

June 8, 2021

The meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at 5:11 p.m. This meeting was conducted by Zoom/Teleconference. The public had access to this meeting by calling the following conference line and then entering the conference code:

Dial to join Zoom Meeting by Phone:

1 (929) 436-2866 US (New York)

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1 (877) 853-5257 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 944 0766 7283

Mr. Labrador said that this meeting is being conducted with the authority issued by the Governor of the State of Connecticut and read the following:

Tonight's meeting of the Board of Park Commissioner is the regular monthly meeting for June 7, 2021, and is being conducted by electronic means as authorized by Governor Ned Lamont executive order 7B which was issued on March 14, 2020, and which the Public has electronic access to witness this meeting.

The recording and transcription of this meeting will be posted on the City Clerk's website within 7 days.

Mr. Labrador asked that everyone abide by the Governor's request and directives contained in his various executive orders: 7 through 7J, with additional orders to be forthcoming.

#### OPENING CEREMONY

#### ROLL CALL

Present: President Labrador, Vice President Brideau, Commissioners: Wade, Cotto and Hosier, Clerk Ellen M. Gerrity. Absent was Craig A. Nadrizny, Acting Public Facilities Director, Also, in attendance were Luann Conine, Recreation Superintendent, Luis Burgos, Manager of Roadway and Parks Services. with Angel DePara, Database Administrator, presiding as host of the meeting.

After determining there was a quorum, Mr. Labrador called the meeting to order.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2021 PARKS BOARD MEETING

On a motion made by Mr. Brideau, seconded by Mr. Cotto, it was unanimously voted to approve the minutes as presented.

#### PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM:

\*\*\*Due to the public health emergency, public speaking will be by written testimony only\*\*\*\*\*

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Please submit written testimony to [Ellen.Gerrity@bridgeportct.gov](mailto:Ellen.Gerrity@bridgeportct.gov) by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 10th\*\*\*

The following letters were submitted and read by Board of Park Commissioners:

1. Murali Chiravuri, 11 Eames Boulevard, Bridgeport, CT - I would like to bring up an issue that has come up in the last few years and will certainly need to be addressed as the spring and summer approach.

RVs should not be parking on St Mary's but in the past, many were parking on St Mary's and some even would put the extensions out and put parking cones around them! Clearly inappropriate but when enforcement was weak this was being done. However, as enforcement gets better hopefully this will be minimized.

What is a concern however, is that last summer, a police officer approached an RV which had a Bridgeport parking sticker - I am assuming that this was a sticker issued for a regular vehicle but was then transferred inappropriately to the RV. The owner refused to move his RV - and the police officer told me that there was no signage that explicitly said 'NO RVs' along St Mary's. There is no other place along the coast that I could find that would allow this.

Can we add NO RVs to the list that is currently posted (this list already has a number of vehicle types including motorbikes etc.) on the sign here? It would also assist the police in enforcing the rule. 2 years ago - it was particularly bad with over a 1/2 dozen RVs arriving mid-day for the 4th of July fireworks (none of them even had stickers) and it took a lot of work for the police captain to finally get them to move.

2. Candido Puebla, 3200 Park Avenue, 7D2, Bridgeport, CT – I am a Bridgeport resident over 50 years in age. Pickleball is becoming very popular for senior citizens over the age of 50, however, there are no courts in Bridgeport. The closest courts are in Fairfield and you must be a resident of Fairfield to obtain a permit to play.

To minimize cost, all that is needed is to convert one existing tennis court in Bridgeport into four pickleball courts like Fairfield has done on Melville Avenue. New construction is not required except to modify a tennis court.

Please, I urge you to help senior citizens with a game of pickleball to stay active. I am in my 70's and I want to stay active.

3. John Brezina Jr. - Being a resident for over 72 years I have always considered our parks our greatest treasure. Last year I began avoiding Seaside Park because of all the loud music, open drinking in the parking lots and general rowdiness in the summer months. I asked some parks police officers if they could do something and they said, "not really". I have called the non-emergency number, and nothing happened. This LOUD rowdy crowd is driving the people that respect the park, and the people that go there to relax, out. Please see what options are

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available to you and your outreach powers to turn down the noise and regain control so the parks can be enjoyed by everyone. We do have noise ordinances. I frequent Pleasure Beach for the quiet times I desire but the ferry is very limited from July to September. Please return our parks to us.

