

**CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 14, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: Michael Corsello, Chair; Barbara Smyth; John Kydes; Chris Yerinides; George Tsiranides; Doug Hempstead

STAFF: Ken Hughes, Acting Director

OTHERS: Veronica Parsloe

I. ROLL CALL

Mr. Corsello called the meeting to order at 7:00PM and stated that a quorum was present.

II. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 14, 2018.

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

III PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public who wished to participate this evening.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH VERONICA PARSLOE FOR THE USE OF OYSTER SHELL PARK FOR THE NORWALK FOOD TRUCK FESTIVAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2018 AND SUNDAY, JULY 22, 2018 FROM 11:00AM-6:00PM EACH DAY WITH SET UP BEGINNING AT**

**5:00AM ON SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2018. TEAR DOWN NO LATER
THAN 11:00PM ON SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2018. ESTIMATED
ATTENDANCE 1,000.**

Ms. Parsloe said that she had reached out to the American Legion regarding potentially having the event benefit them and that they were happy to accept a donation. She said that one concern that she has is because this is the first year holding the event the revenue it will generate is unknown, and that she received the invoice for the facility and that along with all the other fees she doesn't know if the event would be worth it. She said this is a new community event with free admission and will potentially bring 10,000 people into Norwalk who would otherwise not have reason to come, and requested that the town waive some of the fees and work together to make it a successful event. Mr. Hempstead said that the fees cannot be waived. She told the committee she appreciated their time and if there is ever reconsideration in the future to have a collaborative effort to benefit the town feel free to reach out to her.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. APPROVE THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER ESTATE
AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY JACOB ROCCO
FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2018
FROM 3:00PM-12:00 MIDNIGHT. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150.**

****MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with staff for further instructions.

- 2. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION
AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY ALESSANDRA
SENA AND IAN O'BRIEN FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 22, 2018, FROM 2:30PM-9:30PM ESTIMATED
ATTENDANCE 150.**

****MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with staff for further instructions.

3. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY RAJENE CALLOO FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 FROM 3:00PM-11:00PM ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 140.

****MR. YERINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with staff for further instructions.

4. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH NINETY 9 BOTTLES CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018 FROM 2:00PM-5:00PM. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018 AT 9:00AM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 2018 AT 10:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 1,200.

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said that this is the fifth annual event, and that the proceeds go to a local non-profit usually to do with children and they are still deciding which organization it will be this year.

****MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the next Common Council meeting on March 27, 2018.

5. APPROVE THE USE OF FODOR FARM PAVILION BY NINETY 9 BOTTLES FOR THEIR NINETY 9 BOTTLES WINE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 FROM 4:00PM-7:00PM. SET UP TO BEGIN AT 12:00

**NOON WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 8:00P.M. ESTIMATED
ATTENDANCE 150 MAXIMUM.**

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said that this will be the second event and the proceeds will also go to a local charity. Mr. Hempstead asked if there were any issues with parking. The representative said that they send out promotion codes for Uber and that very few people drove to the last event. Mr. Yerides asked about the clean-up. The representative said that no plastic cups are used and that they also hire Labor Ready to help clean up after the event. Mr. Tsiranides asked if there were any issues with the open garden people. The representative said "no".

****MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the next Common Council meeting on March 27, 2018.

**6. APPROVE THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH BY NORWALK
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER FOR THEIR WALK TO END CHILDHOOD
OBESITY TO BE HELD SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2018 FROM 8:00AM-
12:00 NOON. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 200.**

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said this is the first fundraising event for the Norwalk Community Health Center, and the event is to combat childhood obesity and are hoping it's a successful event.

****MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with staff for further instructions.

**7. A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN
AGREEMENT WITH WILLIAM RAVEIS CHARTABLE FUND FOR THE USE OF
CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR THE ANNUAL WILLIAM RAVEIS RIDE/WALK
EVENT TO BE HELD SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 FROM 5:00AM-
3:00PM. SET UP TO BEGIN SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 AT 8:00AM**

WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 4:00PM ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500+.

