**PARK, BEACH and RECREATION COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**OCTOBER 7, 2020**

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 via Zoom. Chairman Worroll called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Commissioners Present: Also Present:**

D. Worroll, Chairman Interim Director B. Garfield

B. Bevan

F. Shashinka

A. Fabian

K. Rowland

**Absent**: Public Works Representative, BOA Liaisons

**Public Comment**:

None

**Approval of the Minutes of the special meeting held on August 19, 2020**

Ms. Shashinka and Mr. Bevan made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2020 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Director’s Report**

Interim Director Garfield reported on the community gardens. He stated they have tried to enhance that program and encourage more community activity at the gardens. He stated there are four to five different projects going on. He reported the Girl Scouts now have an area in the garden, a row for the hungry where they have been able to provide for the Milford community. Interim Director Garfield also reported they have had some entertainment and recently had an African drumming music show that was incredibly receptive. He stated there has been some thought to have a Halloween parade offered to the children and grandchildren of the gardeners.

Chairman Worroll asked the status of the city’s pool, i.e. Natatorium.

Interim Director Garfield explained there is a manpower issue at this point. He stated the McCann’s are running their own programs during this COVID time. A brief discussion ensued.

Commissioner Bevan asked about the new turf fields at Foran and Law and asked if the recreation department would be able to use the fields when school is not in session.

Interim Director Garfield stated it is his understanding the recreation department would have the ability to use those new, premier spaces for a variety of activities. A brief discussion ensued regarding the use of the fields at the schools.

Commissioner Bevan asked about the future when those fields need to be repaired and/or replaced. He asked what account funds would come out of down the road.

Interim Director Garfield explained the use of the fields at Orange Avenue, there is a cost of $2 per player. That field is also rented by outside groups. He stated there is also the hope the concession stand will generate funds as well.

**Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Worroll thanked Interim Director Garfield for his efforts putting together the softball league, adding there was a great response. Chairman Worroll also reported he received several complaints regarding the Charles Island Music Festival. He pointed out the Park, Beach and Recreation Commission does not control the water.

**Commissioner Reports**

a) Golf Course Commission – Chairman Worroll reported Tournament Turf has decline to continue management of The Orchards effective January 2021. He explained they would not be renewing their contract so the Golf Course Commission will have to seek another company.

b) Bench Dedication Program – Mr. Garfield reported the benches are still moving along. He stated several benches were installed and 6 were ordered. He stated they were able to reach back to people who called prior to COVID, so they are now caught up. Interim Director Garfield reported benches were installed at Walnut Beach, where there is exiting concrete, and a bench outside where the 9/11 memorial by City Hall and one by the harbor (on the Scooby Doo side). He stated they are working on identifying benches that need to be replaced.

Chairman Worroll reported a bench was recently installed at the golf course by the putting green in honor of former Golf Commission Chairman Austin. He reported there was a brief ceremony held to honor Chairman Austin who sadly died last week.

Commissioner Bevan asked the status of the bench program presented to this Commission by the Milford Arts Council. He asked if they had reached out to the Recreation Department about the project and the benches, they planned on putting out. He noted he had questions at that meeting, and ended up on that committee, but never heard anything more.

Interim Director Garfield stated he has not heard anything more about benches. He stated he would ask the Executive Director, Paige Miglro where that project is at this point.

Commissioner Bevan stated he had questions about permits for the installation of the benches, liability, etc.

Vice Chairwoman Fabian stated in the past this Commission has had discussions regarding bench requests and once the bench is donated, typically in the past if you donate something to the city the rights to the bench then go to the city itself. She stated clarification may be need clarification. A brief discussion ensued.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

None.

Chairman Worroll stated the next month’s meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2020.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioners’ Fabian and Rowland moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy

Recording Secretary