

CITY OF NORWALK  
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS  
APRIL 21, 2010

ATTENDANCE: Richard Bonenfant, Acting Chair; Fred Bondi; Laurel Lindstrom; Travis Simms; John Tobin; Richard McQuaid, Chair (7:25 p.m.)

STAFF: Michael Mocciae, Director

ROLL CALL

Mr. Bonenfant called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and called the Roll.

MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2010 MEETING

\*\* MR. TOBIN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MS. LINDSTROM)

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GLOBAL IMPACT PRODUCTIONS FOR THE USE OF FOX RUN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARKING AREA SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2010 FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 10:00 P.M. FOR A WATER STOP AS PART OF "BREAKING THE CYCLE" A BICYCLE TOUR

Mr. Mocciae explained that this is a 3-day AIDS run for 120 cyclists. He said that they held this event last year and it worked well. Mr. Batter explained the route they would follow. Mr. Mocciae said that there is no impact from them regarding clean-up.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING ITEM BECAUSE THERE WAS NO ONE PRESENT

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVE THE USE OF THE PAVILION AT CRANBURY PARK AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUND FOR BRENDA ADGERSON THE NORWALK COMMUNITY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE FOR A COMMUNITY BARBEQUE TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2010 FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100+

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PAWS (PET ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY FOR THE USE OF THE ORCHARD AREA IN CRANBURY PARK FOR THEIR THIRD ANNUAL "BARK IN THE PARK" ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2010 FROM 10:30 A.M. TO 2:30 P.M. SET UP TO START SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER, 19, 2010 AT 7:00 A.M. AND BREAKDOWN BY 4:00 P.M. ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2010. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150

Mr. Tobin said that he works for PAWS. Ms. Heydt said that this is their third year holding this event.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. TOBIN MOVED TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING ITEM OFF TABLE

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. TOBIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE PAVILION AT CRANBURY PARK AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUND FOR BRENDA ADGERSON THE NORWALK COMMUNITY CELEBRATION COMMITTEE FOR A COMMUNITY BARBEQUE TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 7, 2010 FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100+

Ms. Tysen said that she plans to bring native Norwalkers together to have a reunion weekend celebration. They will only be at Cranbury Park on Saturday. Ms. Lindstrom asked if this is the first time they are doing this. Ms. Tysen said that it was. They are trying to bring people together instead of waiting for the high school reunions.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MS. LINDSTROM MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE SHEA-MCGRATH SPORTS COMPLEX AT NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL BY THE NORWALK MARCHING BAND FOR THEIR 28<sup>TH</sup> CAVALCADE OF BANDS COMPETITION TO BE HELD SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2010 FROM 3:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 2,000+

Mr. Bonenfant said that he helps out with the band. Mr. Mocciae said that they leave the fields cleaner than when they find it.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH A.C.H.I.E.V.E FOR THE USE OF THE SCHOOL GROUNDS AT JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR THEIR SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM WILL BE OFFERED JULY 6, 2010 THROUGH AUGUST 13, 2010 FROM 7:30 A.M. – 5:30 P.M. MONDAY – FRIDAY. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100+

The date has been changed to July 6, 2010.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. SIMMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE GROUNDS OF MATHEWS PARK BY THE LOCKWOOD MATHEWS MUSEUM FOR THEIR THIRD ANNUAL FLEA MARKET TO TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2010 FROM 6:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 300 – 400.

Ms. Karen Doyle Lyons explained that the proceeds will go to the Mansion. Mr. Brian Fischer said that the antique vehicles will be parked on the lawn with drip pans under them.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. SIMMS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL MARINE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION FOR THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH, SHADY BEACH, TAYLOR FARM AND MARVIN SCHOOL (MARVIN SCHOOL ONLY USED SATURDAY AND SUNDAY) FOR ATTENDEE PARKING. SHOW DAYS, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23-26,

010 FOR THEIR ANNUAL NORWALK BOAT SHOW. PROPOSED PARKING RATE 410.00 PER CAR, 2009 RATE \$8.00 PER CAR

Mr. Mocciae explained that the City controls the parking lots and the fees go to the City. Mr. Bondi asked if the \$10.00 would deter visitors. Mr. Mocciae said that they could keep the vendor cost at \$8.00. He said that last year they increased the cost of parking from \$7.00 to \$8.00 and they are claiming hardship. Mr. Bondi said that \$10.00 is not expensive. Mr. Simms said that is not for everyone, especially in this economy. Mr. Mocciae said that the number of people who attend the boat show has gone down. Part of the money from parking fees is used to repair the fields following the event.

Mr. McQuaid joined the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Tobin said that he would tend to keep the rate at \$8.00 for vendors.

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION TO CHARGE \$10.00 FOR NON-RESIDENT PARKING AND \$8.00 FOR VENDORS

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. McQuaid took over the meeting.

