donna Cole
Steve Garvara
Peter Bondi
Lisa La Barbara
Jaime DeSesto
Ellen McGuinness
Shawn Iannacone
Jennifer Herford

PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Simms opened the public hearing at 7:03PM.

Mr. Perez provided an overview of his proposal and said that it is to erect a memorial in honor of 65 Connecticut soldiers who had lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan, and that he is looking at the location of Oyster Shell Park. He said that there will be no cost to the City on Norwalk for the project, and that it will be funded by an annual golf tournament in memory of his son.

David Cole

Mr. Cole stated that while he commends Mr. Perez for his efforts on behalf of his son he opposes the motion he has made to this committee to further honor his son. He said he admires what he has done for his son through the Norwalk schools but that a line needs to be drawn somewhere and to honor any one veteran so much more than the others is not fair. He said that he would encourage Mr. Perez to continue with the scholarships with the schools because it is admirable.

Donna Cole

Ms. Cole stated that Ms. Wallerstein had requested that she and Mr. Cole look into the Oyster Shell Park for the possible site for the monument. She had gone with an ADA person up to the site and it is not ADA compliant and would need to be paved and a railing would need to be installed. She also said there are no facilities there and it is great to have functions held there but to have a monument for veterans is not feasible.

Steve Garvara

Mr. Garvara said that he was there when Wilfredo Perez Jr. lost his life and the fact that Mr. Perez has started this foundation and is paving the way to support this monument, and paying for it he should be able to put it at Oyster Shell Park. He said there is never too much that can be done for a gold star family member and if this monument is erected it would never fall into disrepair, and it would be one of the cornerstones of any monument in the State of Connecticut. He said his answer to anyone veteran or not that has the gall to say that Mr. Perez is doing too much for his son is that he can't do too much for his son.

Peter Bondi

Mr. Bondi said that he has had an event at Oyster Shell Park and it is difficult for people with disabilities, but if that can be worked out that it is a great location for the monument. He said as far as honoring fallen soldiers from the State of Connecticut he thinks is a great thing and that Mr. Perez's foundation is doing and there is never enough that can be done to honor these veterans.

Mr. Perez said that he has other letters of support that he would like present. There was further discussion ensued and Mr. Kydes suggested that he e-mail them to the committee members and he will guarantee everyone member of the committee will read them.

Mr. Perez stated that his proposal is for Oyster Shell Park and it is not for Veterans Park, so if the committee does reject the proposal for Oyster Shell Park they will look for a different location throughout the State.

Mr. Serasis asked if the park is not ADA compliant will that affect liability. Mr. Hughes said that he will check with Mr. Bolvisky.

Mr. Simms closed the public hearing at 7:30PM.

I. ROLL CALL

Mr. Simms called the meeting to order at 7:30PM and stated that a quorum was present.

II. MINUTES OF JULY 12, 2017.

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH TWO ABSTENTIONS (MR. SERASIS, MS. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO)**

III PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No one from the public spoke.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVE THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY MARLIN VAILLANT AND DAVID GARCIA FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 18,2018 FROM 3:00PM-12:00 MIDNIGHT WITH SET UP TO BEGIN AT 2:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 200.

****MR. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

2. APPROVE THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS CHRISTINA BEDIENT FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 11, 2018 FROM 3:00PM-12:00 MIDNIGHT. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100.

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

3. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY VICTORIANNA A. BEAUDOIN FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 26, 2018 FROM 3:00PM-11:00PM WITH SET UP TO BEGIN AT 2:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150-200.

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

4. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY VICTORIA TURCHIK AND MATTHEW HANDLER FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018 FROM 4:30PM-11:00PM WITH SET UP TO BEGIN AT 2:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 225.

****MR. SERASIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

5. APPROVE THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH BY RALLYE FOR PANCREATIC CANCER, INC. FOR THEIR ANNUAL RALLYE FOR PANCREATIC CANCER, TO BE HELD SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 2018 FROM 9:00AM-3:00PM WITH SET UP TO BEGIN AT 7:00AM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 6:00PM. RAIN DATE SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 450.

****MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

Mr. Bondi provided a brief overview of the event and said this is the second time holding this event and it is to raise funds for pancreatic cancer. He said the event is a car show followed by a rallye that starts at Veterans Park and ends at Calf Pasture Beach, and that the police will be involved to guide the cars and that they will be volunteering their time. Mr. Bondi said that they had also requested the showmobile for the event. Mr. Hughes said that it is included in the application and will update the agenda item.

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked to attend the Common Council meeting of September 26, 2017, for final approval.

6. APPROVE THE USE OF THE CALF PASTURE BEACH BY MOUNTAIN WORKSHOP FOR A TEAM BUILDING & OLYMPIC FIELD DAY TO BE HELD TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2017 FROM 9:00AM-3:15PM WITH SETUP AT 7:00AM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 330.

****MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. APPROVE THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK UNDER THE WEEPING BEECH TREE BY MEGAN FEENEY FOR A WEDDING CEREMONY TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 2018 FROM 12:00PM WITH SET UP AT 10:00AM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 125.

****MR. SERASIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

8. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY CHELSEA CROWLEY FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JULY 14, 2018 FROM 4:00PM-11:00PM WITH SETUP AT 2:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 250.

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

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

9. APPROVE THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY VIKRAM KAMATH FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 2018, FROM 4:00PM-12:00 MIDNIGHT WITH SET UP AT 3:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100.

