**PARK, BEACH and RECREATION COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**AUGUST 7, 2019**

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their Regular Meeting on Wednesday, August 7, 2019 in Conference Room C (Ansantawae Room). Chairman Worroll called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

**Commissioners Present: Also Present:**

D. Worroll Director P. Piscitelli

F. Shashinka Ald. C. Gaynor

B. Bevan

**Excused**: A. Fabian, K. Rowland

**Absent**: Ald. A. Sutton, Public Works Representative

**Public Comment**

William Jamieson – 16 East Drive, Gales Ferry, CT – stated he wished to provide the Commission with additional information regarding his brother.

Director Piscitelli suggested the matter be taken up under IX 1) Under New Business as stated on the Agenda.

**Consideration of the Minutes of the June 5, 2019 meeting**

Commissioners’ Shashinka and Bevan made and seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the June 5, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Director's Report**

Director Piscitelli reported parking and parking meters at Walnut Beach has been a hot topic, however, with the help of Ald. Gaynor and Ald. Smith and input from the public they have been able to address issues as they come up. He stated there is signage that needs to be addressed, but that education is important as well and that they are working with the Ordinance Committee to see if any changes are needed, specifically related to events at Walnut Beach. The police are enforcing the parking Ordinance by issuing tickets. He also reported they are an increase in fees from the meters. Director Piscitelli stated he should have a final report by the October meeting. He reported the summer playground camps wrapped up successfully last week with minimal issues. He reported Camp Happiness wraps up this week. He stated this year ran as smooth as ever, and that they had a very successful fundraiser last week at Jimmy’s Pizza.

Director Piscitelli reported there were many events that took place each week throughout the summer, including some of the major events such as Walnut Beach Day, Woodmont Day and the Oyster Festival coming up next week. Lifeguards have had a good summer overall although the heat has taken its toll this year. He noted this is the last week of 7-day service at the beaches. He explained many of the kids that work for the Recreation Department attend southern and mid-western schools are headed back to school next week. Director Piscitelli reported the Recreation Department is starting to plan for its fall programs.

Commissioner Bevan asked about parking at Walnut Beach and Gulf Beach, specifically those who participate in rowing at those beaches.

Director Piscitelli explained there is a club that meets at Gulf Beach who has been under a permit for the last 5-6 years. He stated there were some concerns initially with the new enforcement and meters; however the club purchased six non-resident season passes for their members who are non-resident.

Commissioner Bevan asked about the recent Walnut Beach Ice Cream road race. He stated the food trucks were parked in the street making it difficult for parking. In addition, people who were running the race and just volunteering at the race had to pay for parking. A brief discussion ensued.

**Commissioner Reports**

a) Golf Course Commission – Chairman Worroll reported the course is in great shape and doing well. He also stated the Golf Commission is in the process of going out to bid for the management contract. He stated the current contract will expire the end of this year.

b) Bench Dedication Program – Director Piscitelli referred to the report (attached). He stated eleven (11) benches were installed, with one bench in the Stowe Avenue area waiting for installation. He stated the installation of that bench is being coordinated with an Eagle Scout project. Director Piscitelli reported there are six (6) benches on order and that three (3) bench slat replacements had been completed. He stated there are no benches waiting to be installed at this point and not bench slat replacement on order.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**New Business**

1) Request to name the skate park after Alexander Jordan Jamieson.

Mr. William Jamieson stated his 22 year old brother Alex committed suicide in May. He stated Alex spent a lot of time at the skate park, where he was happiest and loved to teach younger kids how to skate. Mr. Jamieson spoke of the non-profit organization they have established and their plan to purchase musical instruments to donate to those students who cannot afford to purchase their own instruments. Mr. Jamieson stated they are just trying to keep Alex’s name alive and their vision for the skate park and its future.

Director Piscitelli stated he has spoken with the family as well as Mayor Blake.

Commissioner Bevan stated as a general rule of thumb he is always been against naming parks after people. He stated this request is different and he would be in favor of this request. He stated if the request moves forward he would like to see the park kept cleaner, as well as the graffiti removed. He suggested this is an opportunity to take ownership of the park. He reiterated he would vote in favor.

Commissioners’ Shashinka and Bevan made and seconded a motion made and seconded a motion to approve the naming of the skate park after Alexander Jordan Jamieson. Motion carried unanimously.

2) Request to place Walnut Beach Farmers Market banner at Fowler Field.

Director Piscitelli stated the Walnut Beach Farmers Market committee requested the placement of a banner at Fowler Field. He explained originally they wanted it until the Oyster Festival, but they have asked it be extended to September 12th when the market ends.

Commissioner Bevan noted there are two signs currently at the library that are so faded you cannot read them. He suggested better sign placement.

Commissioners’ Shashinka and Bevan made and seconded a motion to approve a banner at Fowler Field for the Walnut Beach Farmers Market until September 12th. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners Shashinka and Bevan made and seconded a motion to add new business to the agenda concerning MPS Adult Education program’s request to put a banner on the green similar to the banner the City Clerk’s Office uses to advertise dog licensing month. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners’ Shashinka and Bevan made and seconded a motion to approve the request of MPS Adult Education program to put a sign up on the Milford Green up until the date there is no longer registration for the program. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioners Shashinka and Bevan moved to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy

Recording Secretary