

Park, Beach and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
August 2, 2006

Members Present

Daniel Worroll, Jr. Chairman
James Belluscio, Commissioner
Patrick Dooling, Commissioner

Absent

Public Works Rep.
Ann Fabian, Vice Chairman
Jacqueline Munk, Commissioner

Also Present

William McCarthy, Recreation Director
Joseph Garbus, Alderman
Kerri Rowland, Alderwoman

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their August meeting on August 2, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Conference Room C of the Parson's Government Complex. Chairman Worroll called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

I. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular meeting of the Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held on July 5, 2006.

Commissioner Belluscio moved and Commissioner Dooling seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the July 5, 2006 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Public Statement

J. Garbus asked about Andrews Avenue and stated he was still waiting on the request.

Mr. McCarthy stated he would address Andrews Avenue under Old Business.

K. Huber – 277 Roses Mill Road – expressed her disappointment at the condition of the softball fields in the city this year. She stated she has live in this city for nearly 25 years and played in the league as long and it does it appear the fields are being properly maintained.

Chairman Worroll stated he wished to recognize Ms. N. Seltzer and then if the Commissioner had not objection they would move to New Business for an item Ms. Seltzer wished to bring forward.

N. Seltzer stated she wished to thank the Commission from the bottom of her heart for all their help with Devon Day and extended kudos to all. She stated the day was outstanding and that a big part of the day was held at the park. She stated it was just glorious and she wished to have use of the park next year and requested permission from the Commission to do so.

Mr. McCarthy thanked Ms. Seltzer for all her hard work as well.

VII New Business

N. Seltzer spoke of the Devon Rotary Pavilion at Walnut Beach and stated it would be wonderful if one could be built at Grove Circle. She noted it is aesthetically and

acoustically beautiful and to have something like that at Grove Circle would bring so much more to the park. She stated she would begin to look into funding.

Chairman Worroll commented one of the things at issue at Walnut Beach was scheduling. He stated at Grove Circle parking could be an issue. He suggested Ms. Seltzer work with Director McCarthy.

Ms. Seltzer replied a pavilion at Grove Circle did not have to be as big.

Mr. McCarthy added at Walnut Beach they needed to be sensitive to the neighbors in scheduling of events. He spoke of some of the complaints that have been received and that he has requested a meeting with the Mayor and Police Chief.

Ald. Garbus spoke of the work done at Walnut Beach vs. Fowler Field.

Ms. Seltzer also commented regarding the power box at Walnut Beach and that it is so high up it is difficult to reach. She stated she wished to facilitate this and to contact her with any questions.

III Correspondence

1. Mr. McCarthy stated he received a letter regarding the Summer Playground Program (SPP) from a K. Elson praising the program however she would like to see the program be held rain or shine and that in hot weather the children be allowed to go inside the schools. Mr. McCarthy stated he has discussed this with playground director, P. Austin and also stated they do not get a lot of cooperation from the Board of Education. He also noted that due to the size of the camps there would not be room for all the children in the gym and that the gyms are used in the summer for storage. He stated if the Eisenhower Park plan is approved he would like to see the camp go to a full day camp.

Commissioner Belluscio asked about using Milford Academy.

Mr. McCarthy responded it is too small.

2. Mr. McCarthy reported the Farmer's market is going well and that he received a letter from Mr. R. Faun thanking the Commissioner for all their help and support.

Chairman Worroll added he has been there and that it seems to be going well and well supported with no complaints.

Commissioner Belluscio commented it was his understanding that the Monday date was not to interfere with others and that Stratford hold theirs on Mondays from 12-6. A brief discussion ensued.

IV Director's Report

1. Mr. McCarthy reported he attended the Milford Gypsies Cricket Club opening day ceremony on July 30, 2006 at West Shore neighborhood Field. He reported there were tents for the dignitaries and that he attended along with the Mayor, Ald. Beirne and Mr. Garfield. He stated they had two teams and that everything went well and they are eager to have it continue.
2. Mr. McCarthy reported they have copies of the Certificate of Occupancy for the Walnut Beach Pavilion. He also reported that Public Works has requested that all permittees using the pavilion go directly to the Public Works Department for the key.
3. Mr. McCarthy spoke regarding the letter he received from City Treasurer, Lee Nosal and referred to a recent article in the Connecticut Post regarding the Fairfield Soccer League referees dispute and explained the request from Ms. Nosal.

