

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
BOARD OF PARKS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 14, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE:** Banjed Labrador, Acting President; Cruz M. Cotto, Vice Chair; Lee Grisby, John Mark Hosier, Lillian Wade, Denese Taylor-Moye (6:45 p.m.)

**OTHERS:** Angel DePara, City of Bridgeport; Tatiana Urena, Parks Department, Luis Burgos, Parks Manager; Steven Hladun, Luann Conine, Fred Garrity, Annual CT United Ride; Katherine Morris, Seaside Sounds for Environmental Justice; Reginald Walker, Phillips Family Reunion; Richard E. Baldwin, Marina Village Annual Reunion; Ernest Brown, Team Focus Summer Groove; Daniel Vieira, President, LivFree; Lee Nastu; Richard E. Baldwin, Marina Village Annual Reunion; Eneida Martinez, LGBT Day; David Usedo, Community Outreach Event; Mr. Jerimere, Michelle L. Brooks, Bridgeport Community Festival; David Martin, Garden Bros Circus; Craig Nadrizny, Acting Public Facilities Director; Patrick Mihai, Don Raphael LLC; Todd Holloman, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; Lyshell Joyner, Pretty Motivated & Fearless, LLC; Associate City Attorney Eroll Skyers, City Attorney's Office; Latoya Johnson, Left Hearts; Davon Pratt, YAGGA LLC

This meeting was conducted by Zoom/Teleconference.  
The public could listen to this meeting by calling the conference line.

**OPENING CEREMONY / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Labrador called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. He led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Ms. Urena called the roll. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF:**

- **MAY 18, 2022 (SPECIAL MEETING)**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 18, 2022 MEETING.**  
**\*\* COMMISSIONER CRUZ SECONDED.**  
**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 18, 2022 MEETING PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM:**

The public may call the office of Parks and Recreation at 203-576-7234 and speak with Tatiana Urena or email her at [tatiana.urena@bridgeportct.gov](mailto:tatiana.urena@bridgeportct.gov) to sign-up for Public Speaking.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO MOVE MR. GARRITTY FIRST UNDER NEW BUSINESS.**  
**\*\* COMMISSIONER CRUZ SECONDED.**  
**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Maria I. Valles, Councilwoman 137th District, update on the proposal to establish a commemorative walkway in Wheeler Park (aka City Hall Park) as a ‘Walk of Honor’ to recognize individuals’ achievements in the City of Bridgeport.**

Commissioner Hosier asked if the Parks Commission had authority over this because it involved sidewalks at City Hall.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM OB-1. MARIA I. VALLES, COUNCILWOMAN 137TH DISTRICT, UPDATE ON THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A COMMEMORATIVE WALKWAY IN WHEELER PARK (AKA CITY HALL PARK) AS A ‘WALK OF HONOR’ TO RECOGNIZE INDIVIDUALS’ ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT WITH A REFERRAL REGARDING CLARIFICATION AS TO WHETHER THE PARKS DEPARTMENT HAS AUTHORITY ON THIS PROJECT.**  
**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY SECONDED.**  
**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**2. Ernest Brown, 77 Huntington Turnpike, Bridgeport, CT, update on the Team Focus Summer Groove concert at Seaside Park Band Shell on Saturday, August 13, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with approximately 10,000 people in attendance.**

Mr. Brown said that he had enlarged the diagram as the Commissioners had requested.

Commissioner Hosier said that the new document indicated that coolers could be brought into the park. He said that no cooler could be brought in. Mr. Brown said that they would have security and police officers there to check the coolers.

Commissioner Hosier said that the vendors were listed as to be determined, along with the price of the tickets. Mr. Brown said that they would be selling the tickets online and probably would cost \$50.00. Commissioner Hosier said that he was concerned about the amount of people and whether the organization would be getting anything back from it. Discussion followed about the number of attendees and crowd control. Mr. Brown said that he would be reviewing everything with Mr. Burgos. There will be an outside security team on site. Mr. Burgos said that he had gone over the old layout with Mr. Brown and did not see any issues.

The discussion moved to where the tents and food trucks would be in relation to the track. Mr. Brown said that trucks and tents would be located around the outside of the track. The attendee parking will be done outside the park.

