

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
BOARD OF PARKS COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
JULY 6, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE:** Banjed Labrador, Acting President; Cruz M. Cotto, Vice Chair; Lee Grisby, John Mark Hosier, Lillian Wade, Denese Taylor-Moye (5:44 p.m.)

**OTHERS:** Angel DePara, City of Bridgeport; Tatiana Urena, Parks Department, Luann Conine, Recreation; Atty. Eroll Skyers, City Attorney's Office; Steve Hladun, Parks Department, Donald Wilson, Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse

**OPENING CEREMONY / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Labrador called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m. He led those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Commissioner Labrador thanked everyone for attending this special meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Don Wilson, Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse, Bridgeport, CT, revisiting the Pilot Program for a "Concession Stand" at Puglio Park in the existing Pavilion with light food and refreshments.**

Mr. Wilson said that they had put in a request for permission for a pilot concession stand at Veteran's Park before the COVID lock down happened. The impetus of that was that there was a new football adult Football League playing in the park. People were concerned that it would create havoc in the park with both children and adults using the park. Mr. Wilson said that he was in the park from six to nine almost every day for almost nine months. This will also help with monitoring the park. The building is already there and there is a sink already in place. They are looking to do simple pre-made wraps, pre-made sandwiches hot dogs and hamburgers with fruit juice. He said that they could bring in a table top grill. They also want to maintain the park and the quality of life.

Commissioner Labrador said that they need to know if Mr. Wilson's group was a non-profit, and they also have to check in with the Health Department about the sale of food. He said that he

wanted to make sure that this was a pilot program for one season. He said that they may need a contract.

Commissioner Cotto said he did not know if this needed to go out to bid since the it was being done on City property.

Atty. Skyers said they took a long and hard look at how this particular program was being pitched and potentially administered and determine that as a pilot, this does not have to go out to bid as a pilot since they are using the single source provision to allow this to occur.

Commissioner Wade said that she was for this because her church sponsored a number of children in a program with Mr. Wilson. She supports things for the children.

Atty. Skyers said that there was nothing in this that would prevent the Commissioners from reviewing any and all the details of the pilot program after the season so they could make a determination as to whether they wished to continue the program. This program is being presented by a very conscientious gentleman and Atty. Skyers felt they would be on solid legal ground.

Commissioner Grisby said that he was for this. His daughters participated in an after school sports program in the past.

Commissioner Hosier said that he admires Mr. Wilson. The City is blessed to have Mr. Wilson.

Commission Labrador said that the community needs to see what can be done out there. He added that they will continue to watch for vendors who are out there without permits.

Commissioner Labrador thanked Atty. Skyers for his hard work on this item. Atty. Skyers noted that Mr. Hladun and Ms. Urena also contributed their time and efforts.

Commissioner Labrador said that a number of people, including had gone out to the parks to check on things to make sure that everyone was safe and happy.

Mr. Wilson said for the record that both Mr. Hladun and Commissioner Grisby have always been there when he had needed something.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COTTO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 1 – DON WILSON, BRIDGEPORT YOUTH LACROSSE, BRIDGEPORT, CT, REVISITING THE PILOT PROGRAM FOR A “CONCESSION STAND” AT PUGLIO PARK IN THE EXISTING PAVILION WITH LIGHT FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS.**

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

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

Commissioner Taylor-Moye joined the meeting briefly at 5:44 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

S. L. Soltes

Telesco Secretarial Services