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

10. APPROVE THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK PAVILION 1 AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY HOMESERVE USA FOR THEIR CHAMPIONSHIP OLYMPICS TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017 FROM 10:00AM-5:00PM WITH SETUP AT 9:00AM ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150-200.

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

Ms. La Barbara gave a brief overview of the event and said this is the fourth year of having the Olympics and that it's a company picnic for the day.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

11. A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORWALK HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FOR THEIR USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR A SUNSET RUN & GLOW 'N DARK WALK TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2018 FROM 7:00PM-10:00PM WITH SET UP AT 5:00 AM AND REAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 11:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 1,500.

B. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NORWALK HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FOR THEIR USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH/ TAYLOR FARM FOR A WCC (WHITTINGHAM CANCER CENTER) 2018 WALK AND RUN TO BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018 FROM 5:00AM-10:00PM ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 1,500.

C. APPROVE THE USE OF THE SHOW MOBILE BY NORWALK HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FOR THEIR EVENTS TO BE HELD FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2018 AND SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018 FROM 5:00AM ON FRIDAY, MAY 4, 2018 THROUGH 11:00 PM ON SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018.

****MS. O'TOOLE-GIANDURCO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEMS 11 A, B and C.**

Ms. DeSesto gave a brief overview of the event and said this is the 15th year that they will be holding the run/walk, and depending on costs this year they are proposing to have a glow in the dark and sunset run on May 4, 2017, but if that does not move forward they will just be doing the run on Saturday morning followed by the walk. Mr. Serasis requested that if the Sunset run/Glow in the Dark run does not take place that she contact Mr. Simms

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked to attend the Common Council meeting of September 26, 2017, for final approval.

12. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE HUMAN SERVICES COUNCIL FOR THEIR USE OF TAYLOR FARM FOR A KIDZFEST TOUCH A TRUCK AND MORE TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017 FROM 10:00AM-3:00PM. SET UP TO BEGIN AT 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2017 WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 4:00PM ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2017. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500.

****MR. SERASIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

Ms. Pesavento gave a brief overview of the event and said that the Kidzfest is the biggest Touch a Truck in the State, and this is the fifth year and the point of the event is to provide an inexpensive fun day out for families.

Mr. Simms asked Ms. Pesavento to attend the Common Council meeting of September 26, 2017, for final approval.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

13. APPROVE THE USE OF OYSTER SHELL PARK BY ROOM TO GROW FOR AN OBSTACLE COURSE/FUN RUN TO BE HELD SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 FROM 9:00AM-7:00PM WITH SET UP AT 7:00AM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100+.

****MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

Ms. McGuiness gave a brief overview of the event and said it is a new event to raise money for Room to Grow preschools, and that the event is an obstacle course challenge.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked the representative to stay in contact with Ms. Herring for further instructions.

14. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SILVERMINE PTO FOR THE USE OF SILVERMINE SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR A FALL FESTIVAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY OCTOBER 21, 2017 FROM 12:00PM-4:00PM WITH SET UP BEGINNING AT 6:00AM AND TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 5:00PM. RAIN DATE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28,2017. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 300.

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

Mr. Iannacone gave a brief overview of the event and said that it is a fall festival and that it will take place on the two fields behind the school.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked to attend the Common Council meeting of September 26, 2017, for final approval.

15. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WOLFPIT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR A PUMPKIN FESTIVAL TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 14, 2017 FROM 11:00AM-5:00PM WITH SET UP BEGINNING AT 9:00AM AND TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 6:00PM. RAIN DATE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15,2017. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500.

****MR. SERASIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

Ms. Herbert gave a brief overview of the event and said that it is the 30th year of the Pumpkin Festival.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Simms asked to attend the Common Council meeting of September 26, 2017, for final approval.

16. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO APPLY AND EXCEPT FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A LAND BASED MSDP (PUMPOUT STATION). THE GRANT IS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,198.50 WHICH IS APING 75% OF OUR OPERATION IN EFFECT THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2016.

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

Mr. Hughes said this is for the pumpout station that is located at Veterans Park and that the funds received are for the maintenance and operation of the pumpout station.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

17. APPROVE A MORATORIUM ON ANY NEW APPLICATIONS FOR ART OR MEMORIAL INSTALLATIONS ON CITY PROPERTIES UNTIL A FORMAL REVIEW PROCESS CAN BE PUT INTO PLACE.

****MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

Mr. Hughes said that this will be for any new applications, and that there is currently not a process in place for when an application comes before the committee for approval. He requested that no new applications are entertained for any type of art installations or memorials until there is a policy in place, and that he will be working with the Arts Commission. Mr. Corcello said that some requests that are received have real Merritt and are un-intrusive memorials or plaques and asked how long the process of creating a policy will be.

**** MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO APPROVE A MORATORIUM FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN SIX MONTHS ON ANY APPLICATIONS FOR ART OR MEMORIAL INSTALLATIONS ON CITY PROPERTY UNTIL EITHER THE PASSAGE OF SIX MONTHS OR A FORMAL REVIEW PROCESS CAN BE PUT INTO PLACE.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE AMENDED MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. SERASIS MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

18. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH EDGEWISE ENERY DBA ENERLOGIC LLC FOR PROJECT #3693R BOILER REPLACEMENT AT GALLAHER MANSION FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$142,000.00. ACCOUNT# 0918-6030-5777-C0366

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. DISCUSSION

There was no discussion.

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services