## OLD BUSINESS

1. Maria Pereira, 138<sup>th</sup> District City Councilwoman, requesting to speak to the Board of Park Commissioners about the Manila Park ribbon cutting and public parks used for private events/uses, and the Christopher Columbus statue.

Councilwoman Pereira said that the Manila Park ribbon cutting ceremony on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and that it was amazing, and she wanted to thank Parks Commissioner Cruz M. Cotto, Acting Public Facilities Director Craig Nadrizny and Special Project Coordinator Steve Hladun for attending the ribbon cutting event and making it a success.

She said that Senator Blumenthal had a great time and she heard he was talking about the next day.

She also said that she received a call from a neighbor who said that her kids had a wonderful time and that they love the park and play in it every single day.

She also wanted to address Success Park that is located on Granfield Avenue.

She said that in the past under the previous Public Facilities Director John Ricci, they were able to get a few things done each year, such as having the old tennis court removed, getting new park benches installed, and installing flood lights on a pole.

She said that because of COVID, nothing was done last year.

She said that the Success Co-Op's are the largest in the state with 900 units.

She said that since the Co-Op's are so strict with letting pets roam in the common area, they are in desperate need of a dog park.

She said that the park is long and deep and the Chargers football team practice there and when they do there are major parking issues.

That is one of the reasons why she had John Ricci install a border fence around the parking lot because parents would park their cars up on the grass and children would run into the parking lot while cars were moving.

Ms. Pereira asked the Park Commissioners to please focus on the following three things: 1. Expand the parking lot, 2. Put additional lighting in the park because it could be very unsafe,

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3. Build a much needed dog park, so the Success Co-Op tenants can have a place to bring their small dogs.

Mr. Labrador said that he and the Park Commissioners will investigate her three requests and if they have concerns or questions, they will ask her to return to a future Parks Board meeting.

He said that he was sorry he could not attend the event but is happy that the ribbon cutting was a success and that she achieved 99.99 of the things she wanted at the park.

He also wanted to thank Mr. Cotto for representing the Parks Board and the Parks Department crew who made it all happen and hopes this becomes a trend of what we can do in our parks.

He also thanked Councilwoman Pereira for taking the steps to making Manila Park a success.

Ms. Pereira encouraged everyone to go onto Facebook and visit their neighborhood site page called Protect Our Property or "POP".

She said that there are a lot of great photos of the kids, and their parents and that they had Hall Neighborhood House and Alliance for Community Empowerment and they also had Micalizzi's Ice at their event.

2. Mr. Hosier stated that on behalf of the Board of Park Commissioners, he would like to take the opportunity to thank Christopher Boucher, Scout Master, Scouting BSA/Connecticut Yankee Council Cub Scout Pack 46, with the help of Boy Scout Troop 103 who conducted a cleanup at Waterview Park.

He said that the following Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade volunteered to clean trash throughout the entire park and left inspirational messages in chalk to the citizens of Bridgeport

He said at this time he would like to thank the participants as follows: Jadalise, Brycen, PJ, Molensky, Benorah, Jyair, Hailey, Christopher, Jose, Wezley, Helen, Penelope, Bella, Eva, Brianna, Demitri, Prince and Walker and all of the parents and Troop 103, that attended and helped clean the park.

He said that the Parks Board takes pride in their spirit and responsibilities and hope it continues.

Mr. Labrador also thanked the scouts for their cleanup; anything that is done to improve our city and make it a nicer place, we on the Park Board are very thankful.

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## NEW BUSINESS

1. Carole J. Fanslow, Chair, Greater Bridgeport Crop Hunger Walk Committee, 31 Bridgeview Place, Stratford, CT, requesting to hold their Annual Bridgeport Crop Hunger Walk at Seaside Park on Sunday, October 17, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. with a set-up time of 12:00 p.m. with approximately 100 people in attendance.

Ms. Fanslow thanked the Commissioners and Clerk Gerrity for arranging this meeting for her this evening.

She said that the Crop Hunger Walk is funded by a national organization called Church World Service which goes to wherever there is a disaster in a community, but hunger though is one of their main stays.

She said that this will be their 47<sup>th</sup> walk where they started walking in the street and in the last 6 years have been walking in Seaside Park.

She said that their last walk was in 2019 where they walked in a deluge of rain, but still made \$25,000.00 and 25 % (\$7,000.00) of that stayed in the Bridgeport area for hunger related programs.

She said they set up tables where people can register and bring food for two different food agencies in the Bridgeport area, they sign up and start walking.

She said that they walk 2 miles on the sidewalk and finish at the west end of the park.

