

Board of Park Commissioners
Wednesday, July 17, 2019
Executive Room, First Floor Meeting Room, 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

Present: Mayor Mary Ellen Zoppo-Sassu
Commissioner Malcolm Huckaby
Commissioner Cynthia Donovan
Commissioner Robert Fiorito
Commissioner Paula O'Keefe
Superintendent Dr. Joshua Medeiros
Commissioner Robert Kalat
Council Liaison, Scott Rosado

Absent:

1) Call to order

Chairwoman Zoppo-Sassu called the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

2) Acceptance of minutes from June 12, 2019:

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to approve the June 12, 2019 minutes.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bogdanski

All in favor; Motion carried.

3) Public Participation:

Colonel Miller is concerned of the ordinances governing Rockwell Park. He believes the ordinances are not being enforced when it comes to the building of dams, drinking alcohol in the park and open flames in the park.

Mayor Zoppo-Sassu explained the Park Department is aware of the damming and is working with the Bristol Police Department to reinforce ordinances and address behaviors. Commissioner Fiorito confirmed that the Park Dept has been focusing on the removal of the dams.

Bob Spinelli approached the Board and concerned with the charcoal grills. Police Department have been reminded of park ordinances and enforcement follow-up.

Michael Day approached the Board regarding more lighting and the repairs to the basketball courts in Brackett Park. Dr. Medeiros informed the Board that there are many court repairs across the city parks that exceed \$500,000 and the Parks Department did received \$60,000 for the court repairs. He will work within the Master Plan and plan for the repairs for the future.

Michelle of the Kern Park Association worked with the Eagle Scouts of which they removed invasive species and burning bushes throughout the park. The Eagle Scout replanted some native species. She would like to see a master plan developed for the trails. The Master Park Plan will be started in the fall.

Motion made by Commissioner Fiorito to move 8B and 8D to Public Participation.

Seconded by Commissioner Bogdanski.

All in favor. Motion carried.

Zach Koval explained the tremendous amount of progress made to the North Pond Park. Commissioner Bogdanski was very impressed with the beautification and progress he made.

8d

Hopper Birge Pond Committee.

John worked very hard building the board walk and educating residents.

Would like to create a separate committee within the City. They have never had a budget. It has always been handled through the volunteers. They would function independently and also be part of the Parks Committee.

4) **Employee Recognition**

- a. Shelly Fontaine approached the Board while Dr. Medeiros explained the life saving efforts she did within the Parks Department.
- b. Jim Ciccio will be retiring in the near future and Dr. Medeiros thanked him for his service.

5) **Superintendent Report:**

Dr. Medeiros explained his Superintendent Report.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Kalat to approve the report and place on file.

Seconded by: Commissioner Kalat

All in favor Motion carried.,

6) **Financials**

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to approve the financials and place on file.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bogdanski

All in favor; Motion carried.

7) **Old Business**

- a. 100th Anniversary of Memorial Boulevard

Commissioner O'Keefe stated the celebration of the park and tentative timeframe for the event will be October 2021. Early plans involve highlighting the evolution of the Boulevard from past to present.

- b. All Heart Pop Ups Parks

October 19th will be the fundraiser for the All Heart Parks Initiative.

- c. Art in the Parks

Dr. Medeiros stated the grant has been approved for \$1500 for art projects for the kids in the park. Skate park proposal is being worked on. Mayor Zoppo-Sassu stated the Rockwell Park 3-D cross walk at the connector of the mountain bike trails will begin soon as well.

- d. Policies and Operations Manual Review.

Dr. Medeiros stated that the Park Policies and Operation Manual will be emailed to the Commissioners for their review and will report back in August to see if any changes need to be implemented.

- e. Establish a sub-committee for the City wide Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Dr. Medeiros would like to include the scope and goals of the Master Plan. Would like the Board to review the plan and then send out to Purchasing Department for obtaining bids.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to have the Board review the Master Plan.

Seconded by Commissioner Donovan.

All in favor; Motion carried.

Commissioner Fiorito stated that the Building & Maintenance Committee met this evening with the Rockwell Park mountain bike trail of which has approved the development of the bump track area.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to approve the bump track as proposed and to allow fund raising efforts to begin and to remain in contact with the Park Board. .

Seconded by: Commissioner Kalat.

All in favor; Motion carried.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to accept and approve the Board of Finance Request and place on file.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bogdanski.

All in favor; Motion carried

8) New Business

Zopp-Sassu shared the retirement of Eileen McNulty and that Dr. Medeiros will be spearheading the interim role as Acting Director of the Department of Youth Services.

Bristol Green Team Initiative presented by Katie Hennesy is about cleaning the parks with volunteers. Rockwell Park will be the kick off park on July 27th.

Discussion transpired regarding endorsing a rental fee schedule for Dennis Malone Aquatic Center.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to approve the rental fees for DMAC and place on file.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bogdanski.

All in favor; Motion passed.

Dr. Medeiros is interested in renovating the Page Park Pavilion in order for families to hold private indoor parties and the events to include weddings. Develop contacts with local vendors and restaurants to include food and alcohol. This concept must be approved and signed off by Corporation Council.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to upgrade the Page Park building and to include beer and wine through local vendors.

Seconded by: Commissioner Donovan.

All in favor; Motion passed.

Malcolm Huckaby addressed the Board and is excited to be on the Board of Park Commissioners.

9) Other Business

Yarde Metals approached the Park Department as for donating a sign for the Bristol Blues and American legion.

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Fiorito to move the Yarde Metals signage to Building & Maintenance Committee.

Seconded by: Commissioner Bogdanski

All in favor; Motion carried.

10) Adjourn

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Donovan to adjourn at 7:35p.m.

Seconded by: Commissioner Kalat.

All in favor; Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Wilson, Recording Secretary
Board of Park Commissioners

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