

Park, Beach, and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
February 5, 2014

Members Present

Daniel Worroll, Jr., Chairman
Ann Fabian, Vice Chairman
Felicia Shashinka, Commissioner
Kerri Rowland, Commissioner
Frank Giustino, Commissioner

Absent

Public Works Representative
Nick Veccharelli, Jr., Aldermanic Liaison
Dan German, Aldermanic Liaison

Also Present

Paul Piscitelli, Recreation Director

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their Regular Meeting on **February 5, 2014**, at 7:30 p.m. in Conference C. Chairman Daniel Worroll, Jr., called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He introduced and welcomed new Commissioner Felicia Shashinka.

I. Consideration of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held on January 8, 2014.

Vice Chairman Fabian made a **Motion** to accept the January 8, 2014 minutes as read. Commissioner Rowland 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. Fiscal Year 2014-2015** – Director Piscitelli – Piscitelli and Chariman Worroll will go before the Board of Finance on Monday, February 10, 2014 to present our budget which the Mayor has already approved. Budget was approved for \$340K in the seasonal account which is up \$19K from last year; however, with the minimum wage increase to \$8.70 per hour it will be challenging during the next year. Governor Malloy announced that he would like the minimum wage increased to \$10.10 per hour by 2017. This will affect us and Piscitelli will be speaking to our elected officials in Hartford. He further stated that operational costs continues to shrink and our level of services has grown. In addition, the Parks Beach & Recreation Commission Budget had a line items for trees, shrubs and lawn care which has not been funded for many years and with the recent purchase of trees for the Green, it was decided to fund this line item with a \$1,000.

2. **Sandy Ground Playground** – Director Piscitelli – The playground is scheduled to be built tentatively on March 13 – 14 and scheduled to open March 22 with a ribbon cutting ceremony depending on the weather. The Milford Fire Department is running fund raisers, one being a 5K race in memory of James Mattioli on the morning of the grand opening; and the Tilted Kilt Pub & Eatery has partnered with the Fire Department on February 25 to donate 50% of the day's sale towards the building of the playground.
3. **Milford 375th Celebration** – Director Piscitelli – Advised celebration programs are in full swing. On February 12 there will be a Twig & Turf ceremony at City Hall which will be a re-enactment of the land transaction between the Wepawaug Indians and the Milford settlers. A gala event is scheduled at Laurelton Hall on March 29. Further details regarding this event to follow. Discussion followed regarding information to inform the public of the upcoming events and the interest for yearlong 375th Celebration.
4. **Field Usage/Demand** – Director Piscitelli – As a result of the shortage of fields and the impact of scheduling programs, we were successful in securing a Bond for \$3.3M to build two new synthetic fields. Piscitelli presented an athletic field improvement concept depicting the location of the fields. The proposed site location is the Orange Avenue YMCA and the property adjacent to the Orchards. This will provide multi-sports uses. Piscitelli commended the various sports groups who appeared before the Board of Alderman to present their arguments which resulted in a unanimous vote in favor of granting the Bond.
5. **Boys & Girls Club** – Director Piscitelli – Advised that the Boys & Girls Club has been occupying the West Shore Recreation Center, and has just recently received their Certificate of Occupancy to move into the Simon Lake facility on or about March 1.

V. Commissioner Reports

1. **Golf Course Committee** – Chairman Worroll – Golf course is closed due to the weather. Last year was a successful year and looking forward to another good year.
2. **Walnut Beach Enhancement Committee** – Chairman Worroll – New sidewalks are near completion and installing new electrical Services at the Walnut Beach Arts Village Green.
3. **Bench Dedication Program** – Vice Chairman Fabian – Director Piscitelli advises that the bench for Dr. Rauch will be installed as soon as weather permits. There are other interests for benches and during the 375th Celebration will be promoting the bench slat replacement program.
4. **Commissioner Giustino** – Giustino mentioned the continued interest regarding the Never Quit Foundation Program fund raising. Director Piscitelli apprised the Commissioners that John Lester from the Red Sox has a Never Quit Foundation for pediatric cancer research and Mr. Quish from Milford is affiliated with the program and has offered to help bring their Foundation to Milford to target Connecticut. Commissioner Giustino will continue to work with Piscitelli on this project.

VI. Old Business

- 1. The Academy Student Outreach Program – Invasive Species at Wilcox Park** – Director Piscitelli advised since Steve Wing is not present, will have discussion at a future date.

VII. New Business

None.

VIII. Adjourn

Vice Chairman Fabian made a **Motion** to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Commissioner Rowland seconds **Motion**.

Motion unanimously carried.

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission will hold their next Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m. on **March 5, 2014** in **Conference Room “C”**.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Mossorofo
Secretary