Mr. Labrador asked if this is their first time walking in Seaside Park?

Ms. Gerrity said that this would be their 6<sup>th</sup> year walking at Seaside Park.

Ms. Fanslow said that they are self-contained, but request that the restrooms be open on that day.

Mr. Nadrizny asked that they stay on the sidewalk.

Ms. Fanslow agreed.

On a motion made by Mr. Hosier, seconded by Mr. Cotto, it was unanimously voted to approve the event with the usual stipulations.

2. Christina Smith, CEO, Groundwork Bridgeport, Inc., requesting to speak to the Parks Board to present a proposal of a 5-year project to restore the Seaside Park Bathhouse.

Ms. Smith said that she was approached a few months ago by her colleague, Kurt Collier from the National Groundwork USA.

She said that she is also joined by another colleague Tanner Berdorg.

She said that they were approached about the possibility of taking on a project, together with the youth that they work with which is generally Bridgeport high school youth to do a restoration project of a building in the city.

Ms. Smith gave the following outline of their proposal for the redevelopment of the Seaside Park Bathhouse:

Groundwork Bridgeport has the opportunity to take on a project to restore the historic structure as part of a youth development program to engage students in building trades.

We are proposing a phased 5-year project to restore the bathhouse to functional use as a community, event, and program space. Our vision is to create a multifaceted series of programs that includes a job training program; an innovative technology student program; a culinary start-up entrepreneurship program with a commercial kitchen and large event space (for parties, weddings, etc.); and a program space and office space for Groundwork Bridgeport. The goal would be to have these programs up and running within a five-year time frame after Parks Commission approval and private funding are secured.

#### Program Goals

Job Training Program - this would be a three to four-year program with youth gaining valuable construction training as the building is remodeled. The same youth could progress over three years, or we could have three cohorts with year-long terms. The youth would also learn green construction designs.

Innovation EcoLab - this space would focus on resiliency and environmental technologies that serve as a sort of "science and innovation museum" for visitors. We envision a large touch tank for learning about oysters, exhibits to teach visitors about coastal resiliency, climate change, and other related topics, an algae lab for trapping carbon dioxide (and the algae could be converted to biofuel and food for the oysters), lab tables for youth to work on, and open space for youth programming. The items would be moveable so that the space can be set up for large private or public events. On the first floor would also be large aquaculture oyster tanks that can be visited as part of a tour.

- The EcoLab would be a program space during school hours for local school groups to come and learn about the technologies, incorporating a curriculum they would learn in the classroom ahead of time. The lab is also used for professional development of teachers, etc.
- The EcoLab would also have spaces on the first floor for processing the oyster meat, some possibly for food production and others for making oyster reefs, natural fertilizers, and the like. The oyster shells would be processed as building materials, or for reef production - projects that Groundwork Bridgeport completes throughout the Long Island Sound estuary.

- Groundwork Bridgeport would use this space for its year-round after-school youth programming.

Food Court and Culinary Start-Up Program and Event Hall - The goal would be to create a food court area where local food items can be prepared and where young entrepreneurs can experiment with culinary projects. There would be a large commercial kitchen behind the wall with a serving window that food can be passed through. The food court would be built so that it could be reconfigured for large parties, weddings, and other events. The large culinary kitchen could also be used by the start-ups for catering events outside the park (or within the park in large rented tents). The food court would also serve as a place for local beachgoers to get food, further attracting them to the Bathhouse and the programming there while providing a much desired amenity for those visiting Seaside Park, especially during the summer months.

We estimate a cost of \$2MM spread over five years, with the bulk of the construction being done by youth in the job training program or in partnership with local job-corps groups. Funding would be procured through grants and from private donors rather than being sought from the city's operating budget. We have a few prospects that have already expressed a desire to support the project if approved.

About Groundwork: Groundwork Bridgeport is a community-based organization that was established over 20 years ago by residents with support from the city, the National Park Service, and The Environmental Protection Agency to work towards community revitalization. Currently our core programming focuses on youth development, community engagement, and small-scale project implementation, covering topics that include, the sciences, community revitalization, project management, and trail building.

Ms. Smith said that they envision this project of being at least a \$2 million project that they would have to raise funds for.

She said that they are not looking for any funds from the City of Bridgeport, they would be looking to raise these funds through private fundraising but, before taking on that initiative, their goal is to find out if the Parks Commission would even be supportive of such a project.

She said that Kurt Collier, Groundwork USA is on the call to go over any questions the Park Commissioners may have.

