

**Park, Beach and Recreation Commission  
Regular Meeting  
July 2, 2008**

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**Members Present**

Daniel Worroll, Jr., Chairman  
Patrick Dooling, Commissioner  
Kerri Rowland, Commissioner  
Suzanne DiBiase, Commissioner

**Absent**

Ann Fabian, Vice Chairman

**Also Present**

William McCarthy, Recreation Dir.  
Jessica Blacketter, Alderman  
Judith Toohey, Alderman

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their July meeting on Wednesday, July 2, 2008 in Conference Room C of the Parson's Government Complex. Chairman Worroll called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Chairman Worroll stated Item 1 under Old Business should be placed under New Business and would be considered then.

**I. Consideration of the Minutes** of the Regular Meeting of the Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held on June 4, 2008.

Commissioners Dooling and Rowland made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the June 4, 2008 meeting as presented.

Chairman Worroll pointed out the motion under Public Statement should be eliminated under Public Statement.

Motion carried unanimously as corrected.

**II. Public Statement**

M. Casey – 3 Pond Street – spoke regarding the bocci courts at Walnut Beach that this Commission approved previously. He stated the work, which was a scout project has been completed and ready for a formal dedication.

Chairman Worroll stated the Commission would pick a day to have the official opening and that he would check with the Mayor's Office for his schedule.

J. Patrick – 660 Gulf Street – spoke regarding the gardens at Eisenhower Park and the water lines that they wish to extend. He explained it is there goal is expand on the already existing water lines that are there and will help fulfill the needs of the garden.

Chairman Worroll commented this would take the place of the rain gauge.

Director McCarthy added he met with Mr. Patrick, Mr. Rusanowsky and the Public Works Director at the community gardens and would strongly recommend the Commission allow this group to proceed with this project. He stated he would also put his recommendations in writing.

Commissioners Rowland and Dooling made and seconded a motion to accept the revised plan for the community gardens as depicted on the map on file. Motion carried unanimously.

J. DellaMonica – 60 Berner Terrace – stated he is a member of the Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities. He asked the Commission for their support for Bodie's Place. He stated this playground would be a beautiful thing to do for our children, both handicapped and not. He also commented by putting children together they learn from each other. He also stated our children are our tomorrow and we have a chance to make a better place. He stated he realized this is involved, but could be done. He reiterated he was looking for the Commission's support both from their hearts and minds and most importantly for our children, both disabled and not.

L. Vaccino (no address given) – commented Eisenhower Park is the most ideal spoke because of the amenities already there. She also spoke of the natural shading there. She asked the Commission's support and consideration.

L. Williamson – 149 Wheelers Farm Road – stated she also wished to speak in support of the Bodie's Place. She stated she is a practicing physical therapist and shared on storey on a personal note. She spoke of the importance of keeping Milford accessible for all and strongly encouraged the Commission to make this happen.

G. Parmelee - 18 First Avenue – stated he is a member of the Executive Board of the Commission of Boy Scouts. He stated after listening tonight to the plea for Bodie's Place he could guarantee the scouts would be more than willing to get involved and make those plans come true.

### **III. Correspondence**

1. Memorial tree at Grove Circle – Director McCarthy reported he received an email from the father of the late Shawn Foley requesting a memorial tree at Grove Circle. He reported he has put him in touch with Mary Ludwig of the Milford Tree Commission and she will work with him on the specifics of a tree.
2. New Gym – Director McCarthy reported Roger Letso of the Connecticut Center for Child Development contacted him. Director McCarthy explained they are currently located on Bridgeport Avenue and would be moving to another location on Wheelers Farm Road which location will include a gym. He reported Mr. Letso offered the city use of that gym when their programs have concluded.
3. St. Mary's Guild – Director McCarthy reported he received a \$250 donation from the Saint Mary's Guild, Ms. Janet Montalbano for the Camp Happiness. Director McCarthy he sent Ms. Montalbano a thank you and forwarded the check to Ms. Sanchez, the director of Camp Happiness who also sent a thank you.

4. United Way request – Director McCarthy stated he received a request from United Way asking permission to place an 4' x 8' banner on the green for their annual drive. He explained this is something that has been done for years.

