

**CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
August 8, 2018**

ATTENDANCE: Michael Corsello, Chair; Barbara Smyth; George Tsiranides;
John Kydes

STAFF: Ken Hughes, Acting Director

I. ROLL CALL

Mr. Corsello called the meeting to order at 7:05PM and stated that a quorum was present.

II. MINUTES OF JULY 11, 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. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK PAVILION I AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY PUNCH GYM NORWALK FOR THE BATTLE OF THE BELLES IX TO BE HELD SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018 FROM 10:00AM-5:00PM WITH SET UP TO BEGIN AT 6:00AM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150.

Ms. Stephanie Tropea gave a brief overview of the event and stated that she is the owner of Punch Gym and that every year for the past nine years they have held an all women's strength competition. She said that and it is has been held every October for breast cancer awareness month.

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

Mr. Corsello asked Ms. Tropea to stay in contact with the Parks and Recreation office.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE GROUNDS BY JEFF GILBERTSON FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019 FROM 2:00PM-11:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150.

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

Mr. Corsello asked Mr. Gilbertson to stay in contact with the Parks and Recreation office.

2. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE GROUNDS BY LAUREN BONIFACE FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2019 FROM 2:00PM-11:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100.

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

Mr. Corsello asked Ms. Boniface to stay in contact with the Parks and Recreation office.

3. APPROVE THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH BY THE NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE NORWALK NEDA WALK TO BE HELD SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018 FROM 9:00AM-11:00AM WITH SET UP TO BEGIN AT 7:30AM ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018 AND TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 11:30AM ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150-200.

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said it is a mile walk to benefit the National Eating Disorders Association. Mr. Corsello asked if the event has been held in the past. The representative said not in Norwalk but they are held throughout the country. Ms. Hughes asked if they will be staying inside the beach. The representative said "yes".

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

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with the Parks and Recreation office.

4. APPROVE THE USE SHADY BEACH BY ACHILLES INTERNATIONAL FOR THEIR LIGHTHOUSE TO LIGHTHOUSE RACE TO BE HELD SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 FROM 11:00AM-6:30PM

Mr. Williams said that this is the 19th year that the event has taken place and the 6th year that they have used Shady Beach. He gave a brief overview of the event and said that it is a 14 mile human powered vessel race and that they work closely with the local safety organizations including the Coast Guard. Mr. Kydes asked if there is a fee to participate and if so if the proceeds are donated. Mr. Williams said "yes" and the proceeds will be split between the Achilles International Kayak Program and the Norwalk Rowing Club. Mr. Corsello said that safety is the number one concern and asked if there have been any issues with safety. Mr. Williams said "no" and they have a 100% safety record. Ms. Smyth asked if alcohol will be served. Mr. Williams said "yes" following the race.

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

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with the Parks and Recreation office.

5. APPROVE THE USE OF NARAMKE SIDE LAWN BY NES PTA/NARAMAKE ELEMENTARY FOR THE BACK TO SCHOOL BBQ TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018 FROM 5:30PM-7:00PM WITH A RAIN DATE OF MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2018. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE AT 3:00PM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 8:00PM ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 450.

The representative gave a brief overview of the event and said it is a back to school barbeque and it is a way to welcome back the families.

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

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to stay in contact with the Parks and Recreation office.

6. A) APPROVE THE USE OF MATHEW'S PARK BY LORETTA RAGIN FOR A MEMORIAL GATHERING AND "GIVE BACK DAY" TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 FROM 3:00PM-8:00PM WITH SET UP TO BEGIN AT 12:00 NOON ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 AND TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 9:00PM ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100-150

Ms. Ragin gave a brief overview of the event and said that it is a giveback day and a memorial for her husband and had wanted to have the event at Oyster Shell Park and that they were moved to Lockwood Mansion because Ms. Herring had said it wasn't safe. She said that Ms. Herring had sent an e-mail changing the date to September 29th due to National Museum Day, and she wasn't opposed to using Lockwood Mansion because it is easier to access for the elderly people but that she is upset that the date keeps getting changed. Mr. Hughes said that he will work with his staff tomorrow regarding the date and location and contact Ms. Ragin.

6. B) APPROVE THE USE OF THE SHOW MOBILE BY LORETTA RAGIN FOR A MEMORIAL GATHERING AND “GIVE BACK DAY” TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2018 FROM 3:00PM-8:00PM

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS 6A AND 6B SUBJECT TO WORKING OUT THE LOGISTICS WITH THE LOCKWOOD MATTHEWS MANSION MUSEUM STAFF.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. CONCEPT APPROVAL AND LOCATION OF A MONUMENT FOR THOSE SOLDIERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE CONFLICT IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN THROUGHOUT THE STATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION.

Mr. Corsello provided a summary of the proposed monument and said that Mr. Perez had come before the committee last July for approval of the monument for the Soldiers to be placed at Oyster Shell Park and there were some issues. He said that it had gotten to Mr. Bolvisky and he had said that there were issues with regard to a lack of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. He said in January there was a meeting held with Mayor Rilling and it was suggested that Veterans Park be looked at as an alternate location. He said that based on a memorandum that he had received this morning from the Corporation Councils office that if approving a venue or even a concept of a venue such as Oyster Shell Park that an ADA feasibility study would need to be done. He said that he had spoken to Mr. Perez this morning and he had indicated that if we can approve having the monument at Veterans Park he would agree to that. He said that the concept could be approved for that location but could not specifically approve the project because more details would be needed, and that he had spoken to Mr. Hughes and he had stated that he could provide to Mr. Perez exactly what is needed within 14 days so that it can be voted on and approved. Mr. Perez stated that he is not opposed to having it at Veterans Park but he still doesn't understand what the issue is with having it at Oyster Shell Park. Mr. Kydes suggested Mr. Perez provide a rendering for the monument installation for Veterans Park, and once that is received the Arts Commission will review it and provide any comments they may have, and the final steps would be to come back to the committee for an agreement and move it forward to the Common Council for final approval. Mr. Hughes said that he will provide Mr. Perez a list of exactly what would be needed.

V. DISCUSSION

1. PARK USAGE

Mr. Hughes stated that an event was approved at Gallagher Estate and he distributed photos of the damage that had occurred during the event. Mr. Kydes asked if there is any legal recourse. Mr. Hughes said “no”. Ms. Smyth said as discussed at a previous meeting that out of town residents should be charged more than Norwalk residents.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. KYDES MOVED TO ADJOURN
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services