

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
APPOVED MINUTES - WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2022  
REGULAR MEETING  
VIA INTERNET & CONFERENCE CALL  
6:30 P.M.**

**JOIN ZOOM MEETING**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87697014171>**

**Meeting ID: 876 9701 4171**

**Passcode: 725221**

**Web & Phone Meeting Instructions:**

- *If your computer/smartphone has mic and speaker then:  
Type in, paste or click the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87697014171>  
If not, then **Call-in** using the **phone number, Meeting ID & Passcode** provided above.*
- *Sign-up for Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting updates by emailing [lcapp@stamfordct.gov](mailto:lcapp@stamfordct.gov).*

**Web Meeting Ground Rules:**

- *The meeting shall be recorded and the video shall be posted on the City of Stamford website [http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_id=9](http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_id=9)*
- *The Parks & Recreation Commission shall moderate the audio for attendees.*
- *Attendees shall be on mute and will be unmuted when called to speak by the Commission members.*
- *Attendees will have 20 minutes to make their presentation or address the Commission.*
- *Any Attendee wishing to submit materials or a written statement can send it prior to the meeting to [lcapp@stamfordct.gov](mailto:lcapp@stamfordct.gov) or submit through a Chat message to the Commission Chair during the meeting.*

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A Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission was held on Wednesday, July 20, 2022 via the Internet on Zoom.

In attendance were:

Commissioners: Paul Newman, Interim Chair  
Angela Adetola  
Melanie Hollas  
Jessica Katz  
Michael Tedder

Staff: Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations  
Lesley Capp, Assistant - Parks & Recreation Commission

Absent: Laurie Albano, Superintendent of Recreation (Retired as of July 1, 2022)  
Kevin Murray, Operations Manager, Parks & Facilities

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Newman called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and introduced the Commission Members and staff present.

Mr. Newman introduced the first item on the agenda.

➤ Review of the June 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Draft Minutes.

Ms. Hollas made a motion to approve the June 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Seconded by Ms. Adetola

Unanimously Approved

Mr. Newman made some follow up comments from the June 15, 2022 meeting with regard to the presentation made by Colleen Harkey for the Stamford Veterans Park Partnership and Six Love Tennis.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Newman introduced Alexis Farrow.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

➤ Alexis Farrow - Jackie Robinson Park of Fame/Sweetwater - ***Labor Day Ethnic Food Festival - Jackie Robinson Park - Saturday, September 3 & Sunday, September 4, 2022 from 12:00 to 9:00 p.m.***<sup>2</sup>

Director Quiñones made some introductory comments explaining why the Internal Committee passed this application to the Commission.

Ms. Farrow, Manager, Sweetwater Café, along with Cecelia DaRosa, Jackie Robinson Park of Fame, made a presentation and answered questions from the Commission.

After an extensive discussion focusing on the admission charge, the serving of alcohol and amplified music for live performances, Ms. Adetola made a motion to Approve the Special Events Application for the Labor Day Ethnic Food Festival at Jackie Robinson Park on Saturday September 3 & Sunday, September 4, 2022 with the following conditions: (a) ?? percent (??%) of the total admission fees collected will be paid to the City of Stamford; (b) No alcohol to be sold and/or served; and (c) **TABLE** the decision on amplified music to the August 17, 2022 meeting.

Seconded by Ms. Hollas

Unanimously Approved

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

➤ Election of New Parks & Recreation Commission Chair and Vice-Chair.<sup>3</sup>

Mr. Newman read into the record the procedure for election of officers according to Robert's Rules of Order and stated the positions up for election are Chair and Vice-Chair.

After some discussion, the Commission decided to **TABLE** the election of officers to the August 17, 2022 meeting in order to review the materials Mr. Newman presented from Robert's Rules.

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<sup>1</sup> Video Time Stamp - 00:01:39

<sup>2</sup> Video Time Stamp - 00:03:20

<sup>3</sup> Video Time Stamp - 00:43:26

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Stamford Police Department Update** - Captain Thomas Lombardo will provide an update on ordinances and citizen complaints and enforcement in the City parks.<sup>4</sup>

Mr. Newman made some introductory comments and introduced Captain Lombardo.