Commissioner Cotto asked if Mr. Burgos would be there for the event. Mr. Burgos said that he would be there for three days.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM OB-2. ERNEST BROWN, 77 HUNTINGTON TURNPIKE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, UPDATE ON THE TEAM FOCUS SUMMER GROOVE CONCERT AT SEASIDE PARK BAND SHELL ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2022 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 10,000 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

Commissioner Labrador asked Mr. Burgos to contact him immediately if he did not received the enlarged layout from Mr. Brown.

**3. Katherine Morris, 532 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, CT, update on the Seaside Sounds for Environmental Justice event at Seaside Park Band Shell on Friday, July 15, 2022 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. with approximately 300 people in attendance.**

Ms. Morris greeted the Commissioner and said that she had added more information to her application and contacted Mr. Burgos to discuss the event, such as where the food trucks will be located. Nothing will be located on the track. There will be all local musicians performing.

Ms. Morris asked if they could get an area of designated parking for attendees. Mr. Burgos said that they try not to have too many vehicles near the band shell area. Commissioner Labrador said

that there would need to have someone present to direct the parking to insure they had straight lines so emergency vehicles can have access.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM OB-3. KATHERINE MORRIS, 532 WHITNEY AVENUE, NEW HAVEN, CT, UPDATE ON THE SEASIDE SOUNDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE EVENT AT SEASIDE PARK BAND SHELL ON FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2022 FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 8:00 A.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 300 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

**4. Daniel Vieira, President, LivFree, update on Diamond #1 during the 4th annual LivFree baseball tournament at Seaside Park.**

Mr. Vieira said that he had presented his program to the Commission earlier but there was a question regarding Diamond 1 due to the Sounds on Sound concert. Mr. Vieira spoke with Mr. Burgos and they decided not to use Diamond 1 at all. They would use the remaining fields.

Mr. Nastu said that it was a great event and for a great cause. Commissioner Labrador asked about Diamond 1. Mr. Nastu said that they should be able to use it for that week-end.

Commissioner Labrador said that he was looking for a motion to approve the use of Diamond 1 for the event. Commissioner Cotto said that it would be important that Mr. Nastu is aware of what is needed, he would approve it.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM OB-4. DANIEL VIEIRA, PRESIDENT, LIVFREE, REGARDING THE USE OF DIAMOND #1 DURING THE 4TH ANNUAL LIVFREE BASEBALL TOURNAMENT AT SEASIDE PARK.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE SECONDED.**

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

*Commissioner Taylor-Moye joined the meeting via phone at 6:45 p.m.*

**5. Richard E. Baldwin, 89 Cottage Street, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host the Marina Village Annual Reunion at Seaside Park on Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with a DJ on-site with approximately 150 people in attendance.**

Mr. Baldwin said that they would be located just down from the arches. They have held the event there at least four times before. Neither Mr. Burgos nor Mr. Nastu had any issues.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM OB-5. RICHARD E. BALDWIN, 89 COTTAGE STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST THE MARINA VILLAGE ANNUAL REUNION AT SEASIDE PARK ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2022 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. WITH A DJ ON-SITE WITH APPROXIMATELY 150 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**6. Patrick Dixon, 16 Root Entertainment, 176 Bunnell Street, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host a Cultural Music Festival at Seaside Park Bandshell from Wednesday, July 27, 2022 to Saturday, July 30, 2022.**

Commissioner Labrador asked if Mr. Dixon was present on the call. There was no response.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM OB-6. PATRICK DIXON, 16 ROOT ENTERTAINMENT, 176 BUNNELL STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A CULTURAL MUSIC FESTIVAL AT SEASIDE PARK BANDSHELL FROM WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 TO SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2022.**

Commissioner Hosier asked if Mr. Dixon's item had been tabled before. Ms. Urena said that Mr. Dixon had been on the last two agendas and she had called him. Mr. Dixon told her that he had forgotten about the meeting. She said that this was the final meeting for his project because he was expecting 2,000 attendees and also would be selling alcohol.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO RESCINDED HIS MOTION TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM OB-6. PATRICK DIXON, 16 ROOT ENTERTAINMENT, 176 BUNNELL STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A CULTURAL MUSIC FESTIVAL AT SEASIDE PARK BANDSHELL FROM WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 TO SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2022.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO DENY AGENDA ITEM OB-6. PATRICK DIXON, 16 ROOT ENTERTAINMENT, 176 BUNNELL STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A CULTURAL MUSIC FESTIVAL AT SEASIDE PARK BANDSHELL FROM WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2022 TO SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2022.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER SECONDED.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Labrador reminded everyone that earlier they had voted to hear Agenda Item 12 first because Mr. Garrity had to leave for another meeting.