Mr. Labrador asked if they know if there is enough space in the building to do what they want to do.

Ms. Smith said that they did a site visit in January and saw both the upstairs and downstairs and the idea would be that the space would be flexible space; for example, to use it for ongoing community and city events of people that would like to use the space for an event.

Mr. Labrador asked that after they begin to make money, who would become the owner of all the things that they are putting in the bathhouse building.

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Ms. Smith said that they would not be looking to take ownership, they would be looking for a long-term lease.

She said that they are estimating to raise the funds and do the project.

She said that it would be a slower process since they would like to be working with high school students to teach them the trades as they develop the building, but they will also use professional contractors.

She said that they estimate the project to take approximately five years and then they would ask the Parks Board for an additional five years for them to use the space as program space, but again as a lease so it would remain in the ownership of the City for the long term community.

Mr. Labrador asked if they are profit or nonprofit?

Ms. Smith said that they are nonprofit.

Mr. Labrador said that the Parks Board would have to have the City Attorney's Office look into this proposal and see where we stand, he loves the idea of working with students.

Mr. Labrador asked if the Board Members had any questions?

Mr. Brideau said that he is in favor of the proposal and would like this to be looked at by the City Attorney's Office and for them to come back at a later time with all the specifics.

Mr. Cotto said that he is also in favor of the proposal since the Casino Bathhouse has not changed in over 40 years and agrees that because this is a lease, the proposal would have to be looked at by the City Attorney's Office.

Ms. Wade also said she is also in favor of the proposal but thinks it needs to be looked at by the City's legal department.

Mr. Hosier said that he appreciates what is being put before the Parks Commission, but he also hopes that this is not construed as an actual approval of the project.

Ms. Smith said that their goal is not for an approval tonight, be they would want to present the project in a more detailed document with drawings and details for the Board, but that does entail more time, effort and work and before going forward with a full development of something, they want to ensure that this would be something that has the potential to be approved, so they would be coming back to the Parks Board with more information on it.

Mr. Labrador said that even if the Park Commissioners were in favor of the project, they would still have to be approved by the City Attorney's Office before going any further.



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Mr. Brideau said that he does not think a motion on this is necessary because we are in favor of the project, but there is no motion to be made, we would have to bring the project to the City Attorney's Office and then they would have to come back to the Parks Board with all the specifics of the project and then we can go from there.

Ms. Smith said that she does not know the appropriate terminology and if it is a conditional vote to go ahead with the project or table the proposal before it goes for a full vote, or if they should come back with a full proposal

Ms. Smith asked Mr. Collier the speak on the request.

Mr. Collier said that Groundwork USA is a partnership with the National Park Service and EPA and they do habitat restoration projects and buildings and historic preservation across the United States and they are the supporting organization with their affiliate Groundwork Bridgeport and it is a lot of work to draw up construction documents and plans to create this entire package proposal like this which takes a lot of effort.

He said that he wants to make sure that the Parks Commission is interested in this project and interested in hearing the proposal without having to vote on it one way or the other, and he agrees that it does need to go to the City Attorney's Office to make sure that this would even be a possibility within the City of Bridgeport like they do in other places and that is what they are asking for.

Mr. Collier said that these are huge construction plans, drawings and proposals and they just want to make sure that they have the support of the Park Commissioners before they go forward and start the work on the project.

He said that it does not mean that they have the Park Board's approval, it just means that the Board is giving them their blessing so they can move forward with creating the proposal in something that would be interested to the City of Bridgeport.

Mr. Labrador asked them not to forget that in their proposal that there are two bathrooms on the outside of this building that the public uses when they come to the beach and there is no way they will give that access away.

Mr. Labrador said that he wishes them the best and said that he would love to see this happen.

Mr. Collier said that the other benefit to the city is that this is a multiyear training program for Bridgeport youth, who would come in and learn construction skills, so it would not only be during the process but, it would be used as a training facility, and would eventually open to the public and for beachgoers; which was their original design so they are happy to pull the documents together and present them to you.

Ms. Smith thanked the Board for allowing them to speak.

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3. Harold Dimbo, 1000 Lafayette Blvd. 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Bridgeport, CT, Project Longevity's Sister's at the Shore Stop the Violence requesting that approximately 30 women be allowed to enter Seaside Park, every Sunday throughout the year, from 8:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m., left of Perry Memorial Arch, to hold a community outreach in order to pray for those who have lost a loved one or have loved ones at risk of gun violence.

