



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

Parks, Recreation & Beaches

Jonathan F. Mitchell



BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98278459435?pwd=NXpQQmRVdFdTVitCMmhORDQ5QXFQdz09>

Meeting ID: 982 7845 9435

Passcode: 038576

One tap mobile

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April 21, 2021

6:00 P.M.

Minutes

Please Note: All special events are subject to the COVID-19 restrictions being lifted by the date of the event.

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm. Peter Boswell read Governor Baker's Covid guidelines for open meetings

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Peter Boswell, Diane Berube, Elaine Safioleas, Paula Robinson-Deare, Justin Ohlson

ALSO, PRESENT: Mary Rapoza, Director of Parks, Rec., and Beaches; Bernadette Barreira, Financial Asst.

ACCEPT PAST MINUTES

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New Bedford, MA 02740
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181 Hillman Street
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Park Board to review and approve minutes from March meeting. Justin Ohlson motioned to accept the minutes. 2nd Diane Berube and accepted by all.

NEW BUSINESS - APPEARANCES/ACTIONS

1. Age Friendly Dog Park Proposal

Invitee: Courtney Oneill

The annual membership for those 65 or older will be reduced to \$10.00, so that it is age friendly. The ten-dollar (\$10) fob charge will remain the same.

Diane Berube motioned to approve the age friendly membership to \$10 from \$25. 2nd by Elaine Safioleas. Unanimously Approved

2. Planning Department to discuss tent placement and kiosk use at Custom House Square.

Invitee: Anne Louro

The city received a Covid Response Grant to help with dining and business. Custom House Square is designed to house a 30 x 60-foot tent. Anchors for the tent are in place. The intent was for the tent to be used for programming. Beer Gardens, Farmer's Markets will use this tent. Side will not be staying on. DPI will maintain tent. Anne stated that it is tough to serve liquor there. Liquor permits are good for only one day. The intent is not to have restaurants and bars use this. Restaurants have outside seating. Tent sides are to be left open in order to prevent encampments.

Elaine Safioleas motioned to approve the tent installation at Custom House Square for the season. 2nd by Paula Robinson Dear. Unanimously Approved

3. Military Museum seeking approval to allow recruiters to set up a table outside of the museum.

Invitee: Bill Niedzwiedz not present

Paula Robinson Deare motioned to allow the recruiters to set up a table in front of the museum. 2nd by Diane Berube and accepted by all.

4. THRIVE program@ Custom House Square on Fridays from 4/23-9/17/2021

Invitee: Jennifer Smith, Jeff Costa, Keri Cox

National Parks and 3rd Eye Youth Empowerment, in collaboration with Sanga Center, will host wellness activities for staff and teens to lift the youth of the city. They will utilize Custom House Square every 3rd Friday from 5:30-6:45PM to practice wellness with their teams. Anticipated attendance is 10-20 people who must be masked and following Covid guidelines.

Elaine Safioleas motioned to approve the event. 2nd by Paula Robinson Deare. Unanimously Approved

5. NB Farmers Market @ multiple locations 3 days a (Mon, Thurs, Sat) 6/29-10/30/2020.

Invitee: Susan Murray

They were asked to not park on the grass when offloading.

Diane motioned to move the Farmers' Market to the parking lot at Brooklawn Park. 2nd by Paula Robinson Deare. Unanimously Approved

Elaine Safioleas motioned to allow parking in area 2 at Buttonwood Park for the Farmers' Market. 2nd by Diane Berube. Unanimously Approved

Justin Ohlson motioned to approve Clasky Common Park Farmers' Market. 2nd by Diane Berube. Unanimously Approved

6. Southcoast Hospital Group 25th Anniversary Gala @ Fort Taber Park Friday 9/24/2021 with set on Wednesday starting 9/22/2021 and take own on Saturday 9/25/2021

Invitee: Adriann Corazzini

Setup will commence on Wednesday 9/22/2021 and they will dismantle on Saturday 9/25/2021. They will have very strict Covid -19 protocols in place that evening, which will include health screening and mask wearing. Attendees must either show vaccination documentation or a negative Covid test within forty-eight (48) hours. A valet parking plan will be in place. Tent will need to be set up in north of fort. Police details or private security is needed while tent is up. The board requires a \$100,000.00 bond. \$1440 per day and \$70 per lot. Mr. Boswell would like to see security plan approved by the NBPD. He would also like to see DPH and Fire Dept. approval for the food. The organizers will come back in front of board in May.