**12. Fred Garrity, 4112 Avalon Gates, Trumbull, CT, requesting to host the 21st Annual CT United Ride on Sunday, September 11, 2022 with the usual stipulations and routes as in previous years.**

Mr. Garrity greeted the Commissioners and said they had hosted this event for 21 years.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 12 – FRED GARRITY, 4112 AVALON GATES, TRUMBULL, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST THE 21ST ANNUAL CT UNITED RIDE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 WITH THE USUAL STIPULATIONS AND ROUTES AS IN PREVIOUS YEARS.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY SECONDED.**

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

**1. Eneida Martinez, P.O. Box 55052, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host a ‘LGBT Day’ at McLevy Green Park on Sunday, June 19, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with a DJ-on-site for approximately 0-50 people.**

Ms. Martinez greeted the Commissioners and gave a brief overview of the event. They will be distributing hand sanitizers and anti-bacterial wipes. She said that the LGBT individuals are often left out.

Commissioner Labrador thanked Ms. Martinez for her work on behalf of the City. He reminded her that the event was on a Sunday and that there were residences in the building next door. Ms. Martinez said that this wasn't her first rodeo downtown.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER TAYLOR-MOYE MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 1 – ENEIDA MARTINEZ, P.O. BOX 55052, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A ‘LGBT DAY’ AT MCLEVY GREEN PARK ON SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2022 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M. WITH A DJ-ON-SITE FOR APPROXIMATELY 0-50 PEOPLE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE SECONDED.**

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

**2. Reginald Walker, 810 Seaview Avenue, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host the Phillips Family Reunion at Seaside Park Casino Bath House on Saturday, August 6, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with a DJ-on-site for approximately 125 in attendance.**

Mr. Walker greeted the Commissioners and said that this was a good, old fashioned family reunion. They will be having a DJ, a former police officer, and there will be no alcohol or loud music. There will be a 30 x 30 tent erected by a professional company. He asked if they could use some of the park picnic tables. Mr. Burgos said that they could do that for him.

Commissioner Labrador reminded Mr. Walker that out of towners would have to pay the non-resident price for parking. A discussion followed about on street parking.

Ms. Urena asked if a 30 x 30 tent would need a special permit. Mr. Walker asked the tent company and they did not think a permit would be needed because it was not that big. Discussion followed about the details.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 2 – REGINALD WALKER, 810 SEAVIEW AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST THE PHILLIPS FAMILY REUNION AT SEASIDE PARK CASINO BATH HOUSE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022 FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. WITH A DJ-ON-SITE FOR APPROXIMATELY 125 IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

**3. David Usedo, 980 Sylvan Avenue, Bridgeport, CT, requesting the use of Seaside Park Band Shell for a Community Outreach event with a DJ-on-site on Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. with approximately 50 people.**

Mr. Usedo greeted the Commissioners and said that this was his church's free public outreach event. They have not done this for the last two years because of COVID. He gave a brief overview of the event. There will be Spanish speaking individuals there, along with Portuguese speakers. There will be some face painting and some health tips, along with distributing literature. There will be a 10 x 10 tent. A brief discussion followed about the other event scheduled for the Park on the 20th.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 3 – DAVID USED0, 980 SYLVAN AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING THE USE OF SEASIDE PARK BAND SHELL FOR A COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT WITH A DJ-ON-SITE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2022 FROM 1:00 P.M. TO 6:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 50 PEOPLE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

A brief discussion followed about COVID protocols for outside events.

**4. Boniface Sainvil, 239 Ferris Avenue, White Plains, NY, is requesting to host a BBQ at Seaside Park on Saturday, July 23, 2022 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. with approximately 150 people in attendance.**

Mr. Jerimere said that their picnic would have approximately 200 people attending. Commissioner Labrador said that they had not indicated where they would be picnicking. Mr. Jerimere said that they would be bringing in three buses. Commissioner Cotto said that buses were not allowed in the park. Commissioner Labrador said that the buses could discharge the passengers on Iranistan Avenue and they could walk into the park. However, the buses could not park on Iranistan. He asked if the group had been to Seaside Park before. Mr. Jerimere said that they had.