\*\* MR. BONENFANT MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH BY THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN STUDY FOR A SUMMER OUTING TO BE HELD AT STEW LEONARD'S TENT ON FRIDAY, JULY 30, 2010 FROM 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 110

Mr. Mocciae said that there is a \$5.00 fee for non-residents

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. SIMMS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ROWAYTON P.T.A FOR THEIR USE OF THE ROWAYTON SCHOOL GROUNDS FOR THEIR ANNUAL SPRING CARNIVAL TO BE HELD FRIDAY, MAY 7, 2010 FROM 6:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M., SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2010 FROM 8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. SET UP TO BEGIN THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2010 WITH TEAR DOWN NO

LATER THAN 12 NOON ON MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500

The co-chairs said that they were asking permission to use the grounds for their 21<sup>st</sup> annual carnival.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MS. LINDSTROM MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE GROUNDS AT WITCH PARK BY THE SHAKESPEARE ON THE SOUND FOR ADDITIONAL PARKING FOR THEIR ANNUAL SHAKESPEARE EVENT TO BE HELD TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2010 THROUGH SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2010. 50 CARS MAX AT ANY ONE TIME, NO PARKING ALLOWED IF IT RAINS, CONDITIONS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Bryant said that they are asking for permission to park 50 cars. Mr. Mocciae said that they will let them know if the park is usable on the day of the performance.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. SIMMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF VETERAN'S PARK BY SIDE BY SIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOL FOR THEIR ANNUAL FIELD DAY TO BE HELD FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2010 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 230

Mr. Mocciae explained that they have been doing this for a few years.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO TABLE THE FOLLOWING ITEM BECAUSE NO ONE WAS PRESENT

AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE YMCA OF NORWALK FOR THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR AN AROUND THE BUOY SWIM TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2010 FROM 6:00 A.M. – 12 NOON. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE PAVILION AT CRANBURY PARK AND THE IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUND BY REED EXHIBITIONS FOR THEIR COMPANY PICNIC TO BE HELD WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 2010 WITH A RAIN DATE OF THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2010 FROM 7:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 300-500.

Mr. Mocciae explained that Reed Exhibitions will provide a bus shuttle for the event.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. SIMMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH BY THE TOWN OF LEWISBORO, NEW YORK FOR A CAMP PICNIC TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2010 FROM 9:45 A.M. TO 1:30 P.M. WITH A RAIN DATE OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2010. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 150

Mr. Mocciae explained that they have been visiting Calf Pasture for 3-4 years and paying the fees. Mr. McQuaid said that they do a great job in supervising the kids.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. BONENFANT MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF CALF PASTURE SOFTBALL FIELDS BY TOM GEARY FOR A FUNDRAISER (SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT) "CLICK IT FOR CASSIE" TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2010 FORM 8:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M. WITH A RAIN DATE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2010. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 250.

Mr. Bondi asked if there would be an impact on the softball fields. Mr. Mocciae said that there would not. He said that they have done this before and paid the fees. They were given permission by Stew's to bring in a vendor. Mr. McQuaid said that seeing everyone band together is a true story of what she meant. He urged everyone to get behind this.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR MARINE SEWAGE DISPOSAL FACILITY GRANT. THE GRANT FUNDS 75% OF OUR OPERATION, 25% IN -KIND WITHIN EXISTING OPERATION BUDGET. THE CONTRACT RUNS THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010. TOTAL AMOUNT FOR GRANT \$5,597.63

Mr. Moccia explained that the State provided the funds to build the pump out station. The grant covers this entire item.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

#### TECHNICAL CORRECTION (DATE)

\*\* MS. LINDSTROM MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TRI-FITNESS FOR THE USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR AN ALL WOMEN TRIATHLON TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2010 FROM 6:30 P.M. – 9:30 P.M. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE FRIDAY, AUGUST 27, 2010 AT NOON WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 2010. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 400 – 500. (CHANGE DATE FROM SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 2010 TO SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2010)

Mr. Moccia said that there are no conflicts with the new date.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. SIMMS MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE LIVE NOW INDUSTRIES, LLC FOR THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK FOR A REGGAE AND BLUES FESTIVAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY, AUGUST 14, 2010 FROM 9:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M. SET UP FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 2010 AFTER 1:00 P.M. AND TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON SUNDAY,

AUGUST 15, 2010. FEE \$20.00 TICKETS PRIOR TO EVENT; \$30.00 DAY OF EVENT. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500 – 1,500.

Mr. Moccia explained that this is a new event and will take the place of other events that have taken place at Cranbury Park. He explained that Thomas Craig and David Brown run an Action Day at the beach and are no strangers to Norwalk's rules and regulations.