Mr. Dimbo thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to speak to them.

Mr. Dimbo said that he retired from the Bridgeport Police Department as a homicide detective and was hired by Project Longevity to work with the Police Department to bring down gun violence in the City.

He said that a lot of the shootings are a result from the different sides of the City not getting along with each other.

He said that a lot of the kid's parents know who the shooters are and some of their kids are doing the shooting and killing.

He said that the kids will not work with the Police Department, so they started working with the mothers back in October and started a program called Sister's at the Shore Stop the Violence

He said it started with seven mothers where they would go down to the park and pray for about an hour and then they would leave.

He said that with this program, the kids who are committing these crimes are getting in and going to the programs and they are helping the mothers who have been traumatized bringing different resources to the households.

Ms. Wade said she was raised with prayer in the church and is a big believer in prayer.

The Commissioners were in favor of giving free access to Seaside Park on Sunday mornings.

Mr. Labrador said that the Recreation Department could make up a pass to enter the park free of charge.

Ms. Conine and Mr. Nastu said that they could make up passes for them

On a motion made by Mr. Brideau, seconded by Ms. Wade, it was unanimously voted to approve the request with the stipulation that they do not stay in the park after the prayer service.

4. Latoya Johnson, Left hearts Inc., 3 Edwin Street, Fl. 2, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to use McLevy Park to hold "Movie Night" on Friday and Saturday evenings on June 26<sup>th</sup>, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, July 31<sup>st</sup>, August 13<sup>th</sup>, August 27<sup>th</sup> and September 4, 2021, from 7:00 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. with a set-up time of 6:30 p.m. and clean-up of 9:15 p.m.

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The Commissioners said that Baldwin Plaza would be a better place for their movies due to people living right next to the park.

Mr. Labrador asked Ms. Gerrity if there was electricity at Baldwin Plaza.

Ms. Gerrity said that there was.

Ms. Johnson said that she has a generator and may just use that.

On a motion made by Mr. Brideau, seconded by Mr. Cotto, it was unanimously voted to approve the event with the usual stipulations.

Latoya Johnson, Left hearts Inc., 3 Edwin Street, Fl. 2, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to use Newfield Park basketball courts to hold Rest In Peace Games on Saturday, August 21, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. with a set-up time of 9:00 a.m. and clean-up time of 8:30 p.m. with approximately 200 people in attendance.

Mr. Labrador reminded Ms. Johnson that the entire permit would have to be signed off on to be able to hold the event.

Ms. Wade asked what type of food she was having.

Ms. Johnson said that they would be grilling hamburgers and hotdogs and give out water,

She said that everything would be free.

On a motion made by Mr. Hosier, seconded by Ms. Wade, it was unanimously voted to approve the event with the usual stipulations.

5. Kinga H Karlowska, Connecticut Institute for Refugees and Immigrants, 670 Clinton Avenue, Bridgeport, CT requesting to use Ellsworth Park to hold play time in the park after CIRI Summer Academy Monday through Thursday, from July 12, 2021 through July 29, 2021, from 1:00 p.m. until 2:30 p.m., with approximately 35 people in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Hosier, seconded by Mr. Brideau, it was unanimously voted to approve the event with the usual stipulations.

6. Giovanni Vasquez, Grindflu Clothing LLC, 444 Summit Street, Bridgeport, CT requesting to hold a free Community Family Day at McLevy Park on Sunday, July 18, 2021, from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. with a set-up time of 1:00 p.m., with free hot dogs and sausages, motivational speakers, 3 drill teams, an art station for kids and a local DJ with small equipment.

Mr. Vasquez said that he would like to pass out 50 drawing sets to the kids to bring home with them.

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He said that he will be getting area artists to come out and work with the children to inspire them to reach their potential in drawing.

He said that this will be a positive event for the community.

He said along with giving away hotdogs and sausage, he will have Mr. Softee on site.

Mr. Nadrizny said that Public Facilities will supply dumpsters for the event.

On a motion made by Mr. Brideau, seconded by Mr. Cotto, it was unanimously voted to approve the event with the usual stipulations.

7. Pam Williams, West Indian American Association of Greater Bridgeport, 64 Ferry Court, Stratford, CT, requesting to use McLevy Park to hold their annual Jerk Festival on Saturday, August 20, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. with a set-up time of 8:00 a.m. and clean-up until 10:00 p.m.

Mr. Raymond Panther represented Ms. Williams due to technical problems.