V Commissioner Reports

Chairman Worroll reported the golf course is doing well although rounds are down slightly due to the weather. He stated the irrigation and tees are fine. He spoke of the issue concerning people being notified of events in the city. He stated he had to read it in the newspaper about the dedication of the Devon Clock Tower and that he is not being notified events this Commission governs. He stated that as a courtesy this Commission should be notified. He stated as an example the recent opening day of the Cricket Club and that he only knew of it because of the agenda. He stated this Commission is being overlooked and slighted and that he took offense to it especially since this Commission is the governing body of many of the events.

Mr. McCarthy asked if Chairman Worroll was asking him to notify each member of the Commission of all events. A brief discussion ensued.

Chairman Worroll referred back to his earlier report concerning the Golf Commission and that the dedication for the John Casey Plaque would be held in mid September on a Saturday.

Commissioner Belluscio commented the newspaper lists various city meetings however he has never seen this Commission listed.

Chairman Worroll asked Director McCarthy to send e-mail to the City Clerk's Office and the Mayor's Office asking them to be sure this Commission's meetings are posted.

Commissioner Dooling asked about Eisenhower Park.

Chairman Worroll replied nothing has come before this Commission as yet and that it was his understanding the Eisenhower Study Park Committee had not given their plan to the mayor.

VI Old Business

1. Andrews Avenue Playground – Director McCarthy reported he spoke with Bob Gregory and asked for an update regarding Mr. Falloni's concerns. He also reported they did a site assessment and that he forwarded it to Mr. Gregory. He stated they were treating this as a Community Development Program and that he had no further information at this time.

Ald. Garbus asked who had jurisdiction to move ahead.

Chairman Worroll stated they need the money to proceed and it is not coming from this budget. He stated it is a wait and see with Bob Gregory.

Commissioner Belluscio asked why they are dragging their feet and that it was time to move and that they either have the money or they don't.

Chairman Worroll stated it would either be one or not.

Ald. Garbus commented it is about the community and the residents in that area.

2. "Movies on the Green" – Directory McCarthy reported they are now contemplating using Fowler Field Rotary Pavillion and that the Downtown Business Association was going to pay for this. He stated that due to the agreement they have with Public Works and the timing of the events on the green it was thought they could go to Fowler Field.

Commissioner Belluscio asked why they couldn't use the west side of the green.

Chairman Worroll explained the agreement with Public Works. A brief discussion ensued.

Director McCarthy stated he forget to advise the Commission under "New Business" of the new basketball nets at the Point Beach Playground.

VII New Business

Director McCarthy reported he received a request from the United Way to put up signs as they have in the past and that he extended them that courtesy. He also reported he received a call from Tower Optical that the view stand with binoculars was vandalized at a cost of \$200 as well as costs for parts. He stated he also received a call from Mr. Barnes and they will be removed shortly. Director McCarthy also addressed the comments made during the public session concerning the condition of the softball fields. He stated they too are equally frustrated but unfortunately they can't do anything. He stated the strongest

voices are the private citizens and went through the history of this topic dating back to 1972. He stated it is less of a priority to maintain these fields.

Chairman Worroll added he heard remarks from an irate person and that he called Mr. Kolwicz directly. He explained the BOE is responsible for the fields except for when school is out. He stated he intended to attend the Public Works meeting to address this.

Directly McCarthy spoke of his long endeavor to get Red Bush field in shape but unfortunately they are at the mercy of the higher ups. A brief discussion ensued.

Commissioner Belluscio commented regarding parking permits and stated people have to wait in such long lines for parking passes and asked if there was a better way to distribute them. He also asked about Shell Avenue along the easement to the beach and that the garbage can had been removed.

Commissioner Dooling asked if there was any feedback from the Little League Tournament recently held in Milford.

Directory McCarthy replied it was a roaring success and that he would like to have it come back next year.

The next meeting of the Park, Beach and Recreation Commission will be held on Wednesday, September 6, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Conference Room C of the Parson's Government Complex.

Commission Belluscio moved and Commissioner Dooling seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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