

**CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
October 9, 2019**

ATTENDANCE: John Kydes; Barbara Smyth; George Tsiranides;
Chris Yerinides; Darlene Young

STAFF: Nick Roberts, Director

OTHERS: Dave Lindsay; Marvin Sanders; Kristin Auer; Ryan Woods;
Jennifer Johnson; Mark Schlegel

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2019.

- ** MR. YERINIDES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR AND TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS- MS. YOUNG AND MR. KYDES.**

III PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Lindsay said that he runs a program in Freese Park each Tuesday evening during the summer months in conjunction with Recreation and Parks and he spoke in opposition of the installation of the Pontian Society monument in Freese Park. He said most heritage related plaques and monuments are placed at Thomas O'Connor Park in front of Heritage Wall and it seems logical to him that this would be the place for it.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business discussed this evening.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY VIYALETA PETERSON FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2020 FROM 3:00PM-12:00 MIDNIGHT. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 120.

**** MS. SMYTH MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

2. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE GROUNDS BY RYAN WOODS FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2020 FROM 2:00PM-11:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK GALLAHER MANSION AND IMMEDIATE GROUNDS BY MARVIN SANDERS FOR ALL WALKS OF LIFE CELEBRATION TO HELD SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2020 FROM 12:00 NOON 9:00PM. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 175

Mr. Sanders provided a brief overview of the event and said that it is a retirement party and that no alcohol will be served.

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

**4. APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK PAVILION BY THE TINY
MIRACLES FOUNDATION FOR THE TINY MIRACLES FAMILY FUN DAY TO
BE HELD ON SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020 FROM 10:00AM-3:00PM. ESTIMATED
ATTENDANCE 150.**

Ms. Johnson provided a brief overview of the event and said they are a non-profit organization that supports pre-mature babies, and this is an annual event and is a reunion type of event for families that have had babies in the NICU units of the hospital, and if approved this will be the second year the event will be held at Cranbury Park. She said it will again be a carnival type of event and a small petting zoo and that they cleaned up the site after the event and she received no complaints last year. Mr. Tsiranides asked Mr. Roberts if there were any issues with the petting zoo last year. Mr. Roberts said "no". Mr. Kydes asked if any special permits is required for the petting zoo. Mr. Roberts said "no" not that he is aware of and they would just need to provide the proper insurance.

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

**5. A) AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN
AGREEMENT WITH WESTERN CONNECTICUT HEALTH NETWORK FOR THE
USE OF CALF PASURE BEACH FOR THEIR ANNUAL WHITTINGHAM CANCER
CENTER WALK/RUN TO BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020 FROM 7:30AM-
12:00 NOON. SET UP TO BEGIN AT 5:00AM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER
THAN 2:00PM ON SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 2,000**

- ** MS. YOUNG MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. B) APPROVE THE USE OF THE SHOW MOBILE BY THE CONNECTICUT HEALTH NETWORK FOR THEIR ANNUAL WHITTINGHAM CANCER CENTER WALK/RUN TO BE HELD SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2020 FROM 7:30AM-12:00 NOON.

- ** MS. YOUNG MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. A) AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, HARRY W. RILLING TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH RALLYE FOR PANCREATIC CANCER FOR THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR THEIR CAR SHOW/COMMUNITY EVENT TO BE HELD SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020 FROM 1:00AM-5:00PM. SET UP TO BEGIN AT 7:00AM WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 6:00PM ON SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500.

6 B) APPROVE THE USE OF SHOW MOBILE THE RALLYE FOR PANCREATIC CANCER FOR THEIR CAR/SHOW COMMUNITY EVENT TO BE HELD SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020 FROM 10:00AM-5:00PM.

Mr. Schlegel provided a brief overview of the event and said that if approved it will be the fourth annual event, and to date have raised \$90,000 for the necessary research for pancreatic cancer early detection. Mr. Kydes said that they do great work and thanked Mr. Schlegel for volunteering.

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

Mr. Kydes asked Mr. Schlegel to attend the next Common Council meeting on October 22, 2019.

7. APPROVE THE PONTIAN SOCIETY OF NORWALK REQUEST TO INSTALL A MEMORIAL MONUMENT AT FREESE PARK. THE COST AND INSTALLATION WILL BE FULLY FUNDED BY THE ORGANIZATION AND ALL SITE WORK WILL BE COORDINATED WITH THE CITY'S PARK DEPARTMENT.

Mr. Kydes provided a background on the request and said that they have been working with Mayor Rilling for quite some time and that Stantec has incorporated the monument in the master plan, and this committee has passed it on to the Arts Commission for review and approval and the Pontian Society had adopted the changes that they had requested.

Mr. Roberts said that the original proposal came from the Pontian Society to have the monument located at Freese Park. He said the design consultant for Freese Park reviewed the request and made some recommendations and scaled it down and recommended would be located towards the Wall Street area, and it will not impact any of the open space or programming on the site. He said while he does believe monuments should be in a centralized location there are some challenges with Heritage Park as far as space, accessibility and increased traffic from the mall.

Mr. Yerinides asked if there is a process when a request is made to put a monument in a city park. Mr. Roberts said "no" but that is something he would look to the Arts Commission to develop but there is nothing currently in place.

Ms. Smyth read an email she received from Ms. Cece expressing a strong feeling that the monument belongs at Heritage Park rather than Freese Park.

Ms. Smyth said the monument has been very scaled down to fit in the site but her concern is color that is on the monument. Mr. Roberts said that was also discussed by the Arts Commission. The representative of Pontian Society said that they have been going through the process for the past ten years at a considerable cost and have met with all of the required city agencies. He said the Arts Commission has approved it as presented but they would be willing to change the color to better blend in with the natural surroundings, but that may entail going back to the Arts Commission for approval and that would prolong the already lengthy process. Mr. Kydes suggested that the representative work with Ms. Church of the Arts Commission to modify the color. Ms. Smyth said that she would not be willing to approve the monument without a color change. Mr. Roberts asked Ms. Smyth if she is comfortable with gray being the color change. Ms. Smyth said "yes".

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

Mr. Kydes asked Mr. Schlegel to attend the next Common Council meeting on October 22, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd
Telesco Secretarial Services