



Board of Park Commissioners

October 1, 2014 – **Minutes**

Buttonwood Park Community Center, 1 Oneida Street, New Bedford

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Boswell called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Peter Boswell, Chairman
Elaine Safioleas, Secretary
Diane Berube, Member
Charles Cotter, Member
David Peixoto, Member

Also Present: Mary Rapoza, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Beaches

Motion to accept the minutes of the August 20, 2014 Park Board Meeting.

MOTION to accept the minutes of the August 20, 2014 meeting by Mr. Peixoto.

SECOND: Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

NEW BUSINESS - APPEARANCES/ACTIONS

1. Review / renewal of yearly permit for use of the Victory Park warming house.

Invitees: Ms. Bernadette Souza, Trips for Kids

MOTION to approve by Ms. Safioleas. **SECOND:** Ms. Berube. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

2. Review / renewal of yearly permit for use of the Brooklawn Park building that houses Art Therapy.

Invitee: Ms. Cindy Ricard

Ms. Ricard stated that she is questioning the issue regarding her paying insurance for the building. Ms. Ricard pays \$1400.00 in insurance, which she believes includes liability and insurance for the building. A discussion followed regarding whether she is responsible for insuring the building. She also questioned whether people are allowed in the building since she is paying insurance. Ms. Rapoza stated that the city pays for the building insurance and that Ms. Ricard is responsible for the liability insurance only. Mr. Boswell informed her that the board requires everyone to get liability insurance. Ms. Ricard also stated that she cleans the building, but the custodian washes the floor. Ms. Rapoza said that city employees do enter the buildings. Mr. Boswell suggested Ms. Ricard check to see what insurance coverage she is paying for.

MOTION to approve by Mr. Cotter. **SECOND:** Mr. Peixoto. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES**

3. Request permission to have a rehearsal dinner at Custom House Square on August 21, 2015 from 3:00PM to 9:30 PM.

Invitee: Ms. Carrie Petri and Mr. Chris Meatto - Not Present.

MOTION to table by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

4. Request to have the annual bon-fire at Buttonwood Park on November 26, 2014.
Invitee: Ms. Genesis Galan, New Bedford High School Student Representative /Senior Class President

Mr. Boswell suggested that Ms. Galan have Mr. Monte, the class advisor, get in touch with Ms. Rapoza tomorrow. Mr. Boswell stated that they need a special event permit, which includes the fire department. Mr. Peixoto suggested Ms. Galan talk to Ms. Cetenich to fast track the permitting process. Ms. Berube stated that while she is in favor of the celebration, she is not in favor of the bonfire. She suggested having a laser lightshow, which would be more environmentally friendly. Ms. Berube also suggested holding fundraisers or asking the Gridiron to fund a laser show. Ms. Galan stated that the Mayor, City Council, and police and fire departments have expressed their approval.

MOTION to approve pending receipt of a special event permit by Ms. Safioleas. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. 4
Yays – 1 Nay.
MOTION CARRIES.

5. Request permission to hold a wrestling fundraiser in October.
Invitee: Ms. Deanne Ray Randy Debrosse, NB Whalers Football & Cheer

Ms. Rapoza stated that they have a special events permit for this year because they are currently working on a license. Mr. Boswell said that the Park Board grants them exclusive rights to the field and knows that they take care of it. Mr. Peixoto questioned whether there was a rain date and if they needed lights. Mr. Boswell was glad that they came before the Board because the fundraiser is an event other than what was the intended use of the field.

MOTION to approve by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

6. Discussion regarding food trucks at Fort Taber.
Invitee: Ms. Mary Rapoza, Director / Parks & Recreation

Ms. Rapoza suggested tabling the discussion until Maria Tremblay could be present.

MOTION to table by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

7. Request permission to install a sign for the Hazelwood Garden located at the Hazelwood Senior Center.
Invitee: Ms. Kim Ferreira, Mass in Motion NB

Ms. Ferreira disseminated pictures of the sign. She also stated that there was extra money and she would like permission to place two more beds. There is room and the entrance to the bowling green would not be blocked.

MOTION to approve the sign installation by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Ms. Berube. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

MOTION to approve two more beds by Mr. Safioleas. **SECOND:** Ms. Berube. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

8. Request permission to have a Fishing for a Cause/Seaside Dinner at Pope's Island Marina Park on June 27, 2015. Request permission to have the Schwartz Center for Children's Walk-A-Thon at Fort Taber Park on September 12-13,2015.
Invitee: Ms. Beatriz Oliveira, Schwartz Center

Ms. Oliveira provided the Board with site maps and both permits. She stated that they would like to set up tents on the side of the Community Room and would be using the Community Room as well. At this

point, Ms. Rapoza stated that recycling is now mandatory in the city. Mr. Boswell questioned parking for the Fishing for a Cause and his concern for safety. Ms. Oliveira is looking into valet parking and a possible police detail.