Chairman Worroll spoke as to Bodie's Place and reported he received several letters supporting Bodie's Place.

#### **IV. Director's Report**

1. Teen Camp – Director McCarthy report they have had a successful two weeks and are looking to build on this for next year.
2. Camp Happiness relocation – Director McCarthy reported the camp was relocated from Foran because of construction work there and have been moved to the Alternative High School (formerly Milford Academy). He explained this was scheduled back in March but due to some unforeseen circumstances a temporary certificate of occupancy was received just 3 days before camp was to begin. He noted for the time they can only use the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
3. Challenger Baseball – Director McCarthy reported the new challenger baseball league held their picnic and awards day last Saturday and that the weather held up and it was a good time for all.
4. Eisenhower Park Federal Funding meeting – Director McCarthy reported he along with those involved with the Eisenhower Park Study Commission were invited by the Mayor to attend this meeting regarding the best way to utilize the \$348,000 grant from the federal government for upgrades to Eisenhower Park. He stated with the help of Gary Sorge, it was agreed a dam/bridge link to both sides of the park was much needed so work would focus on that area. He stated the bridge would enable pedestrians and possibly emergency vehicles to cross over.

Chairman Worroll noted before anything gets done it would have to come before this Commission. He stated they were looking to DEP to make sure everything concerning any water issues are done.

5. M.U.S.C. – Director McCarthy reported he had a meeting at the Mayor's Office concerning the soccer field at the gardens (Eisenhower Park). He addressed the issue of the surface area that has some rock exposure and that they are looking to public works for a solution and making the field better. He explained what public would be doing there. Director McCarthy stated they are in the process of looking for a temporary field location, possibly Point Beach to offset the loss of one field.
6. Milford Favorite WALKS – Director McCarthy reported the Milford Favorite WALKS booklet is available at the Recreation Department. He thanked Ann Berman and Barbara Milton for the hard work in putting this together.

## **V. Commissioner Report**

Chairman Worroll reported the golf course is doing well and currently they are in contract negotiations with the management company. In the absence of Commissioner Fabian, Chairman Worroll reported Commissioner Fabian has been working very hard on the bench program and has taken a number of photographs in an effort to make the benches all the same. He pointed out a spot for one of the benches could be at the bocci courts.

## **VI. Unfinished Business**

1. Bodie's Place location – Chairman Worroll stated at no time was the Commission against this project and that the wrong impression may have been given at a previous meeting. He explained the reason it was not voted on at the last meeting was that the Commission had not received the all the information it needed. Chairman Worroll also commented regarding the location of Bodie's Place at Eisenhower Park where the current playground is located and also spoke as to the authority of this Commission.

Commissioners Dooling and Rowland made and seconded a motion to approve the location of Bodie's Place at Eisenhower Park in the area of the current playground on the North Street side of the park.

Commissioner DiBiase asked if the proposed location would disturb the tennis, handball courts, etc.

Chairman Worroll replied no. He stated the playground would be in addition to what is already there. He also pointed out the location has access to the parking lot as well as the bathrooms and there is lighting in that area. Chairman Worroll also explained the reason for this approval tonight is so the group can begin their fundraising plans.

Commissioner Rowland asked if a find plan would be drawn up. She also asked about the existing materials and if they could be incorporated or used elsewhere.

Ms. Vacino explained the slides are doublewide, which enables a parent to be alongside their child, and also there is ramping to get them to the top of the slide. She explained the items would be having certain specifications.

Commissioner Rowland asked if the existing equipment could be removed and placed elsewhere in the City.

Director McCarthy responded it probably could be but that they could also keep it and add it to the equipment for Bodie's Place. He also added they are looking for permission for a footprint of what they will have.

Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Rowland stated her concern would be that good equipment is not destroyed, but reused somehow.

2. Jack Patrick's modified Eagle Scout Project – previously acted on earlier in the meeting.

**VII. New Business**

None.

Commissioners Rowland and Dooling made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The Commission adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen K. Huber  
Recording Secretary, Acting for  
Sandra L. Guglielmoni