

**DRAFT**  
**CITY OF NORWALK**  
**RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL COMMITTEE**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 19, 2008**

**ATTENDANCE:** Fred Bondi, Chair; Richard McQuaid, Richard Bonenfant,  
Stephen Serasis (7:14 p.m.), Rev. Phyllis Bolden (

**STAFF:** Michael Moccia, Recreation and Parks Director

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Bondi called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. A quorum was not present. The Committee decided to move directly to hearing the applications.

**Approve the use of Veteran's Park by the Board of Education for their annual Norwalk River Fund Run to be held on Saturday, December 6, 2008, from 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon with the rain date of Sunday, December 7, 2008. Estimated attendance 490.**

*Mr. Serasis joined the meeting at 7:14 p.m. A quorum was now present.*

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF VETERAN'S PARK BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THEIR ANNUAL NORWALK RIVER FUND RUN TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2008, FROM 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 NOON WITH THE RAIN DATE OF SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2008. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 490**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to enter into an agreement with the American Cancer Society for their Relay for Life Norwalk to be held at Brien McMahon High School Athletic Complex on Friday, June 19, 2009 and Saturday, June 20, 2009 from 12:00 Noon June 19 through 12:00 Noon June 20, 2009. Set up to take place 8:00 A.M. June 19, 2009 with tear down by 5:00 P.M. June 20, 2009. Estimated attendance 500.**

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY FOR THEIR RELAY FOR LIFE NORWALK TO BE HELD AT BRIEN MCMAHON HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC COMPLEX ON FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2009 AND SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2009 FROM 12:00 NOON JUNE 19**

**THROUGH 12:00 NOON JUNE 20, 2009. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE 8:00 A.M. JUNE 19, 2009 WITH TEAR DOWN BY 5:00 P.M. JUNE 20, 2009. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Mocciae pointed out that there was a possible conflict with graduations. It was decided that Ms. Swift would keep in touch with Mr. Mocciae's office about this.

**Approve the use of Cranbury Park Pavilion and immediate surrounding grounds by the Norwalk Little League for their annual picnic to be held on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Estimated attendance 200.**

There was a brief discussion with the applicant who wished to change the date to Saturday, June 20, 2009. This date change will be approved by the Committee and Mr. Mocciae will check with the office calendar and confirm the date.

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK PAVILION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY THE NORWALK LITTLE LEAGUE FOR THEIR ANNUAL PICNIC TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JUNE 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

*Rev. Bolden joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.*

**Approve the use of the Pavilion in Cranbury Park and immediate surrounding grounds by Percy Fludd for a family reunion to be held Saturday, September 5, 2009 from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. Estimated attendance 100.**

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE PAVILION IN CRANBURY PARK AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY PERCY FLUDD FOR A FAMILY REUNION TO BE HELD SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2009 FROM 12:00 NOON TO 4:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 100.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Approve the use of Cranbury Park Pavilion and immediate surrounding grounds by St. Jerome's Church for a parish picnic to be held Sunday, September 27, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Estimated attendance 250.

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF CRANBURY PARK PAVILION AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY ST. JEROME'S**

**CHURCH FOR A PARISH PICNIC TO BE HELD SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009 FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 250.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**A. Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to enter into an agreement with the Alzheimer's Association CT Chapter for use of Calf Pasture Beach for their annual Memory Walk. – Walk-A-Thon” to be held Sunday, October 4, 2009 from 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.. Estimated attendance 500.**

**B. Approve the use of the Show Mobile by the Alzheimer's Association CT Chapter for their annual Memory Walk – “Walk –A –Thon” to be held Sunday, October 4, 2009 from 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:**

**A. AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION CT CHAPTER FOR USE OF CALF PASTURE BEACH FOR THEIR ANNUAL MEMORY WALK. – WALK-A-THON” TO BE HELD SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009 FROM 7:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 500.**

**B. APPROVE THE USE OF THE SHOW MOBILE BY THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION CT CHAPTER FOR THEIR ANNUAL MEMORY WALK – “WALK –A –THON” TO BE HELD SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2009 FROM 7:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Approve the use of the Cranbury Park Pavilion Gallaher Estate by Kelly O'Rourk for a Wedding to be held Friday, May 29, 2009 from 7:00 p.m. – 12:00 Midnight. Estimate attendance 150.**

**\*\* MR. BONENFANT MOVED TO APPROVE THE USE OF THE CRANBURY PARK PAVILION GALLAHER ESTATE BY KELLY O'ROURK FOR A WEDDING TO BE HELD FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2009 FROM 7:00 P.M. – 12:00 MIDNIGHT. ESTIMATE ATTENDANCE 150.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to enter into an agreement with Team Mossman LLC for their Annual Youth and Adult Mossman Triathlon to be held at Calf Pasture Beach Saturday, July 18, 2009 and Sunday, July 19, 2009 fro 7:00 a.m.**

**July 18 through 12:00 Noon July 19, 2009. Set up to take place 12:00 Noon on Friday, July 17, 2009 with tear down no later than 10:00 a.m. on Monday, July 20, 2009. Estimated attendance 800.**

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO TABLE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TEAM MOSSMAN LLC FOR THEIR ANNUAL YOUTH AND ADULT MOSSMAN TRIATHLON TO BE HELD AT CALF PASTURE BEACH SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2009 AND SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2009 FRO 7:00 A.M. JULY 18 THROUGH 12:00 NOON JULY 19, 2009. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2009 WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 10:00 A.M. ON MONDAY, JULY 20, 2009. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 800. UNTIL THE APPLICANT ARRIVED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### DISCUSSION

#### **Friends of Cranbury Park**

Ms. Maddox, the President of Cranbury Park came forward and said that the group was entering their third successful year. The Board was recently increased from 11 members to 15 members.