Captain Lombardo made a presentation providing background details on the Parks Police and reported on current events/complaints within the all the City parks. The Commission asked Captain Lombardo to provide a quarterly report and would ask for his attendance at a meeting when warranted to provide further information on a submitted report.

### **TOURNAMENTS:**

- No Tournaments.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- No Correspondence or as may properly be introduced before the Commission.

### **STAFF REPORTS:**

- Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations.<sup>5</sup>

The following Staff Report was submitted by Mr. Murray and discussed by Director Quiñones:

*[Begin Report]*

- Vaccine Trailers have been removed from park properties as of July 1, 2022.
- New Fiscal Year 2022-2023: Requisitions are entered for all programs for purchase orders.
- Upcoming Capital Project submission projections FY 2023-2024.
- Cove Island Bridge paint job coming along. News 12 Clip:  
[https://connecticut.news12.com/cove-island-park-bridge-gets-burst-of-color-from-stamford-community?fbclid=IwAR168aIL86R\\_iVtDvrw-m9CcvnSeaYa5sHNYT0L0y3QnJebxzA7FmqUCUo0](https://connecticut.news12.com/cove-island-park-bridge-gets-burst-of-color-from-stamford-community?fbclid=IwAR168aIL86R_iVtDvrw-m9CcvnSeaYa5sHNYT0L0y3QnJebxzA7FmqUCUo0)
- Courtland Avenue playground in motion and making progress.
- July 1, 2022 City fireworks big success held at Cummings Park and West Beach.
- Organic field maintenance plan is going as planned. Currently all fields are being over seeded per treatments documented by PJC for the management plan.
- Baseball/softball and all other outdoor sports are full bloom schedules 7 days a week with major tournaments on the schedule.
- Dorothy Heroy Pool: Pool and monitored drinking water clear for the 2022 season and being monitored daily by vendor and staff.
- Lione Park Playground: Play structure/perimeter fencing was hit during a motor vehicle incident and we are working with insurance adjuster and obtaining repair proposals. Play structure is currently closed and awaiting replacement parts and pour-in-place surfacing to be repaired. Estimated completion by November.
- Heroy Court Project Bid Waiver Approved: Meeting contractor onsite Friday, July 22, 2022 to coordinate plans and details, including pickleball lines with redone court.

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<sup>4</sup> Video Time Stamp - 00:52:35

<sup>5</sup> Video Time Stamp - 01:53:16

- Cricket Pitch Bid Waiver Approved: Meeting contractor this week to finalize plans and coordinate new cricket pitch, which is a 70 ft. x 12 ft. area.
- Peace Basketball in conjunction with the Mayor's office and Parks Department: Repainted/upgraded the Basketball poles at Scalzi Park.
- Parks Department has hired three (3) fulltime employees: Scott Denise, Dana Huntley and Alex Smith to join Parks Operations.
- Park Police search continues to replace Clyde Levine.

*[End Report]*

Director Quiñones also provided an update on the Operations Department and staff reorganization.

#### ➤ Parks & Recreation Internal Committee Action Report - July 12, 2022 Meeting.

Following is the Action Report generated from the July 12, 2022 Parks & Recreation Internal Committee Meeting showing the list of events approved:

*[Begin Report]*

In Attendance:                Matthew Quiñones  
                                         Kevin Murray  
                                         Gloria Montoya

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 by Matthew Quiñones.