Mr. Craig said that as life-long residents they are passionate about Cranbury Park. Mr. Bondi asked where the profits go. Mr. Craig said that the suggested ticket price is \$20.00; \$1.00 is going to the Friends of Cranbury Park and 5% will go to Hospice and Juvenile Diabetes.

Mr. Craig said that they reached out to the Exchange Club to provide the food. He said that they are willing to step away from food and alcohol if they can't partner with an appropriate organization.

Mr. Tobin noted that the recently passed master plan calls for this type of event. Mr. Bonenfant said that he was concerned about the Park being closed to the public. Mr. Moccia said that the event is closed to the public during other events, but people can still access the trails. Mr. Craig said that they would seek advice.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*\* MR. BONENFANT MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH J.J.S. UNIVERSAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY FOR PROJECT #2924 ROOF REPLACEMENT PARKS GARAGE FOR A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$159,000. ACCOUNT #09106030-5777-C0472

AND TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS ON A CONTRACT FOR A TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$15,900. ACCOUNT 09106030-5777-C0472

Mr. Moccia said that the roof has not been done since the 1970's.

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

### DISCUSSION

## CNNA REGARDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Ms. Burton explained the intent of the proposal. She said that they want the people who use the parks to feel engaged when there are going to be significant changes made. Mr. McQuaid asked her what triggered this. Ms. Burton said Veteran's Park with the arena and miniature golf course, Cranbury Park and Ryan Park. She said that if the process she proposed was set up it would make people feel more comfortable. She said that the people at Fodor Farm were upset. Mr. Bondi explained that was publicized very much; anything done there has been researched.

Mr. Bondi told Ms. Burton they already do what she is asking for. He said that there were a lot of hearings about Ryan Park and Cranbury Park. In addition, the committee for Cranbury Park consisted of community members. Mr. Bondi said that the miniature golf at Veteran's Park was a suggestion only; the opposition exposed it as an amusement park, but that was not the plan. He said that there are a lot of group with their own agenda and in some instances that stops progress.

Mr. Mocciae suggested holding a public information meeting when a capital item is added to the budget that is a new amenity to a park. Mr. McQuaid said that he did not want to post signs in the parks. Mr. Mocciae said that the president of the various groups could contact the user groups. Mr. Tobin said that there is nothing wrong with a councilperson letting the immediate neighbors know what is going on. Ms. Burton said that she would love to see the City website have an e-notify system. Mr. Mocciae said that the capital budget is on the website. Mr. Bondi suggested that the neighborhood associations notify their neighbors.

Ms. Lindstrom said that with capital budget projects, it is a good idea to post information on park kiosks. She said that the most controversial issues are the private ventures that would not be on the capital budget. She said that she believes people are feeling blind-sighted and that information should be made available sooner rather than later.

Mr. Bonenfant told Ms. Burton that the Committee heard her. He suggested sending a representative to take notes from these meetings and report back. Ms. Burton said that she would love to be able to do that and that they try to monitor agendas, but there are only so many

people. Mr. McQuaid told Ms. Burton that this Committee has one of the best department heads so the communications should be good. He said that this Committee tries to be non-political and they are out in the parks. Mr. McQuaid suggested that Ms. Burton keep in touch with Mr. Mocciaie.

### ADULT SOCCER LEAGUE

Mr. Mocciaie explained that they can't stop people from playing on open fields. On Sunday afternoons, there are 4- 500 people tearing up the fields at West Rocks Middle School. He said that this modified league can be accommodated there on Sunday afternoons, which will prevent the rogue teams from playing.

Mr. Mocciaie said that with only four teams, there will be no problem with parking. Ms. Lindstrom asked if other adult teams have requested space. Mr. McQuaid said that this is an organized Norwalk team. Mr. Simms asked if there is a proposal to use Flax Hill Park. Mr. Mocciaie said that he gave that to the junior soccer league until the lower field at Nathan Hale Middle School is playable. At that point, Mr. Cassera will have an opportunity to play there.

Mr. Bondi said that two months ago there were no empty spaces. He asked what happened to PAL football. Mr. Mocciaie said that soccer is a spring/summer sport.

Mr. Cassera said that the idea was to play at Veteran's Park because there are goals already in place. He said that his goals have been vandalized and he will have to buy new ones. Mr. Cassera asked if they could use Woodward Park as a practice field during the week. Mr. McQuaid suggested using West Rocks field for this pilot program and then they can discuss other fields.

A resident asked about the field at Roton Middle School. She said that the soccer field is unmarked. Mr. McQuaid said that the field is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education. The resident said that the Board of Education said that the field was under the jurisdiction of the City of Norwalk. The Committee discussed the necessity of using the fields for specific sports during the appropriate seasons. They also talked about a moratorium in field use.

\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO ADJOURN

\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi  
Telesco Secretarial Services