Commissioner Taylor-Moye asked if there was going to be a DJ and if there were any residents from Bridgeport that were going to be in attendance. Commissioner Labrador said that those who walk into the park are not restricted. Those who want to drive a vehicle into the park have to get a permit. He cautioned everyone that it was a long walk to the beach. He added that there were grills available at West Beach and are first come, first serve basis.

Discussion followed about suggesting a picnic area for the group. Mr. Jerimere said they would be bringing a UHaul truck with the food. The Commissioners told Mr. Jerimere that it would not be allowed.

Commissioner Labrador suggested that they table the item to a later date so they can work out the details. He said that he did not want people to come to Seaside Park and have a terrible time. Mr. Jerimere said that they could bring vans. Mr. Nastu said that it would cost \$60 per out of state van for a day pass.

Commissioner Labrador repeated that the buses could drop the passengers off near the park and then would have to find adequate parking for the vehicles elsewhere.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER TAYLOR-MOYE MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 4 – BONIFACE SAINVIL, 239 FERRIS AVENUE, WHITE PLAINS, NY, IS REQUESTING TO HOST A BBQ AT SEASIDE PARK ON SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2022 FROM 9:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 150 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE PENDING SUBMISSION OF A MORE EFFICIENT PLAN.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

Commissioner Labrador asked Ms. Urena to contact Mr. Jerimere about the details for the picnic.

**5. Mary Marshall, 197 Light Street, Stratford, CT, requesting to host a wedding at Seaside Park on Saturday, June 24, 2023 with a DJ on-site from 2:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. with approximately 75 people in attendance.**

Ms. Marshall was not on the call. It was noted that this event was for 2023.



**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 5 – MARY MARSHALL, 197 LIGHT STREET, STRATFORD, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A WEDDING AT SEASIDE PARK ON SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2023 WITH A DJ ON-SITE FROM 2:00 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 75 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY SECONDED.**

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

**6. Michelle L. Brooks, 336 Bradley Street, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to hold the Bridgeport Community Festival at McLevy Green Park with a DJ on-site on Saturday, July 23, 2022 from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with approximately 50 people in attendance.**

Ms. Brooks greeted the Commissioners. She said that was their 8th Annual Festival and was a free event. They have held the event at the site before.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 6 – MICHELLE L. BROOKS, 336 BRADLEY STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOLD THE BRIDGEPORT COMMUNITY FESTIVAL AT MCLEVY GREEN PARK WITH A DJ ON-SITE ON SATURDAY, JULY 23, 2022 FROM 12:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 50 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER SECONDED.**

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

**7. David Martin, Garden Bros Circus, 2187 Siesta Drive, Sarasota, FL, requesting to host a Family Circus event at Seaside Park Bandshell with a set-up Monday, August 1, 2022, show dates starting August 4, 2022 thru Sunday, August 7, 2022 and load out on Monday, August 8, 2022 with approximately 1,000 - 2,450 people in attendance.**

Mr. Martin greeted the Commissioners.

Commissioner Taylor-Moye asked if there would be animals and who would be taking care of them. She wished to know if there would be a Ferris Wheel and whether there would be food sold there. She said that she would not support having a circus in Seaside Park.

Mr. Martin said that the tech documents had been sent. It describes what will be brought in. the only animals that are in the show are a dog and a horse pack. There are no exotic animals. This is a professional, non-exotic animal circus and is the world's largest travelling circus. He said that due to COVID, they had switched from using indoor arenas to using a big top. Discussion followed about the meaning of the word "Circus".

Mr. Martin explained that this was a new type of circus which did not include clowns or exotic animals. It is about the acrobatics and other things.

Commissioner Hosier said that the flyer said that there would be camel rides or pony rides, along with a bouncy house and face painting. Mr. Martin said that in some locations there are no camel or pony rides allowed, so they adjust their flyers accordingly.

