**PARK, BEACH and RECREATION COMMISSION**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 3, 2021**

The Park, Beach and Recreation Commission held their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 via Zoom. Director Garfield called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

**Commissioners Present: Also Present:**

D. Worroll, Chairman Director B. Garfield

B. Bevan Ald. C. Gaynor

F. Shashinka Ald. W. Willis

K. Rowland

A. Fabian

**Public Comment**:

None.

**Approval of the Minutes of the special meeting held on January 6, 2021.**

Commissioners Shashinka and Bevan made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Director’s Report**

Director Garfield reported they are moving along, slowly, he reported the department began permits for basketball this past week with strict guidelines and went on to explain the guidelines. He also reported they have connected with an on-line programmer who does on-line exercise classes. Director Garfield reported the program was just launched last week. He also reported they launched a snowman contest this year for the kids. He stated they would be having photos sent into the department. Director Garfield also reported they have started to scratch the surface for their summer programs.

Commissioner Fabian participated in trivia night and commented it was a lot of fun and a great family event.

**Chairman’s Report**

Chairman Worroll stated he had no formal report. His additional comments found under Commissioner Reports.

**Commissioner Reports**

1) Golf Course Commission – Chairman Worroll stated The Orchards has a new management company as he mentioned last month. He reported they are waiting for the contracts to be signed. He stated once the contracts are signed things will begin to move along. Chairman Worroll noted the new company has some good ideas that will be introduced, such as being able to reserve a tee time and pay online.

2) Bench Dedication Program – Vice Chairwoman Fabian reported the program continues to grow with the program being in its 11th year of active benches. She stated they continue to take orders for dedications, most recently benches were ordered for the Trcka and Savoie families. Vice Chairwoman Fabian reported those two benches would be placed across the street from Flipside Burger (Trcka) and by the duckpond by the 9/11Memorial (Savoie). She also reported three benches were installed just prior to the storm, the Brandt-Collins bench is located on the downtown green and the Wittkofske and Roy bench was placed at Walnut Beach. She stated the Recreation Department continues to work with Public Works on additional locations for bench placement for the future of the program. Vice Chairwoman Fabian also reported she and Director Garfield talked about the program and documenting how many benches are throughout the city and who they are dedicated to. A brief discussion ensued.

Director Garfield announced there a new flyer/application for the bench program (attached).

Chairman Worroll also stated there have also been requests for benches at the golf course.

**Unfinished Business**

1) Milford Arts Council – Commissioner Bevan asked if any decision had been made about the Milford Arts Council (MAC) benches on recreational property. He stated it is his understanding there is a site on the green and duck pond north and the two by the library and one by the ice cream stand. He recalled at the Milford library, the Board of Aldermen a few years ago voted to make that a park with the original plans going from the door outside of the library to Wilcox Park. Commissioner Bevan stated he is unsure if that property is city or recreational property. He stated he received a letter from MAC asking if this Commission was moving forward.

Chairman Worroll stated before any of the benches are installed the MAC would have to come before this Commission. He also stated he would investigate what areas this Commission covers. A brief discussion ensued.

Commissioner Bevan stated that discussion took place with Ms. Miglio regarding maintenance of the benches and it was explained the benches are maintenance free for 3-5 years, but nothing was discussed on who would maintain them after that period. Commissioner Bevan also pointed out this Commission was told these are art pieces.

Commissioner Shashinka suggested everything going forward go to Commissioner Bevan so this Commission can look at it and we can figure out how to move forward.

Vice Chairwoman Fabian asked if the benches become the property of the recreation department once they are installed. A brief discussion ensued.

**New Business**

None.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioners’ Fabian and Rowland made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Kennedy

Recording Secretary