

**CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION AND PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 10, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Barbara Smyth, George Tsiranides, Darlene Young, Michael Corsello (7:37 p.m.), Chair; John Kydes (7:46 p.m.)

STAFF: Nick Roberts, Recreation and Parks Director

The Committee members started an informal discussion regarding the three discussion items on the agenda at 7:25 p.m. A quorum was not present.

**• Freese Park Pontian Memorial Monument – Possible
Action/Recommendation to have the Arts Committee Review and provide their
recommendations on he proposed monument and its dimensions.**

Mr. Roberts gave a brief overview of the Freese Park Pontian Memorial Monument. He said that he had attended a meeting with the Mayor, and the Pontian Memorial representatives about the location. The current proposal are for placing a monument at Freese Park, but the submitted monument is too large for the park. Mr. Roberts said that the group will have to scale it down and the design request will have to go to the Arts Commission for review. Mr. Roberts said that there were currently two other monuments located in Freese Park.

• Carriage House RFP

Mr. Roberts gave a brief overview of the Carriage House RFP and the walk through of the building. The building was given a conditional Certificate of Occupancy and there are a number of items that need to be addressed. The building is not used year round for shows.

• Recreation and Parks Master Plan Funding

The Recreation and Parks Master Plan is for giving an overview of the proposed Master Plan Funding. Mr. Roberts said that there were two projects that had funding left over. These funds can be used towards the cost of the Master Plan.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Corsello called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. and called the Roll. A quorum was present.

MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2019

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED THE MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2019.
** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 12, 2019 AS
SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no one present who wished to address the Committee at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to consider at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallaher Estate and immediate surrounding grounds by We Want More for WWM Celebration Dinner to be held Saturday, September 7, 2019 from 5:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. Estimated attendance 150.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED THE ITEM.**

Ms. Kimberly Tingler came forward and said that her faith based organization holds a yearly celebratory dinner for their donors and this will be their seventh event. The organization is a retreat facility that works with youth groups and church based organizations. It is not a fund raising event. In the past, they've had events at a country club, and at their Bridgeport site. They chose Norwalk this year as a different venue. Many of the donors come from New York City, so Norwalk is a good location.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER ESTATE AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY WE WANT MORE FOR WWM CELEBRATION DINNER TO BE HELD SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2019 FROM 5:30 P.M. – 10:30 P.M. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the use of Ben Franklin Parking Lot by Spring Harvest Ministries to host a Give Back/Block Party to be held Saturday, August 17, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Estimated attendance 100+.

**** MS. YOUNG MOVED THE ITEM.**

The representative said that this was just a block party for the local community. They had a party last year. In the past they have distributed around 100 to 150 book bags. Last year they had about 85 people, but expect more this year.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF BEN FRANKLIN PARKING LOT BY SPRING HARVEST MINISTRIES TO HOST A GIVE BACK/BLOCK PARTY TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 2019 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallaher Estate and immediate surrounding grounds by Heather Dynner for a Bat Mitzvah Park to be held on Saturday, May 24, 2020 from 3:00 p.m. – 12:00 Midnight. Estimated attendance 175.

**** MS. YOUNG MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. And Mrs. Dynner came forward and gave a brief overview of the event.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER ESTATE AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY HEATHER DYNNER FOR A BAT MITZVAH PARK TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2020 FROM 3:00 P.M. – 12:00 MIDNIGHT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Kydes joined the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallaher Estate and immediate surrounding grounds by Louis Dreyfus Company LLC for a Corporation Picnic to be held Thursday, August 15, 2019 from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Set up to begin at 1:00 p.m. with tear down no later than 8:00 p.m. Estimated attendance 100-150.

**** MR. TSIRANIDES MOVED THE ITEM.**

The representative said that this would be their fourth year of holding the event.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER ESTATE AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY LOUIS DREYFUS COMPANY LLC FOR A CORPORATION PICNIC TO BE HELD THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 2019 FROM 4:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. SET UP TO BEGIN AT 1:00 P.M. WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 8:00 P.M. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the use of the Norwalk High School Track by Northeastern Conference of SDA for a Church Track and Field Meet to be held on Sunday, July 21, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Set up to begin at 8:00 a.m. with tear down no later than 6:30 p.m. Estimated attendance 200.

**** MR. KYDES MOVED THE ITEM.**

The representative said that the event been held for 38 years in different locations. Last year it was in West Hartford and now they are looking for a new location. One of the

churches in the conference is in Norwalk. Mr. Corsello asked if there were other events at NHS that day. Mr. Roberts said that they were the sole users of the facility at that time.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL TRACK BY NORTHEASTERN CONFERENCE OF SDA FOR A CHURCH TRACK AND FIELD MEET TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY, JULY 21, 2019 FROM 9:30 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. SET UP TO BEGIN AT 8:00 A.M. WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 6:30 P.M. PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

A Representative for Junior Arts and Music Fun Run came forward and asked about the event they wished to schedule on the 28th of September to raise awareness of the organization. It would be contained in the Park. Mr. Roberts said that the item had not been added to the agenda. Concerns were expressed about the location because of impact that the Oyster Festival on the fields. Mr. Roberts said that he would add it to the August agenda.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Roberts gave a brief review of the previously discussed information regarding the Freese Park Pontian Memorial Monument. He said that he had attended a meeting with the Mayor, and the Pontian Memorial representatives about the location. The current proposal are for placing a monument at Freese Park, but the submitted monument is too large for the park. Mr. Roberts said that they will have to scale it down and the submission will have to go to the Arts Commission for review. Mr. Roberts said that there were currently two other monuments in Freese Park. Mr. Corsello noted that within the last two years, funds had been spent for a Freese Park Master Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services