#### **Consent Agenda**

**Conor McDade - Waterside School - Run for Waterside (Waterside School 5K Run/Walk) - Running Through Kosciuszko Park - Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. - Set-Up Starts at 7:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 12:00 p.m. - 300 Children and 700 Adults.**

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Gloria Montoya

Unanimously Approved

**Craig Baker - DOMUS Kids, Inc. - 11th Annual DOMUS NINER - Sunday, September 11, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. - Set-Up Starts at 6:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 11:30 a.m. - 20 Children and 80 Adults.**

Gloria Montoya made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Kevin Murray

Unanimously Approved

#### **Special Events**

**Scott & Karlie Conn - Run for Austin - Cove Island Park - Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. - Set-Up Starts at 8:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 12:00 p.m. - 25 Children and 75 Adults. 6 p.m. by Matt Quiñones.**

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Gloria Montoya Unanimously Approved

**Ronal C. Morse III - Music in the Park at Czescik - Music in the Park Annual Event - Czescik Marina Park - Sunday, October 9, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Set-Up Starts at 12:00 p.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 6:00 p.m. - 15 Children and 60 Adults.**

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Gloria Montoya

Unanimously Approved

**Larry Stoogenke - Temple Sinai - Temple Sinai Shabbat at the Beach - Cove Island Park - Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Set-Up Starts at 8:00 a.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 2:00 p.m. - 20 Children and 30 Adults.**

➤ This is a first-time event; more information is needed. Request forwarded to the Parks & Recreation Commission for their approval. (Event Cancelled by Applicant - July 15, 2022)

**Carol Bryan - Stamford Center for the Arts, The Palace Theatre - Musical Theatre Kids Presentation for Parents - Kiwanis Park - Friday, July 15, 2022 from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - 28 Children and 35 Adults.**

Kevin Murray made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Gloria Montoya

Unanimously Approved

**Alexis Farrow - Jackie Robinson Park of Fame/Sweetwater - Labor Day Ethnic Food Festival - Jackie Robinson Park - Saturday, September 3, 2022 and Sunday, September 4, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

➤ This is a first-time event; more information is needed. Request forwarded to the Parks & Recreation Commission for their approval.

### **Old Business**

No Old Business.

### **New Business**

**Cheryl Vukelic - Stamford D.S.S.D. - Beautification of Traffic Island at Strawberry Hill Avenue and Upland Road.**

Gloria Montoya made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Kevin Murray

Unanimously Approved

**Cheryl Vukelic - Stamford D.S.S.D. - Free Library Book Exchange Kiosk - Belltown & Barrett Park.**

Gloria Montoya made a motion to approve.

Seconded by Kevin Murray

Unanimously Approved

**Loraine Olson, Health Commission, Chair - Stamford Health Commission/Stamford Department of Health - Miles Make Smiles (Mental Health Therapeutic Walk for Stamford Community) - Cove Island Park - Series of Walks July - August to Promote Physical and Mental Community Health and Well-being - Starting Wednesday, July 6, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Set-Up Starts at 4:45 p.m. and Clean-Up Ends at 6:15 p.m.**

- Event previously approved by Director Quiñones due to the event taking place prior to the Parks & Recreation Internal Committee meeting.

**Matt Quiñones - Chelsea Piers - Field Use.**

- Chelsea Piers representative reached out to Director Quiñones to discuss field options for the fall. Director Quiñones will have a meeting with Megan Gearhart to discuss the possibilities.

**Tournaments**

No Tournaments.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Kevin Murray

Seconded by Gloria Montoya

The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

*[End Report]*

**DISCUSSION**.<sup>6</sup>

- **Update of Parks & Recreation Commission Strategic Goals for the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year as follows:**
  - Mr. Newman and Ms. Hollas: Friends Groups.
  - Ms. Hollas: Invasive Species initiative.
  - Mr. Newman: Baseball and field usage.
  - Mr. Tedder and Ms. Katz: Foundation and the City website.
  - Mr. Tedder: Dog Park at Scofieldtown Park.
  - Ms. Adetola and Mr. Murray: Setup of pickleball courts and working with pickleball and tennis players.
- **Application and Waiver Agreement for volunteer groups to work in the City parks.**

Mr. Tedder made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Hollas and the vote was carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Newman adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lesley Capp  
July 26, 2022

*These proceedings were recorded on video and are available for review on the City of Stamford website at:*  
[http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view\\_is=9](http://cityofstamford.granicus.com/ViewPublisher.php?view_is=9)

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<sup>6</sup> Video Time Stamp - 02:20:59