7. **New Bedford Food Truck & Craft Beer Festival @ Fort Taber Park on Saturday 9/11/2021.**

Invitee: Anthony Pepe not present

Elaine Safioleas motioned to table. 2nd by Paula Robinson Deare and accepted by all.

8. **Friends of Buttonwood Park** to discuss (1) Cherry Tree Replacement Project and (2) Tennis Court Backboard Project.

Invitee: Richard Leary

Monument for municipal workers needs cleaning. Local 851 and friends' group will work together to refurbish. They want to remove shrubbery and loosen the dirt.

Diane Berube motioned to refurbish the Union Workers monument. 2nd by Paula Robinson Deare.

Unanimously Approved

Tennis court Backboard Project looking to install 8x10 high, 12x16 foot wide and made from wood.

They have been in touch with Greater new Bedford Voc Tech. High and are waiting for a proposal from Steven Walker.

Elaine Safioleas motioned to approve the Backboard Project. 2nd by Diane Berube. Unanimously Approved

Cherry Tree Project- Ten to twelve (10-12) trees, on the west side of the pond, are dying. Friends are working with Chance Perks and Shawn and would like to remove 95% of the trees. Friends of Buttonwood would pay for the trees. They generally last 30 years and most are 80 years old. They are expecting the city to remove and plant the trees. If not, they will bring in a private group. May do half this year and half next year. Looking to plant 3 trees with the potential to plant 5 more. Nothing has to be removed to plant the first three (3) trees.

Diane Berube motioned to plant 3 trees now. 2nd by Paula Robinson. Unanimously Approved

9. **Presentation on East Beach water park** proposal for summer 2021

Comments may be submitted during the meeting on chat or anytime at info.prb@newbedford-ma.gov.

Invitee: Ronald Romens, President Commercial Recreation Specialists

Jen Rice General Manager and Leigh -Ann Hall NB Manager

75 years of recreational experience. They manage Whoa Zone water parks. Specializing in family fun, birthday parties, and group events. They will forward Covid 19 plan and Severe Weather plan. The plan will be specific to the East Beach area. Capacity will be limited, staggered start times, 10 min safety and life jacket fitting before hitting the course. Lifeguards will be on the course. All employees are screened

for covid exposure before shift. All rental and high point touch areas will be sanitized frequently. Buoys to the barrier of the inflatable park to keep boats and kayaks away from the park. Looking to hire 4-5 leadership roles, 14 lifeguards, and 10 guest attendants.

Permits with Army Corp Engineers, Conservation, & MA DEP are all current. Just waiting on the NB Port Authority permit which is being processed. Looking to service 18,000-22,000 guests this summer. Elaine Safioleas motioned to approve once all final plans and fellow Board's approve. 2nd by Paula Robinson Deare and accepted by all.

10. Park Board to review this year's **City Community Preservation Act Plan** presented by Paula Robison Deare who is the Park Board representative on the committee.

Paula informed the Board that most of the CPA funded projects are completed. The fund distribution total was \$1,6036,09.00 and the Open Space and Recreation Plan received \$145,000.00. Paula asked us to make sure to thank the committee in our annual report. She asked for the board to think about what we may want to see for projects in the fall.

OLD BUSINESS

REPORT DIRECTOR OF PARKS RECREATION & BEACHES

CORRESPONDENCE

Military Museum Annual Report

Paul Robinson Deare motioned to receive and place on file the Military Museum Annual Report. 2nd by Diane Berube and accepted by all.

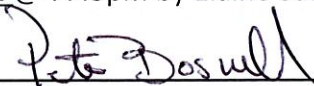
OTHER

NEXT MEETING

5/19/2021 @ 6pm @ Buttonwood Community Center or by Zoom

MOTION TO ADJOURN @ 7:45pm by Elaine Safioleas. 2nd by Paula Robinson Deare and accepted by all.

A true record attests
Respectfully submitted,
Bernadette Barreira



*In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA),
if any accommodations are needed,
please contact the Dept. of Parks Recreation & Beaches at 508-961-3015.
Requests should be made as soon as possible
but at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.*