

Park, Beach and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting
December 5, 2007

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their regular meeting on Wednesday, December 5, 2007 in Conference Room C of the Parsons Complex. Chairman Worroll called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Members Present

Daniel Worroll, Jr. Chairman
Patrick Dooling
Ann Fabian
Jacqueline Munk

Absent

James Belluscio

Also Present

William McCarthy, Recreation Director
Ald. Toohey – Liaison
Ald. Blacketter - Liaison

Consideration of Minutes

Mrs. Fabian and Mr. Dooling made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 7, 2007 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Statements

1. Mr. Alan Brandt thanked the Commission for the opportunity to be heard. Mr. Brandt is writing an article on the Milford Green, possibly for Milford Living Magazine. Mr. Brandt, with no disrespect intended, is concerned over and questioned the following:

- Number of Memorials currently standing on the Green, including the wide flower beds planted around them and how many others might be added to the limited space. Chairman Worroll replied the Commission is cognizant of the open space on the Green for people to enjoy and has denied recent proposals and opted for alternate memorial sites for this purpose.
- What City Department is in charge of making Memorial location decisions and where is this written? Chairman Worroll answered Park, Beach and Recreation Commission has full authority and it's written within the City Charter.
- Will the Arboretum on the Green be furthered? Chairman Worroll answered the Commission responds to recommendations from the Milford Tree Commission when tree and shrub planting(s) or removal(s) need to be addressed.

2. Request of Use by Mr. Thomas J. Beirne of 55 Bayshore Drive Extension:

- Purpose: Commemoration of the 230th anniversary of the abandonment by the British of 200 Continental Army soldiers dying of smallpox re-enactment.
- Place: Gulf Beach
- Date: December 31, 2007
- Time: 5PM
- Commission Vote: PASSED

Correspondence

1. Director McCarthy reported Letty Malone received a \$20,000 grant dedicated to the study of farmlands, tree harvesting and creation/maintaining of community gardens in Milford, and is currently working on guidelines with her.
2. Director McCarthy received an email from Marcia Winter regarding a United Way grant for a Recreational Therapist. She received \$1,200 earmarked towards a Recreational Therapist on staff to assist handicapped persons utilize City resources. Paperwork has been filled out to accumulate additional revenue resources for this worthwhile project.
3. Director McCarthy received a telephone call from Chairman Ben Blake regarding Recreation Department budget review. Director McCarthy will return the call and discuss the current budget with Chairman Blake.

Director's Report

1. Recipients of the Andrews Avenue playground installed recently called to say THANK YOU!
2. Director McCarthy met with Barbara Milton of the Conservation Committee to discuss maintenance projects and upgrades on open space lands with a focus on an Eisenhower Park Stewardship Program. The Boy Scouts expressed an eagerness to be a part of the Stewardship Program. Director McCarthy suggested working with the Employment Training Office in regards to good intentions toward group efforts in Stewardship capacities. Tom Ivers was present at the meeting and expressed concern over inventory and square footage measurements of open space parcels, stating "no measurements, no management" as his opinion. Chairman Worroll suggested inviting the Conservation Committee to a Park, Beach and Recreation Commission Regular Meeting in order to provide them information. Mrs. Fabian requested a time frame as to when an Eisenhower Park plan will be presented to the Commission for approval. Chairman Worroll mentioned that April might be a possibility.
3. Director McCarthy reported on the creation of an Access Database listing of Recreation parks, beaches and facilities and recently received a request from Hope Academy, 89 Marsh Hill Rd, Orange, 876-0864 with an interest in creating a cleaning project with folks with disabilities on City properties where such a list may come in handy.
 4. Director McCarthy met with Deb Marchese regarding Special Needs programs. Deb has a good background with Greenwich YMCA Special Needs Programs and has received notoriety on Oprah Winfrey Show as to her accomplishments.
5. Director McCarthy reported on poor turnout from Newspaper advertisement on Social Skills program. In response, Social Skills program flyers were sent to all school grades 1-8 on December 6, 2007 for "Open House" at Margaret Egan Center, Tuesdays 4:30-6:30.
6. Director McCarthy attended a Freedom of Information seminar at City Hall on November 27, 2007 and found it very informative. He also found the Commission follows rules and very much appreciates the support the Commission can get by contacting FOI and asking questions.

7. Director McCarthy attended a Budget meeting with Mayor Richetelli on the afternoon of December 5, 2007. A very lean budget was submitted with a mild increase in the Seasonal Temp Account in order to keep previously trained and reliable personnel coming back. New computers and monitors will save on energy.

Commissioner Reports

Chairman Worroll reported that the Orchards Golf Course has been paved and lined and looks great. He added the Golf Commission had reported their year-to-date golf round numbers at 35,000.

Chairman Worroll attended the following meetings/seminars:

- Freedom of Information seminar at City Hall on November 27, 2007
- Board of Alderman meeting with focus on energy savings. Suggested looking into the costs of a wind turbine possibly installed on the Devon Rotary Pavilion at Walnut Beach.

Old Business

- Bike Rack – Gulf Beach: Site Plan presented to Commission for approval. All in favor.
- Information gathering and investigation into background checks is on going.

New Business

Mrs. Fabian and Mr. Dooling seconded a motion to put Borough of Woodmont flagpoles on New Business Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Site plans were submitted from Mr. John Barrett, Burgess, Borough of Woodmont for the installation of flagpoles in the Borough.

Mrs. Munk and Mrs. Fabian made and seconded a motion to accept the plans. Motion carried unanimously.

Parting statement by *Chairman Worroll*: please be advised there are many upcoming Holiday Events in Milford, please make an effort to attend these fun and worthwhile festivities. A listing of a few are as follows:

- 6th Annual Downtown Milford Lamplight Stroll: Friday, December 7th 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.
 Saturday, December 8th 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Celebration of Trees at Milford Hospital Display Ongoing until December 14th.
 Weekdays 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
 Weekends 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Menorah Lighting at Macy's, Lower Level at the CT Post Mall Dec. 9 at 6 p.m.

Being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,