

CITY OF NORWALK
RECREATION, PARKS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL COMMITTEE
BY VIDEO CONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023.
REGULAR MEETING
7:00PM.

Members of the public can call in and listen to a meeting. They will not be able to speak or see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. Please find the information using the link above.

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Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via e-mail in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Dilene Byrd at dbyrd@norwalkct.gov to provide written comment prior to the meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Darlene Young, Chair, Doug Sutton; Lisa Shanahan; Johan Lopez; Heather Dunn; Nicol Ayers

ABSENT: Jenn McMurrer

STAFF: Robert Stowers, Director of Recreation and Parks; Ken Hughes, Superintendent, Recreation and Parks

OTHERS: James Whipple, Shannon Whipple

I. ROLL CALL

At roll call there were six (6) committee members present, one (1) absent (Ms. McMurrer). A quorum was present.

Ms. Young called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

II. MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2023

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH (6) SIX IN FAVOR AND (1) ONE ABSTENTION- MS. DUNN.**

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation this evening.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed this evening.

V. NEW BUSINESS

The City of Norwalk reserves the right to cancel the Event for public health or safety reasons as determined by the City of Norwalk in its sole discretion. The City of Norwalk shall not be liable for damages arising from the cancellation of the Event.

- 1. APPROVE THE USE OF VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY TRIBALL CHAMPIONSHIP USA, LLC FOR THEIR TWO ROADS TRIBALL CHAMPIONSHIP EVENT TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2024, FROM 10:00 AM TO 6:30 PM. SET-UP TIME FROM FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024 AT 3:00 PM WITH TEAR-DOWN ON SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024 BY 12:00 PM. APPROXIMATELY 1000 + PEOPLE.**

Ms. Dunn noted that that the rain date is scheduled for August 3, 2024, but that is typically the weekend of the SONO Arts Festival and suggested if possible that the rain date be changed.

**** THE ITEM WAS TABLED.**

2. APPROVE THE USE OF VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK AND IMMEDIATE SURROUNDING GROUNDS BY JS ENDURANCE FOR THEIR GARAVEL SONO HALF MARATHON 5K & KIDS FUN RUN EVENT TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024, FROM 8:30 AM TO 12:45 PM. SET-TIME AT 7:00 AM WITH TEAR-DOWN BY 2:00 PM. APPROXIMATELY 1500 PEOPLE.

Mr. Whipple provided an overview of the event and said this will be the 10th year the event will be held, and he had received very good feedback from the last race that was held and there were very few issues. Ms. Shanahan said that she has participated in the event three times, and it was a very well-run event, and she is excited that it will be held again. Ms. Young asked how many people participated in this year's event. Mr. Whipple said between the half marathon and the 5K there were approximately 1,500 participants. Ms. Dunn asked with all the activity from the Walk Bridget project if there is an alternate route or backup plan in case the area gets congested at that time. Mr. Hughes said the event organizers work with the Traffic Commission so any of those kinds of issues will be addressed by them.

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**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. APPROVE THE RECREATION AND PARKS COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2024.

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO APPROVE RECREATION AND PARKS COUNCIL MEETING DATES FOR 2024.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO M. E. O'BRIEN & SONS, FOR THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW PLAYGROUND AT BROOKSIDE SCHOOL, PRICING FROM STATE CONTRACT # 17PSX0081, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$187,425.15 FROM THE STATE OF CT DEEP PARKS BEAUTIFICATION GRANT, 0923-6030-5796-C0832.

Mr. Hughes said this is another program that will be done through the DEEP state grant, and they have been working closely with the Principal and PTA of Brookside School to come up with playground design which has now been finalized.

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****MR. SUTTON MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS TO ISSUE CHANGE ORDERS TO M. E. O'BRIEN & SONS FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW PLAYGROUND AT BROOKSIDE SCHOOL, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$18,425.00 FROM THE STATE OF CT DEEP PARKS BEAUTIFICATION GRANT, 0923-6030-5796-C0832.**

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VI. DISCUSSION

Ms. Young thanked the staff for all their support, and said she loves what is being done at Recreation and Parks and it feels great and there is a lot more to be done. She also thanked the previous and new council members and said that she hopes they enjoy this committee as much as she does. Mr. Stowers said there are a lot of great things to come in the next couple of years.

ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. SHANAHAN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:16PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd

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