

**RECREATION, PARKS AND
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 10, 2018
PUBLIC HEARING – FEES AND CHARGES – 6:45 PM
REGULAR MEETING – 7:00 PM**

ATTENDANCE: Michael Corsello, Chair; John Kydes; Barbara Smyth;
George Tsiranides; Chris Yerinides; Doug Hempstead (6:58 p.m.);
Travis Simms (7:08 p.m.)

STAFF: Ken Hughes, Acting Director

Mr. Corsello opened the public hearing at 6:50 p.m.

Mr. Milon Chila suggested discounting the rate for staying at the public dock for a short period of time.

Mr. Hughes said he could look into it.

No other members of the public wished to speak at the public hearing.

The public hearing was closed at 6:53 p.m.

I ROLL CALL

Mr. Corsello called the meeting to order at 6:53 p.m. and called the Roll. A quorum was present.

II MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

**** MR. YERINIDES MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

III PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public wished to speak this evening.

IV OLD BUSINESS

No old business was discussed this evening.

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V NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallaher Mansion and immediate surrounding grounds by Patrick Gorman for a Wedding to be held Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 2:00 PM – 11:00 PM. Estimated attendance 110.

**** MS. SMYTH MVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

2. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY ROBERT DORIN FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019 FROM 2:00 PM – 11:00 PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150.

A representative was present.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. YERINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

4. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY ANTHONY COLLAZO AND ERIN WILLIAMS FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 2019 FROM 2:00 PM – 11:00 PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 125.

A representative was present.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

7. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH NORWALK BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE MARITIME AQUARIUM FOR THE USE OF VETERANS PARK FOR THEIR ANNUAL NORWALK RIVER FUN RUN TO BE HELD SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2018 FROM 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM WITH A RAIN DATE OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 300.

Mr. Hempstead joined the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

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Mr. Maddaffari was present and explained this is their 28th year of holding this run/walk event. They always follow the same route.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

6. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GREENWICH KENNEL CLUB/LONGSHORE SOUTHPORT KENNEL CLUB FOR THE USE OF TAYLOR FARM FOR THEIR 87TH GREENWICH KENNEL CLUB AKC DOG SHOW, OBEDIENCE & RALLY TRIALS AND LONGSHORE/SOUTHPORT KENNEL CLUB AKC DOG SHOW TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 2019 AND SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2019 FROM 8:30 AM – 6:30 PM. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE AT 6:00 AM ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2019 WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON ON MONDAY, JUNE 10, 2019. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 1,000.

A representative said this is their 14th year of holding their event at Taylor Farm. Mr. Hughes added that they leave the site cleaner than when they arrive.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the next Common Council meeting on October 23, 2018.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

8. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH M.E. O'BRIEN & SONS, INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF FODOR FARM PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$55,270.00. ACCOUNT #0918-6030-5777-C0364.

Mr. Hughes explained this is for the playground install at Fodor Farm. Mr. Hempstead asked if it would be located near the neighbors. Mr. Hughes said it would not be located near the neighbors and in addition, it will be screened. Mr. Corsello asked if there were any concerns about disturbing the gardens. Mr. Hughes said all of the parks close at sunset. Mr. Kydes asked what brought this on. Mr. Hughes said the gardeners requested a place for their kids to play while they worked on their gardens.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

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**** MR. YERINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

3. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY KIMBERLY FUSCI FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2019 FROM 12:00 NOON – 9:00 PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 200.

A representative was present.

Mr. Simms joined the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MR. SIMMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

5. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION, CT CHAPTER FOR THEIR USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR THEIR WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S TO BE HELD SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019 FROM 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM WITH SET-UP TO BEGIN AT 6:00 AM AND TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2019. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 1,500.

A representative was present. They said they have been holding their event at this location for several years. People love the location. There are no road closures.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Corsello asked the representative to attend the October 23, 2018 meeting of the Common Council.

**** MR. SIMMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM**

9. APPROVE THE PLACEMENT OF A MONUMENT FOR THOSE SOLDIERS WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE CONFLICT IN IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN THROUGHOUT THE STATE IN VETERANS PARK. ALL FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE WILFREDO PEREZ JR. MEMORIAL FUND.

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A representative was present. Mr. Hughes said the Arts Commission approved this item. The applicant, who did not identify himself, said he wanted to be sure the stated improvements would be done. Mr. Hughes said he would move whatever trees have to be moved for the placement of the memorial. He added that he would go through the patio and replace the bricks that needed to be replaced.

The representative said he would withdraw his proposal. He said the Soldier's lives were not good enough, but there is something for the kids from Sandy Hook. He said the Arts Commission did not show any interest in the proposals. He said the Arts Commission expressed no interest when they had the proposal at Oyster Shell Park. There was never a vote and it was tabled.

The representative withdrew his proposal and expressed his disappointment in politicians.

Mr. Corsello told the representative that it was unfortunate that he withdrew his proposal.

10. ORDINANCE CHANGE: ARTICLE 1: CALF PASTURE BEACH AND OTHER CITY PARKS, SECTION 74-1 FREE ADMISSION FOR RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS "ALL VEHICLES OF RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO FREE ADMISSION TO THE NORWALK PUBLIC PARK SYSTEM, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED HERIN."

CHANGE TO "ALL VEHICLES OF RESIDENTS AND REAL PROPERTY OWNERS OF THE CITY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO FREE ADMISSION TO THE NORWALK PUBLIC PARK SYSTEM, EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED HERIN."

Following a brief discussion, Mr. Corsello tabled the item until it could be taken up with all other proposed Ordinance changes.

V. DISCUSSION

The Committee members discussed fees for residents and property owners. It was noted that residents of Rowayton have access to Norwalk beaches, but Norwalk residents do not have access to Bailey Beach.

The Committee members discussed corporate passes for companies with 50 or more employees. Mr. Hempstead said companies should be able to purchase corporate passes no matter how many employees they have.

Mr. Hughes said he would pull information about corporate passes.

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In discussing the proposed fees, Mr. Hughes said the only pushback he heard was about increasing the commercial cruise vessel fee from \$3.00 per foot to \$4.00 per foot.

Mr. Kydes said he would like to address dockage at the next meeting. He said he would like data to back up the fees and to know what is being used. He suggested that perhaps they could give residents a break, while increasing the cost for non-residents.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:50 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services

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