Mr. McQuaid said that his interest in Cranbury had grown out of a meeting that took place four years ago. There will be a Bake Sale for the Friends of Cranbury Park on Sunday from 12 to 4 p.m. An arborist has been added to the group and is very interested in taking care of the historic specimen trees. Ms. Maddox said that she would like to see a gazebo in the apple orchard. A water line has been brought into the orchard, which allows the group to spruce up the area. There is a new roof on the pavilion and some wonderful plantings have been put in front of the pavilion. Repairs have been made in the Mansion and work has been done on the windows and the sills. Ms. Maddox said that she would like to have more attention on the house. There was another Frisbee Golf Tournament, which was well managed and well done.

Mr. Mocciae announced that the City did get the approval for the National Disc Golf Tournament to be held next year.

Ms. Maddox said that there was a PAWS Dog Walk in the Park and it raised \$30,000 for the fund, along with many new friends. All these walk events are bringing attention to the trails, which do need some work. Alexis Chirachetti and the Friends worked hard on

creating a trail map for the park. An attempt was made to create different walks for the visitors to the park based on distance or time.

The most recent event was when the Young Astronauts came out and planted 400 bulbs along the new entryway. The President said that they were able to do this in about 2 hours. She added that the Theater had a wonderful year also.

Mr. Serasis said that he regularly runs in the park and has noticed all the improvements. He added there were a few stand offs with dogs off leash and he had been bitten once. Mr. Mocciae said that there had been an incident over the weekend with two unruly dogs and announced that the dog owner will be banned from both Cranbury and Taylor Farm.

Mr. McQuaid said that he had noticed that those who use the park are very friendly and have worked together to enjoy the park.

Mr. Mocciae said that the Friends of Cranbury has really done well and next week the Friends of Fodor Farm will be starting up.

When asked how many dog owners were participating, it was said that when the group started it was almost 100%, but now so many other people have joined, it was now about 60% of the total membership of 350+.

Mr. Mocciae said that the RFP had gone out for the Master Plan for Parks and that he was very excited about future plans, but he was waiting for the new Master Plan before moving forward.

Mr. Bondi thanked the Friends for coming.

Mr. Schwartz said that he had lived out of town for about four years and had been really surprised with all the great changes in the park. He then suggested that the blazes for the trails be renewed. Mr. Mocciae said that they would be, but that the City was waiting for the Master Plan being approved and the trails being finalized.

**\*\* MR. BONENFANT MOVED TO RESUME AGENDA ITEM 8 DUE TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE APPLICANT.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#8 Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to enter into an agreement with Team Mossman LLC for their Annual Youth and Adult Mossman Triathlon to be held at Calf Pasture Beach Saturday, July 18, 2009 and Sunday, July 19, 2009 fro 7:00 a.m. July 18 through 12:00 Noon July 19, 2009. Set up to take place 12:00 Noon on Friday, July 17,

2009 with tear down no later than 10:00 a.m. on Monday, July 20, 2009. Estimated attendance 800.

**\*\* REV. BOLDEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH TEAM MOSSMAN LLC FOR THEIR ANNUAL YOUTH AND ADULT MOSSMAN TRIATHLON TO BE HELD AT CALF PASTURE BEACH SATURDAY, JULY 18, 2009 AND SUNDAY, JULY 19, 2009 FRO 7:00 A.M. JULY 18 THROUGH 12:00 NOON JULY 19, 2009. SET UP TO TAKE PLACE 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY, JULY 17, 2009 WITH TEAR DOWN NO LATER THAN 10:00 A.M. ON MONDAY, JULY 20, 2009. ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE 800.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

### **BEACH STICKERS**

Mr. Bondi said that there had been a discussion about the Beach Stickers at the Ordinance Meeting and that someone had said that there was a deed restriction for admission to the Beach.

Mr. Bondi said that he had gotten a lot of comments from those who read about the issue in the paper. Mr. Mocciae said that if the funding from the stickers does not go back to Recreation and Parks he would not support the fee.

Mr. Bondi said that he wanted to have a public hearing. Mr. Mocciae cautioned him about the upcoming holidays, but pointed out that the stickers start going out in March or April. Mr. Mocciae pointed out that the reason that the replacement stickers were \$100 because a \$20 sticker could be easily given to someone else, but when replacing it costs \$100, it makes people think twice. Mr. Bondi suggested that the vehicle license plate number be put on the sticker.

Rev. Bolden said that her constituents were not in favor of this. Mr. Mocciae pointed out that a movie theater ticket costs about \$10.00. He added that if the Recreation & Parks Department doesn't get more money, the parks will begin to look run down. He added that he would like to see the parks become self-sustaining. If the parks get run down, the out of town residents will stop coming to the park and there will be even more loss of revenue. The discussion then moved to having revenue account. Mr. Bondi pointed out that the City spends \$165,000 for security for the police because it is all time and a half for the officers. Mr. Mocciae said that the police are there for fights and such, but there are many other things like glass bottles and littering that affect the general quality of life.

Mr. Bondi suggested that the Public Hearing regarding charging a fee for the Parks Stickers be set for 7:00 on December 17th before the Recreation and Parks. This was agreeable to all.

**\*\* MR. BONDI MOVED TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE ISSUE OF A FEE FOR THE PARKS STICKER TO BE SET FOR DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 P.M. AND TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE REGULAR RECREATION AND PARKS MEETING.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. MCQUAID MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services