B. APPROVE THE USE OF THE SHOW MOBILE AT CALF PASTURE BEACH BY WILLIAM RAVEIS CHARTABLE FUND ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018 FROM 5:00AM-3:00P.M.

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said that this is the third event and that the event is to benefit cancer research and that the event consists of a 5K walk as well as a 12 mile, 25 mile and 50 mile route all leaving from and returning to Calf Pasture Beach. Mr. Tsiranides asked what the route will be. The representative provided an overview of the routes and requested the use of Cranbury Park as a possible rest stop just for the 50 mile route which will consist of 40-50 people. Mr. Hempstead asked how parking is handled. Mr. Hughes said that the parking fee is waived if they are part of the event. Mr. Kydes asked what percentages of the profits go to charity. The representative said that all of the proceeds do and that the event raises approximately \$500,000.

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the next Common Council meeting on March 27, 2018.

****MR. YERINEDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. APPROVE THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH BY MOUNTAIN WORKSHOP FOR THE TEAM BUILDING DAY TO BE HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2018 FRO 7:00AM- 3:30PM WITH A RAIN DATE OF MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 350.

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said that this is the third and final event for 2018.

****MR. KYDES YERINEDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
**THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIVE (5) IN FAVOR AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MR. HEMPSTEAD)
THE MOTION PASSED.**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with staff for further instructions.

9. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TEAM MOSSMAN EVENTS FOR THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR THE MOSSMAN SPRINT TRIATHLON TO BE HELD SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018 FROM 6:30AM-11:00AM. SET UP TO BEGIN SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 2018 AT 7:00AM-5:00PM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 2:00PM ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 400.

****MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said that this is the 15th event and consists of a half mile swim, 13 mile bike ride and a three mile run. Mr. Kydes asked if any roads will be closed. The representative said “no” and that police will be hired for traffic control. Mr. Kydes asked if any of the profits will go to charity. The representative said “yes’ and this year they will go to the Gaylord Center for Concussion Care. Mr. Kydes asked how much the proceeds were from prior events. The representative said approximately \$10,000.

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the next Common Council meeting on March 27, 2018.

10. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH NORWALK LACROSSE ASSOCIATION, INC. FOR THE USE OF VETERANS PARK FOR THE NORWALK JUIRO LACROSSE POUND-ON-THE-SOUND TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018 AND SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018 FROM 6:AM-7:30PM EACH DAY. SET UP TO BEGIN ON FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2018 AT 6:00PM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAT 10:00PM ON SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 2,000 (ROTATING THROUGH EACH DAY)

****MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

11. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ROWAYTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA FOR THE USE OF ROWAYTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELD FOR THE ROWAYTON SCHOOL CARNIVAL TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018 FROM 5:00PM-10:00PM AND SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018 FROM 10:00AM 5:00PM.

SET UP TO BEGIN ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018 AT 9:00AM THROUGH FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018 AT 3:00PM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, MAY 13, 2018 AT 12:00 NOON. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500.

****MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said that the event is run by the schools PTA, and that the funds that are raised at the carnival go back to the school, and that there is no entry fee. She said that they will be using the Rowayton field and that they have notified Rowayton Little League of the event.

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the next Common Council meeting on March 27, 2018.

12. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO A 5 YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH A 2 YEAR OPTION WITH CARRIAGE HOUSE ARTS CENTER FOR THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK CARRIAGE HOUSE STARTING APRIL 1, 2018.

