

**CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: Michael Corsello, Chairman; Barbara Smyth, Christopher Yerinidies, George Tsiranides

STAFF: Nick Roberts, Director

OTHERS: Ellen Dennerlien, Petitioner, Kelly Stazza, Petitioner, Craig Smolin, Petitioner

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Corsello called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 14, 2019

Due to the lack of a quorum no approval was needed.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallagher Estate and immediate surrounding grounds by Laura Maleski and Ronald Abelli for a wedding to be held Saturday, September 5, 2020 from 2:00 PM – 11:00 P.M. Estimated Attendance 150.

**** MR. YERINIDIES MOVED THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNAMIOUSLY.**

Approve the use of Calf Pasture Beach by Mountain Workshop for a Team Building Day to be held Saturday, October 16, 2019 from 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Estimated attendance 250.

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM.
** MOTION PASSED UNAMIOUSLY**

Approved the use of Cranbury Park Pavilion 1 and immediate surrounding grounds by Punch Gym for the Battle of the Belles X to be held Sunday, October 20, 2019

from 9:00 AM – 3:00 P.M. with set up to begin at 6:00 AM. Estimated attendance 100.

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

NEW BUSINESS

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallagher Estate and immediate surrounding grounds by Julia Chandler for a Wedding to be held Saturday, May 16, 2020 from 2:00 PM – 11:00 PM. Estimated attendance 120.

Ms. Chandler's parents were present.

**** MR. YERINIDIES MOVED THE ITEM.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallagher Estate and immediate surrounding grounds by Ellen Dennerlein for a Wedding to be held Saturday, June 20, 2020 from 2:00 PM – 11:00 PM. Estimated attendance 100.

Ms. Dennerlein said it will probably be closer to 80 people. She said they will have a gourmet Pizza Truck and a craft beer selection. The ceremony will be on the lawn and the cocktail hour will be on the stone patio. Mr. Tsiranides asked why they picked Cranbury Park since they are from Bethel. She said Cranbury Park was recommended to her by her mom's stepdaughter.

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

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Gallagher Estate and immediate surrounding grounds by Kelly Strazza for a Wedding to be held Saturday, October 24, 2020 from 3:00 PM – 12:00 Midnight. Estimated Attendance 150.

Ms. Strazza was present and said it will be a lot of fun.

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

Approved the use of Cranbury Park Pavilion 1 by Cranbury Park Disc Golf Club for their check in for the Cranbury Disc Golf Tournament on Saturday, November

9, 2019 from 9:00 AM – 5:30 PM. Set up to begin at 6:30 AM with tear down no later than 5:30 PM on Saturday, November 9, 2019. Estimated attendance 90.

Mr. Smolin the Tournament Director addressed the Committee. He said the course got put in during the late 90s and he has run many events in the Park. He said the draw for the people who come from out of state is the course and the grounds. The participants will be mostly from Connecticut and some from New York, northern New Jersey and Massachusetts. He is building a new course in Guilford and he hosts the Ice Bowl at Cranbury Park every February.

Mr. Roberts said the city is trying to grow the game and bring about awareness. He said the city will be doing some clinics with Mr. Smolin.

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Authorize the Mayor, Harry W. Rilling to enter into an agreement with A.V. Tuchy, Inc. for Project #3948 Window and Door Placement at Ripka's Beach Café – Calf Pasture Beach not to exceed \$104,940.00. Account #'s 0920-0630-5777-C0365 (\$95,000) and 0918-6030-5777-C03065 (\$9,940).

Authorize the Director, Recreation and Parks to issue change order to A.V. Tuchy, Inc. for Project #3948 Window and Door Replacement at Ripka's Beach Café – Calf Pasture Beach for a sum not to exceed \$10,000.00. Account #0918-5777-C0365.

Mr. Roberts said this is for a project that has been approved twice under the Capital Project. He added the windows need to be replaced and the hurricane shutters do not work and they will be replaced with energy efficient windows and impact hurricane windows. Mr. Roberts said it will be energy efficient and safer too.

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

DISCUSSION

Recommendation and support for approval for the Special Appropriation request for funding of Parks Department Master Plan.

Mr. Roberts said the Master Plan is a vision and strategy for the next 10 years. He said right now we have no basic goal (vision statement or mission statement). It is a good time to survey the community, get their feedback and see what they are looking for. He said he is really pushing for it and thinks it is needed.

He said he knows it is lot of money, but they looked at comparables. He got estimates from two consultants and it came back around \$250,00. Mr. Roberts said the City of Stamford did a specific master plan for 3 parks and it cost \$381,000.

Ms. Smyth said she has spent times in other cities and their parks are so alive and vibrant. She said there is something so amazing about their parks and feels Norwalk's park are untapped. Mr. Roberts said if you do a Google search of Norwalk one of the top three things that comes up is the beach. He said every great city has a great park system: New York, Miami, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Diego, Denver and Seattle.

Mr. Tsiranides made a motion to suspend the rules to add the following motion:

THE RECREATION AND PARKS SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDS AND SUPPORTS THE REQUEST FOR THE SPECIAL APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 TO FUND A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT TO UPDATE THE MASTER PLAN FOR RECREATION AND PARKS.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:**

THE RECREATION AND PARKS SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDS AND SUPPORTS THE REQUEST FOR THE SPECIAL APPROPRIATION OF \$250,000 TO FUND A NEW CAPITAL PROJECT TO UPDATE THE MASTER PLAN FOR RECREATION AND PARKS.

****RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

****MS. SMYTH MADE A MOTON TO ADJOURN.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

G. Venuto

Telesco Secretarial Services