Commissioner Labrador said that the Animal Rights groups are concerned about how the animals are cared for. Mr. Martin said that the horses and camels are treated better than the humans. However, if the Commission says no animals, then there will be no animals.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO DENY AGENDA ITEM 7 – DAVID MARTIN, GARDEN BROS CIRCUS, 2187 SIESTA DRIVE, SARASOTA, FL, REQUESTING TO HOST A FAMILY CIRCUS EVENT AT SEASIDE PARK BANDSHELL WITH A SET-UP MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2022, SHOW DATES STARTING AUGUST 4, 2022 THRU SUNDAY, AUGUST 7, 2022 AND LOAD OUT ON MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2022 WITH APPROXIMATELY 1,000 - 2,450 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED.**

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

**8. Davon Pratt, YAGGA LLC, 1545 Boston Ave, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host a Community Basketball Tournament at Newfield Park with a DJ-on-site on Sunday, June 26, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with approximately 60 people in attendance.**

Mr. Pratt did not appear to be present on the call.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO DENY AGENDA ITEM 8 – DAVON PRATT, YAGGA LLC, 1545 BOSTON AVE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A COMMUNITY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT NEWFIELD PARK WITH A DJ-ON-SITE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 60 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE MOVED TO RESCIND THE MOTION TO DENY AGENDA ITEM 8 – DAVON PRATT, YAGGA LLC, 1545 BOSTON AVE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A COMMUNITY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT NEWFIELD PARK WITH A DJ-ON-SITE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 60 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

Commissioner Wade said that she knew the applicant and there was no problems with the event last year. Commissioner Grisby said that he had concerns about the date.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM AGENDA ITEM 8 – DAVON PRATT, YAGGA LLC, 1545 BOSTON AVE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A COMMUNITY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT NEWFIELD PARK WITH A DJ-ON-SITE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 60 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE UNTIL THEY WERE ABLE TO CONTACT MR. PRATT.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY SECONDED.**

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

**9. Marcia Neres, Don Raphael LLC, 256 Oak Street, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host The Don Raphael Festival (Event #2) at Seaside Park Band Shell with the sale of alcohol on Sunday, July 17, 2022 with a set-up day on Saturday, July 16, 2022 for approximately 1,000 people in attendance.**

Mr. Patrick Mihai said that he was present to represent Ms. Neres. This will be the second time in less than 3 weeks that they had held an event at Seaside and the previous one had been an absolute success. He said that they had learned a great deal about how to make the back end run smoother. He said that this Brazilian concert will be smaller and there would be no tents, but they will have some fencing. They will be applying for a October 4th concert.

Commissioner Labrador said that he had been at the park a lot and he was very surprised at the price. He said that he felt like they had pulled the wool over the Commissioners' eyes. He did not care about the size of the event or how much they would pay the police. Commissioner Labrador said that they need to see a detailed map for the event.

Commissioner Hosier said that they needed to discuss this with the Parks Department staff and avoid having this happen again this year. He suggested that they consider having it happen next year. Commissioner Labrador said that he would need to go to the park and discuss it with Mr. Mihai before they hold another event.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO DENY AGENDA ITEM 9 – MARCIA NERES, DON RAPHAEL LLC, 256 OAK STREET, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST THE DON RAPHAEL FESTIVAL (EVENT #2) AT SEASIDE PARK BAND SHELL WITH THE SALE OF ALCOHOL ON SUNDAY, JULY 17, 2022 WITH A SET-UP DAY ON SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2022 FOR APPROXIMATELY 1,000 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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Mr. Mihai said that he was disappointed with the decision and sorry that he wasted the past two hours on the call. They put on a successful and safe show with many hours of work behind it. Mr. Mihai left the call.

Commissioner Labrador said that he was not upset with how the concert worked out, but had questions about comments that were said to Ms. Urena and what was told to Acting Police Chief Garcia. An applicant should not think they could use the parks and treat the staff poorly. He added that they might have been able to reconsider this next month.

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

**10. Todd Holloman, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., 325 Myrtle Ave. Apt. #1202, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host a BBQ at Seaside Park – West Beach on Saturday, June 25, 2022 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with a DJ-on-site for approximately 65 people in attendance.**

Commissioner Labrador gave Mr. Holloman some friendly advice and emphasized it was important to treat the staff civilly.

Mr. Holloman said that his fraternity was one of the oldest black fraternities in the nation. He represents the Stanford alumni branch of the group and they are based in New Haven with a wide coverage base. They are looking to have an end of the year cook out for the fraternity members in the area. No alcohol will be served. Mr. Holloman said that he lives close to Seaside Park and he often walks or bikes there.