Mr. Hughes said that at the Carriage House there is a theater group that puts on plays, and has been there for over 15 years but never had a contract with the city. He discussed the proposed lease agreement and said that he has also asked them to provide insurance. Mr. Kydes asked if the rent will change from what they are currently paying. Mr. Hughes said that they do not pay rent. Mr. Kydes asked about the utilities. Mr. Hughes said that there is electric but no water and that the electric bill averages \$200- \$400 per month. He said that it is his understanding that this is a joint venture between Parks and Recreation and the Carriage House Theater and that he met with the group and they said that they do not have a lot of money and any money they make goes back into the theater. Mr. Kydes said it thinks that the city should at least be breaking even on the expenses that are incurred. Mr. Tsiranides asked if they are at least making any improvements or benefits to Cranbury Park. Mr. Hughes said “no” not necessarily. Ms. Smyth asked what the turnout at the events is. Mr. Hughes said he was told approximately 60 people attend each of the events. Mr. Tsiranides asked how many events are held per year. Mr. Hughes said 12-15. Mr. Tsiranides asked if they charge an admission fee for the events. Mr. Hughes said “yes” and they don’t pay for parking. Mr. Corsello said that he agrees there needs to be an arrangement with the theater group but expressed his concern with the length of the lease. Mr. Hempstead suggested that the next meeting be held at Gallagher so the committee can tour the facilities. Ms. Smyth requested that a representative from the group attend the next meeting.

****MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM AND THAT A DRAFT COPY OF THE LEASE IS PROVIDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

13. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO A 5 YEAR LEASE AGREEMENT WITH A 2 YEAR OPTION WITH NORWALK TREE ALLIANCE FOR A SPACE AT THE FODOR FARM HOUSE AT A RATE OF \$150.00 PER MONTH STARTING APRIL 1, 2018. GROUP WILL PAY FOR THEIR OWN PHONES AND INTERNET. NORWALK TREE ALLIANCE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO HOST A FUNDRAISER WITH THE OTHER 3 GROUPS FOR THE PRESERVATIONS OF FODOR FARM.

Mr. Hughes said that there is space for four non-profit rentals at the Farm House and one of the rentals was non-responsive and had never entered the contract. He said once he realized there was a vacancy he approached the Tree Alliance because he know they were interested in the first go around, and that the terms of the lease are the same as the other three. Mr. Strauss said that he is the President of the Tree Alliance and that the space will be a great fit for them.

****MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the next Common Council meeting on March 27, 2018.

Mr. Kydes left at 7:50PM.

**14. R.F.P. APPROVAL FOR AN OUTDOOR TRAINING FACILITY
DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

****MR. CORSELLO MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

V. DISCUSSION

1. Placement of the Monument for those Soldiers who have lost their lives in the conflict in Iraq and Afghanistan throughout the State. All funding for this project will be provided by the Wilfredo Perez Jr. Memorial Fund.

Mr. Perez stated that he has been working on erecting a memorial to honor the 65 Connecticut Veterans that lost their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq, and that he would like to have the opportunity to present his proposal to the current committee members in the near future. He discussed the details of the past meetings that he had attended and said that this has been in the planning stages for over the past 10 years, and that the 2006 master plan includes a commitment to the monument. He said that they have been working for over 14 years to raise the funds and finally feel they have the funds for the monuments, and that there are some concerns that some would like the monument at Veterans Park because of the name, but said that there are other monuments throughout the city that are not in Veterans Park. Mr. Corsello said that when this was presented that an Arts Commission was formed and it was decided that they should weigh in on the discussion and they had stated that the art was not specific enough. In closing Mr. Perez said that he would like to resubmit his proposal to have a "yes" or "no" vote. Mr. Hempstead suggested that if the goal is to have the memorial in Norwalk that having it in Veterans Park is probable the best route to go. Ms. Smyth said that she is aware of the desire to honor their son and that she appreciates the pain and frustration that they must feel, but she does think Veterans Park is a better place for this and she is willing to do whatever she can do to move it in that direction. Mr. Perez discussed the issues with installing the monument at Veterans Park and asked if the city would be willing to do the improvements that are needed, and if so he would accept Veterans Park as a location for the monument but not the way it is in its current condition. Mr. Hughes said that if it is the will of the committee they can work towards improvements at Veterans Park. There was further discussion ensued and Mr. Hempstead requested that the committee receive all the minutes in which this item has been discussed and a copy of the Master Plan for Oyster Shell Park

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services