He said that they are a 501 c3 non-profit organization and they are primarily geared to recognizing and rewarding children in the Greater Bridgeport area that have achieved academic success.

He said that one of the ways that they fund this scholarship recognition program is to hold fundraising events and this event is scheduled if we're given permission on August 20, 2022.

Mr. Labrador said that he was under the impression that the festival was moved to Seaside Park due to the event getting so big.

Mr. Panther said that that they are working with the Bridgeport Police Department with the proper street closure and they do not see any problems go forward.

Mr. Labrador said that due to people living in that area, he is asking that they shut down the event at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Panther agreed.

On a motion made by Mr. Cotto, seconded by Mr. Brideau, it was unanimously voted to approve the event with the usual stipulations.

8. Patrick Dixon, requesting to use the Seaside Park Band Shell and adjacent area to hold a cultural music festival from Wednesday, July 21, 2021 through Saturday, July 24, 2021, to begin at 2:00 p.m. each day, with Wednesday being dedicated to the first responders.

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On a motion made by Mr. Brideau, seconded by Mr. Cotto, it was unanimously voted to table the request due to lack of representation.

#### REPORTS – CRAIG A. NADRIZNY, ACTING PUBLIC FACILITIES DIRECTOR

Mr. Nadrizny read the Director's report:

Request for a Motion of Approval:

- Memorial Bench w/Plaque- McLevy Park- Nona McArthur, in memoriam of her brother.

On a motion made by Mr. Brideau, seconded by Mr. Cotto, it was unanimously voted to approve the request.

Park Projects:

- D. Fairchild Wheeler Memorial Golf Course:
  - FWB057213—Sand Bunker Construction/Reconstruction Project has been completed.
  - Tree Removals were completed.
- Newfield Park
  - Juneteenth Memorial Plaque and Stone is scheduled for ceremony Saturday, June 12, 10AM.
- Pleasure Beach
  - Re-opening date planned for July 4 weekend.
- Seaside Park
  - Park Avenue Planting beds have been re-planted with Annuals for the season.
  - Trees were removed in the east part as well as west part of the park.

Mr. Nadrizny said that all trees in question that were removed were dead.

- Stumps were grinded by a stump grinding contractor prior to Memorial Day Weekend.
- Water Drinking Fountains are planned to be replaced.
- Walking Track in front of bandshell to be renovated.
- Wood timber guiderail supplies have been ordered for repairs/replacement.

Recreation Dept.

- Bridgeport Resident Park stickers are being issued at the Parks Office.
- Recreation Dept. is assisting with the permit process for park events and sports activities.
- Recreation Dept. is preparing for Seaside Park Summer Day Camp, Checkpoints as well as Lifeguard staffing for the upcoming summer season.

Coleman Brothers Inc.

- “SEE attached MEMO from Chief of Police dated Friday, June 4, 2021 stating reasons for her denial.”

Jim Roderick, Capital Prep Harbor School, 777 Main Street, Bridgeport, CT

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- Issue of putting a container at Seaside Park for baseball and football equipment.

Mr. Nadrizny said that the Parks staff has been at Seaside Park working very hard trying to get the park looking good and that the container that Capital Prep Harbor School was approved to put at the park is an eyesore.

Mr. Labrador asked if Mr. Roderick was here tonight?

Mr. Roderick said that in 2016, the Park Board was receptive when they gave them permission to place their container at Seaside Park and they thank them for that.

He said he is concerned because out of the blue they received a phone call that they must remove the container and they are in the middle of spring training.

He said that they are only looking for a place for their team to place their equipment.

He said that they are asking for any solution to help keep the container in the area that is reasonable and acceptable from an appearance standpoint to make it not an eyesore for the public to see.

Mr. Roderick said that they will do whatever it takes to make the container fit into the area even if they have to paint the container or plant bushes around it to make it less conspicuous.

Mr. Nadrizny said that this is not geared only for their school, they are looking at every area that these containers are stored.

Mr. Labrador said that they are not looking to kick young kids out of the park and not make it accessible to them.

Ms. Wade agreed.

Mr. Hosier said that they would find a solution that is acceptable.

Mr. Labrador said that he will go down to the park this week to look at the container and decide on a workable option in order to keep it in the park.

He invited any of the other Park Commissioners to go with him.

Mr. Roderick thanked the Commissioners.

Mr. Nadrizny had no further business.

ADJOURNMENT

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On a motion made by Mr. Cotto, seconded by Mr. Hosier, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ellen M. Gerrity*

Ellen M. Gerrity  
Clerk