Park, Beach, and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting

September 4, 2013

Members Present

Daniel Worroll, Jr., Chair Ann Fabian, Vice Chairman Julie Nash, Commissioner Kerri Rowland, Commissioner

Absent

Also Present

Paul Piscitelli, Recreation Director

Public Works Representative I Nick Veccharelli, Jr., Aldermanic Liaison Anthony Giannattasio, Aldermanic Liaison Frank Giustino, Commissioner

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their Regular Meeting on **September 4, 2013,** at 7:30 p.m. in Conference C. Chairman Worroll called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

I. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held on August 7, 2013.

Commissioner Rowland made a **Motion** to accept the **August 7, 2013** minutes as read. Vice Chairman Fabian seconds **Motion**.

Motion unanimously carried.

II. Public Statement

The time limit granted to each speaker shall be limited to three (3) minutes. None.

III. Correspondence

None.

IV. Director's Report

- **1. Personnel Update Director Piscitelli** The full time recreation supervisor position has been filled with Rich Minnix. He officially began on July 15, 2013. Rich is a 2012 graduate from Southern CT with a degree in Recreation. He did internship in the Recreation Department during 2012 and is well versed with our computer system, social media and demonstrates good people skills.
- 2. Fall Programs Director Piscitelli The fall program flyers are out with approximately 40 plus programs. Registration for gym time, which has become very popular, and our adaptive programs are in progress. In addition we are looking for mentors to assist in our adaptive programs and have reached out to the Board of Education for educators as well as anyone with special skills who are willing to teach, as well as students looking to fill service hours in schools.

Vice Chairman, Ann Fabian inquired about the progress and popularity of the on-line registration. Director Piscitelli advised it is going very well; however, we are still unable to accept credit cards on-line which continues to be worked on.

- **3.** Anderson Avenue Basketball Court –Director Piscitelli Anderson Avenue Basketball Court was ceremoniously and officially opened on August 27 and was well attended. The <u>Milford Mirror</u> prepared an article and much was learned about the history of the park.
- **4. Skatepark Renovation Update Director Piscitelli** Discussion with the construction manager in Seattle, Washington regarding the timeframe for construction to commence and he advised that weather conditions are key and the optimum may be spring 2014. They anticipate this to be a sixweek project which will not interfere with the park being used for the summer.

Chairman Worroll inquired about the update of the Sandy Hook playground for Milford Academy. Piscitelli advised he is still waiting to hear from the New Jersey Firefighters Association.

V. Commissioners' Report

- 1. Golf Course Committee Chairman Worroll Golf course is doing well, looks great and the committee is discussing the possibility of another new building for maintenance and additional golf carts. Also, two new benches will be going in this month.
- **2. Walnut Beach Enhancement Committee Chairman Worroll** Things have gone well this summer with the programs. The next item to work on will be the sidewalks in the area.
- 3. Bench Dedication Program Vice Chairman Fabian Fabian gave a brief history regarding the commencement of bench dedications, the increase interest and the growing popularity for dedications to memorialize a loved one. She also advised that bench space at Walnut Beach is almost filled and are looking to expand into other areas. Discussion ensued regarding potential locations as well as the benefits of the bench slat replacement dedications. Piscitelli presented the Commissioners with a new brochure/application featuring the options for the different style benches as well as bench slat replacement dedications.

VI. Old Business

None.

VII. New Business

1. Eagle Scout Project Proposal for Bat House at Eisenhower Park – Scout Tyler Lambiase, 31 Platt Lane, Milford – Scout Lambiase's presentation before the Commissioners is seeking approval to place four (4) bat houses in Eisenhower Park, and one (1) at Orchards Hill Golf Course. He provided a prototype of the bat house design. He discussed the purpose for building them is to lower the bug/mosquito population thereby reducing the potential for West Nile Virus, and give bats better homes by protecting them and allowing them to stay in this area. In addition, he explained the importance and usefulness of bats and the species of bats. He further explained the White Nose Disease bats are suffering from White in this Country as a result of habiting in caves. Bat houses in wooded areas are more suitable and would aid in eliminating this disease.

Discussion followed regarding the size and explanation of how bats utilize the house, and the determination of strategically placing the bat houses in other areas around the City.

Commissioner Rowland made a **Motion** to approve the project as detailed with placement to be determined.

Discussion followed regarding Scout Lambiase installing bat houses at other recreation locations. Director Piscitelli advised that Lambiase had to submit his plan, as is, to the Boy Scout Council for approval. It was determined that additional sites could be another project for other Scouts seeking Eagle status.

Commissioner Rowland withdrew **Motion**.

Vice Chairman Fabian makes a **Motion** to accept Tyler Lambiase's proposal for the five (5) bat houses proposed in his presentation as is.

Commissioner Nash seconds Motion.

No discussion.

Motion unanimously carried.

2. Eagle Scout Project Proposal for Kiosk at Wilcox Park – Scout Andrew Priess, 114 Easy Street, Milford – Scout Preiss' presentation before the Commissioners is seeking approval to build and install a trail kiosk to identify invasive species and planting native plants at Wilcox Park. He provided a detailed project summary outlining the purpose of his project. Mr. Preiss would like to clear invasive plants, make maps for the kiosk and build small animal shelters. In addition, once the invasive plants are cleared he would plant native plants in their place. The kiosk would provide directions and information regarding the plants to visitors. Clearing the invasive plant would allow more sunshine for the native plants as well as for the small animal shelters.

Discussion. Chairman Worroll raised the question if Public Works may have a concern regarding this project. Piscitelli advised that Preiss has been working with Steve Johnson who has been aiding scouts in their Eagle Projects and not-for-profit groups to take care of some areas in Town. A question was also raised regarding a potential problem with animal habitat and Piscitelli advised there was none that he is aware of. Regarding the construction of the kiosk, Preiss indicated that it will be on two posts and free standing.

Commissioner Rowland makes a **Motion** to approve the Project as presented.

Commissioner Nash seconds Motion.

No discussion.

Motion unanimously carried.

Both Scout Lambiase and Scout Preiss where congratulated by the Commissioners on well-thought- out and great projects and wished them well.

Chairman Worroll – Mentioned the Oyster Fest Eve and the Oyster Festival was a success. Upcoming events, Engine 260, Fire Muster will be Saturday, September 7 at Eisenhower Park. Money raised at the Muster will go to Camp Happiness. The Irish Festival will be on September 20 and 21an all day event.

VIII. Adjourn

Vice Chairman Fabian made a Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

Commissioner Rowland seconds Motion.

No discussion.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission will hold their next Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on October 2, 2013 in Conference Room "C".

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Mossorofo Secretary