They have a program called “Guide Right” program that mentors young people in the area and is one of the oldest mentoring programs in the nation. The fraternity is celebrating their centennial this year and the cook out is part of that event. He said that this was a family event. Discussion followed about the details.

Commissioner Labrador suggested that Mr. Holloman tour the area with Mr. Burgos or Ms. Conine to choose a site.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 10 – TODD HOLLOMAN, KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, INC., 325 MYRTLE AVE. APT. #1202, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A BBQ AT SEASIDE PARK – WEST BEACH ON SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2022 FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M. WITH A DJ-ON-SITE FOR APPROXIMATELY 65 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY SECONDED.**

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

**11. Lyshell Joyner, Pretty Motivated & Fearless, LLC., (Pretty MF), 57 Ives Court, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to sell merchandise at Seaside Park, Beardsley Park, or Knowlton Park.**

Ms. Joyner greeted the Commissioners and said that she wished to spread the news about motivation and fearlessness. She said that she would be offering items like vegan lip gloss, earrings, bonnets and hats for sale.

Commissioner Cotto asked for clarification on where Ms. Joyner would be selling items. Commissioner Labrador said that they should check with the City Attorney's Office about this. He added that there were a number of people at McLevy Green that sell items. He said that once that someone is allowed to sell at the parks, there will be 10 more people who wish to sell. While Commissioner Labrador said that they would have to check this out.

Ms. Joyner said that there were people down at Seaside who sell jewelry from pink tents and even along East Main. Commissioner Labrador said that perhaps they could allow her to sell at one park and see how it goes. Discussion followed about the details such as which park it would be done at and what times.

Commissioner Labrador said that they should table the item until next month so the Commission could discuss it with the City Attorney's Office. In the meantime, Ms. Joyner needs to speak with Ms. Urena about where she intends to locate her sales table. Ms. Joyner said that she has her sales license.

Associate City Attorney Skyers said that he would like Ms. Joyner to provide his office with as much detail as possible so they can analyze the situation.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 11 – LYSHELL JOYNER, PRETTY MOTIVATED & FEARLESS, LLC., (PRETTY MF), 57 IVES COURT, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO SELL MERCHANDISE AT SEASIDE PARK, BEARDSLEY PARK, OR KNOWLTON PARK FOR REFERRAL TO THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE SECONDED.**

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

**13. Latoya Johnson, Left Hearts, 3 Edwin Street, FL #2, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host a Community Movie Night at Baldwin Plaza on Friday, July 15, 2022, Saturday, July 30, 2022 and Saturday, August 6, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. with approximately 50 people.**

Ms. Johnson greeted the Commissioners and said that his was her second event. She explained that she had originally wanted to hold it on the Green but the staff had suggested Baldwin Plaza. It worked out really well for her. Last year, she did not get the turn out she expected and has consequently dropped the attendance to 50.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 13 – LATOYA JOHNSON, LEFT HEARTS, 3 EDWIN STREET, FL #2, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A COMMUNITY MOVIE NIGHT AT BALDWIN PLAZA ON FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2022, SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2022 AND SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2022 FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 9:30 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 50 PEOPLE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER WADE SECONDED.**

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

**14. Latoya Johnson, Left Hearts, 3 Edwin Street, FL #2, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host a Rest In Peace Games at Newfield-Jessup Park (Basketball Courts area) on Saturday, August 20, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. with approximately 100 people in attendance.**

Ms. Johnson said that this was the third or fourth year she has hosted this event in memory of victims who have lost their lives through gun violence. There has been an increasing number of individuals who have lost their lives through fentanyl and suicide, so there will be a couple of things to remember those individuals also. There will be hot dogs and hamburgers available, free of charge.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 14 – LATOYA JOHNSON, LEFT HEARTS, 3 EDWIN STREET, FL #2, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A REST IN PEACE GAMES AT NEWFIELD-JESSUP PARK (BASKETBALL COURTS AREA) ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2022 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 100 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY SECONDED.**

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

**8. Davon Pratt, YAGGA LLC, 1545 Boston Ave, Bridgeport, CT, requesting to host a Community Basketball Tournament at Newfield Park with a DJ-on-site on Sunday, June 26, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. with approximately 60 people in attendance. CONT'D**

