

**NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS & DEDICATIONS**  
**DATE: FEBRUARY 26, 2019**  
**TIME: 7:04 P.M.**  
**PLACE: COUNCILLOR WILLIAM SALTZMAN ANTECHAMBER,  
ROOM 213, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS IAN ABREU, CHAIRMAN; NAOMI CARNEY,  
VICE-CHAIRPERSON (7:10); WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY;  
DANA REBEIRO**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLOR DEBORA COELHO**

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Councillor Abreu called the Memorials & Dedications Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read a Communication from Councillor Coelho explaining the reason for her absence. This Communication was received and placed on file by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Markey.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the Memorial Park Bench and Tree Dedication Program application as prepared by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Beaches (Ref'd 12/13/18) and PROGRAM GUIDELINES, City of New Bedford's Memorial Park Bench and Tree Dedication Program and Application (Ref'd 12/13/18) and a COMMUNICATION/EMAIL, Councillor Lopes, submitting an email from Mary Rapoza, Director of Parks, Recreation and Beaches regarding the costs associated with the Memorial and Dedication benches and trees (Ref'd 1/10/19) were received and placed on file by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Markey. (1, 1a, 2)

Mary Rapoza, Director of Parks, Recreations and Beaches was present and explained to the Committee that people have been buying and donating trees to the Parks Department in past years and that a formal plan on how to make donations and tree placement was being followed. People have asked to purchase and dedicate trees and benches in parks throughout the city. The Park Commission has put together a more formal way of submitting requests and has uniform ordering in place for those interested so that the Park benches and plaques are the same throughout. Also, that the same type of tree is being ordered and placed in correct areas.

Councillors Lopes and Morad were present but not members of the Committee, but they did express concerns about the pricing. Ms. Rapoza explained they searched within the city and outside of the area as well and have come up with the lowest price possible. She explained the proposals would be submitted to the Park Board, reviewed and if approved would be forwarded to the City Council for further approval. They have organizations such as the Friends of Buttonwood and Hazelwood that have agreed to assist the Park Board with the process.

Councillor Rebeiro asked if there was a set number as to how many would be allowed, she was told no.

Councillor Markey asked where the costs would fall. He was told the initial cost would fall to the applicant. The life span of a park bench is ten (10) years, the city would maintain them. The city would also pour the cement slab for the bench or plant the tree

at no cost to the applicant. The benches are approximately \$730.00 and the stainless steel plaques \$135.00.

Ms. Rapoza provided the Committee with the pricing sheets and photos; they were received and placed on file by Councillor Rebeiro and seconded by Councillor Carney.

On motion by Councillor Markey and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council Approval to the Park Board of the Memorial Park Bench and Tree Dedication Program application as prepared by the Department of Parks, Recreation and Beaches and PROGRAM GUIDELINES, City of New Bedford's Memorial Park Bench and Tree Dedication Program and Application. This motion passed on a voice vote.

On motion by Councillor Markey and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council Approval to the Park Board of the costs associated with the Memorial and Dedication benches and trees. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Councillor Abreu, Council President Morad and Councillor Lopes, submitting a request from Parks, Recreation & Beaches for a Bench and Memorial Plaque honoring Frances Drozek Perry 100th Birthday from the Perry Family (To be Referred to the Special Committee on Memorials and Dedications.) (Ref'd 1/24/19) was received and placed on file by Councillor Markey and seconded by Councillor Carney. (3)

Mary Rapoza explained this application is for a bench for Frances Drozek Perry who will be 102 years old. They currently have a tree that was dedicated for her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, but would like to place a bench near the tree as well. This would be in the southwest corner of Hazelwood Park.

Councillor Morad asked if the Park Department has a request from Sue Pimental for a bench and she was told no, but a previously dedicated tree was in Buttonwood Park, but it was going to be relocated.

On motion by Councillor Markey and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council Approval to the Park Board for a Bench and Memorial Plaque honoring Frances Drozek Perry 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday from the Perry Family. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Councillor Rebeiro made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Carney.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:24 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Denis Lawrence, Jr.,  
Clerk of Committees