MOTION to approve the Schwartz Center for Children’s Walk-a-Thon by Ms. Safioleas. **SECOND:** Ms. Berube. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

MOTION to approve the Fishing for a Cause/Seaside dinner by Ms. Safioleas. **SECOND:** Ms. Berube. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

9. Request permission to “fiber bomb” at Custom House Square.

Invitee: Ms. Rachael Kolb, New Bedford Art Museum

Ms. Kolb explained the premise of fiber bombing and stated it has become a worldwide custom. The area to be decorated, during the month of March 2015, is between the fountain and walkway at Custom House Square. Ms. Kolb stated that they will make sure that the trees are not hurt at all. Plastic clips and twine will be used to connect the fabric. It will be taken down in one month. Mr. Peixoto suggested she notify the DPI so they don’t think it is some type of graffiti and remove it.

MOTION to approve by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Ms. Berube. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

10. Discussion regarding crowd funding.

Invitee: Ms. Mary Rapoza, Director / Parks & Recreation

Ms. Rapoza explained that crowd funding entails picking a project that has wide appeal and putting it on the Internet to raise money for the project. She said an intern from UMA Dartmouth , interning at the office, is interested in crowd funding and would like to focus on it. Ms. Rapoza stated that the Mayor asked that the Board come up with some ideas that have wide public appeal. Mr. Boswell stated that they were thinking about the buildings at Hazelwood Park. Ms. Rapoza stated that the Hazelwood Park is on the National Historic Park Register. They cannot obtain funding for it.

MOTION to approve crowd funding for the building restoration at Hazelwood Park, with the new intern from UMA Dartmouth overseeing it by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

Ms. Rapoza stated that she would inform the Mayor of the approval at next week’s infrastructure meeting.

11. Discussion regarding permitting of the Waldron Barracks.

Invitee: Ms. Mary Rapoza, Director / Parks & Recreation

MOTION to table until next month giving Councilor Alves the opportunity to be present by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

12. Request permission to have a “Pirate Invasion” at Fort Taber Park July 10-12, 2015.

Invitee: Mr. Joseph Langlois

Mr. Langlois explained that the Pirate Invasion is a family oriented event and will provide some education. It will be held for a couple days, set up on Friday and ending Sunday. The size and quality of the event will be dependent on the success of fundraising. Mr. Langlois stated that his goal is to have two ships here, the Dark Rose from Maine and Micah Two from Virginia. Ms. Rapoza said that parking is not available, at Fort Taber itself, for event goers. The lots on Rodney French Boulevard and the Schamonchi lot are available. At this point, Mr. Boswell recognized New Bedford Police Officer Joshua Fernandes. There was a discussion regarding the loss of his application for the circus that was to be held at Fort Taber on the same weekend as the Pirate Invasion. Their permit check was cashed. Mr. Boswell stated that three other applications were lost. He explained that the permit check does not guarantee approval. Mr. Peixoto expressed the need to work with the circus to find another location. Ms. Safioleas wanted to go on record expressing the fact that the lost check was not the fault of Mr. Fernandes and that the Board should diligently look for another venue.

Mr. Fernandes expressed his concerns about the safety and security of having it at Buttonwood Park. More details would be needed and it would be unfair to ask the company to pay at this point. Mr. Boswell invited Mr. Fernandes to come back next month to work something out.

MOTION to approve by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

OLD BUSINESS

CORRESPONDENCE

13. Yearly report from Fort Rodman / Fort Taber Military Museum

MOTION to receive and place on file by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Ms. Safioleas. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

14. Correspondence from Councilor Gomes in support of the New Bedford Police Union circus.

MOTION to receive and place on file by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

15. Correspondence from Councilor Winterson in support of the New Bedford Police Union circus.

MOTION to receive and place on file by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

16. Correspondence from Councilor Lopes in support of the New Bedford Police Union circus.

MOTION to receive and place on file by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

OTHER

Mr. Boswell and Ms. Rapoza notified the Board that the River's End Park ribbon cutting will be held on Friday, October 3, 2014 at 1:00 PM. The opening will be held on Saturday, October 4, 2014, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Park Board of Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, 2014, 6:00 PM, at the Buttonwood Park Community Center.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Peixoto. **SECOND:** Mr. Cotter. **UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIES.**

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:11 PM.

A true record attests _____

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Safioleas
Secretary