Mr. Pratt greeted the Commission and said that he was trying to hold a basketball tournament for the second year from until 11:30. They had some police officers playing and a number of high school youth were present.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO RECONSIDER AGENDA ITEM 8 – DAVON PRATT, YAGGA LLC, 1545 BOSTON AVE, BRIDGEPORT, CT,**

**REQUESTING TO HOST A COMMUNITY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT NEWFIELD PARK WITH A DJ-ON-SITE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 60 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE, WHICH HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY TABLED.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 8 – DAVON PRATT, YAGGA LLC, 1545 BOSTON AVE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REQUESTING TO HOST A COMMUNITY BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AT NEWFIELD PARK WITH A DJ-ON-SITE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022 FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. WITH APPROXIMATELY 60 PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

Commissioner Labrador thanked Atty. Skyer for his assistance and his time.

## **REPORTS**

### **• Commissioner's Report**

There was no report at this time.

### **• Director's Report – Craig A. Nadrizny, Acting Public Facilities Director**

Mr. Hladun greeted the Commissioners. He said that Mr. Nadrizny had been on the call earlier but may not be on the call at that time.

Mr. Hladun said that they had issued an RFP for the Grove Concession and there was a non-mandatory site visit posted on the Purchasing website. There was no response. One vendor came out and provide the Department with some good feedback. It will be rebid again.

Mr. Hladun said that due to the timing, he was not able to publish a new RFP for the West Beach Concession stand in order to have it up and running this season. The licensed concessionaire did open last season. There are some repairs needed at that stand. There is an issue with the hot water heater at the concession stand, which needs to be addressed so the stand will be in compliance with the Health Department. He requested the Commission move to extend the license agreement for just the West Beach concession stand for this season. Then an RFP can be done later at the end of the season. They would like to have them open on July 1st and continue through to Labor Day.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO EXTEND THE LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR JUST THE WEST BEACH CONCESSION STAND FOR THIS SEASON.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

Mr. Hladun said that they had been working on the food truck pilot program at the overflow parking area at West Beach. He indicated that there was a draft program proposal attached to the Director's Report. It is estimated that approximately 8 to 12 trucks could fit in that area. There have been some calls from food truck vendors about this. He said they would like to start it on July 1st through mid-October with all the requirements for a food truck to operate in the City. He added that he had created a draft pilot licensing fee from last month's information. He reviewed the details with the Commissioners. Discussion followed.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED FOOD TRUCK LICENSING FEES AS OUTLINED.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER GRISBY SECONDED.**

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

Commissioner Hosier said that he would like to see the pilot food truck program be expanded to include the Grove Area, so that there would be food available at that end of the park. He would like two trucks be located for that area. Mr. Hladun said that those trucks would be subject to the same regulations. Discussion followed about the details.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO APPROVE PERMISSION FOR TWO (2) FOOD TRUCKS TO BE LOCATED AT THE GROVE AREA OF SEASIDE PARK FOR THE SUMMER SEASON.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

Mr. Hladun said all the citywide splash pads are activated through our Public Facilities Building Maintenance Department. There was one site where we had some vehicular damage at Luis Munoz. The Fairchild Wheeler golf course bunker construction projects have been completed. The process of getting back out to pleasure beach to prepare for the season is underway. Mr. Hladun spoke to the Harbor Master about the water taxi that to bring some of that equipment out to Pleasure Beach for the season.

The masonry probes on the arch has been done and work for grants is underway. Fence work around the fields at the perimeter of Seaside had been done, along with installing some signage. There was also some tree work done regarding the engineering for the traffic signals along Park Avenue and Main Street.



The discussion moved to insuring the proper training life guards at the beaches has been provided. They will start on July 2nd.

Camps will be begin on July 18th and run through August 12th and applications are still being accepted. Mr. Hladun reviewed the details and said that the registration fee is \$100.00.

Commissioner Labrador said that he was grateful that they were dealing with over eight months of work, which Ms. Urena was bombarded with. He said that it would be important for the Commission not to get caught up in political issues and to stay transparent.

Mr. Hladun then reviewed the updated budget for fiscal year 2022/2023, which had been submitted earlier in the day.

Commissioner Labrador asked Mr. Hladun to contact the Police Department about sports games on the fields that are lit up. The games have often just started when the Police arrive and tell everyone they have to leave.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER HOSIER MOVED TO ADJORN.**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO SECONDED.**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

S. L. Soltes

Telesco Secretarial Services