



Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes  
July 12, 2021  
6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Jane DeBarbieri, Scott LaBombard, Kenneth Magarian, Douglas Morash, Vincent Olinski, Sara Unger, Robert Veronesi and Michael Tirrell

Staff: Scott Hathaway, Deputy Supt. and Peggy Goralczyk, Head Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm with Michael Tirrell, Chair presiding and asking if anyone attending tonight was not listed on the agenda. He also explained the three minute public participation speaking time allowed. He asked for a roll call Sara Yes, Jane yes, Mike yes, Doug, yes, Scott yes, Ken yes, Robert yes, and Vincent arrived shortly after.

Motion made by Scott LaBombard to accept the minutes of June 14, 2021 motion seconded by Kenneth Magarian and he stated that for the record Robert Veronesi and himself-could hear the zoom meeting however could not log in or speak. All in favor  
Motion passed

Public Participation: Kathy Witalisz, Cindy Agan, Kathi Cotugno, Maureen Hamel, Chris Steger, Kevin Adorno, Cesar Adorno, Kathy Hillman, Tom Mazello and Amy Porter.

Business or Items for Discussion:

1. Michael Tirrell welcomed Kathy Witalisz from Witalisz & Associates who requested a permit for Park Square on August 4 times 10:00 am -3:00 pm and he asked to go over it. Kathy explained it was a company meeting strictly for about 10 staff members that work for Witalisz & Associates, Inc. they will set up a couple of tables to get outside in the fresh air and have lunch at 12:00 pm. at Park Square.

Motion made by Scott LaBombard to approve permit as presented motion seconded by Sara Unger. Vote as follows: Robert yes, Jane yes, Vincent yes, Michael yes, Douglas yes, Scott yes, Kenneth yes and Sara yes All in favor  
Motion passed

2. Michael Tirrell welcomed Cindy Agan, from YMCA of Greater Westfield who requested a permit at Park Square on August 14 times 9:45 am - 12:15 pm for fitness classes, yoga and kickboxing and asked her to go over it. Cindy Agan said with the COVID -19 last year we want to give back to the community by offering free classes for anyone that wanted to attend and they expect about 30 people and this is a way of giving back to the community. She went over the yoga, kickboxing and fitness classes.

Motion made by Jane DeBarbieri to approve permit as presented motion seconded by Kenneth Magarian. Vote as follows: Robert yes, Jane yes, Vincent yes, Michael yes, Douglas yes, Scott yes, Kenneth yes and Sara yes. All in favor.  
Motion passed.

3. Michael Tirrell welcomed Kathi Cotugno from CORE of Greater Westfield for a permit at Park Square on August 31 times 4:00 pm-9:00 pm for the annual overdose awareness vigil with speakers that lost their lives and asked to go over the event. Kathi explained we have this event every year but did not

hold it last year due to COVID- 19. She said they will have a wall of hope with names, sound music on stage, and a vigil around the fountain with battery candles. She said this event is remembering people with substance abuse or current substance abuse. She requested that we shut the fountain off that one night for the vigil. (Michael Tirrell told her to work with Scott Hathaway)

Motion made by Sara Unger to approve permit as presented motion seconded by Douglas Morash. Vote as follows: Robert yes, Jane yes, Vincent yes, Michael yes, Douglas yes, Scott yes, Kenneth yes and Sara yes. All in favor.  
Motion passed

4. Michael Tirrell welcomed Maureen Hamel from Friends of Columbia Rail Trail for a permit at Kane/Wojtkiewicz Park for a yoga class on August 14 times 7:30 am - 9:00 am with rain date of August 21. Maureen said they expect about 20 people and explained at the Westfield 350 event they held a yoga class and it was a great success so they want to offer it to the community once again. Michael Tirrell asked if she is charging any fees and Maureen Hamel responded no it is a free event for anyone that wants to attend. She said they may have a table set up explaining the Rail Trail with maps and see if they can get any new memberships or if people would like to make donations they will accept them.

Motion made by Kenneth Magarian to approve permit as presented motion seconded by Scott La-Bombard. Vote as follows: Robert yes, Jane yes, Vincent yes, Michael yes, Douglas yes, Scott yes, Kenneth yes and Sara yes. All in favor.  
Motion passed

5. Michael Tirrell welcomed Kevin Adorno for a permit request for Park Square and pavilion on July 31 for a church group and play music 3:30 pm -9:00 pm and asked him to go over the event. Kevin Adorno said he is here tonight with his cousin Cesar Adorno and they want to give back to the community and share their testimony by holding a church service of Christ and they will play music. He explained his cousin overcame heroin addiction and has been sober for the past six years. (Rain date August 1) Kevin Adorno said he has a gas generator if need be to use for electrical outlet to play music.
6. Vincent Olinski said to have the dept. check the electricity because at times they have issues with power and to work with Scott Hathaway.
7. Cesar Adorno said that the church group has helped many people recovering of drug addiction and he is happy to announce he has been free of drugs and sober for six years because Christ and his church has saved him and helped him recover and they want to reach out to others that may be struggling with drugs and spread the gospel. They expect about 30-50 people. The commissioners applauded him.

Motion made by Kenneth Magarian to approve permit as presented motion seconded by Douglas Morash. Vote as follows: Robert yes, Jane yes, Vincent yes, Michael yes, Douglas yes, Scott yes, Kenneth yes and Sara yes. All in favor.  
Motion passed

8. Michael Tirrell welcomed Kathy Hillman on the update on Women's Temperance Park requesting to clean the water fountain with non-toxic D2 and that Chuck Blood from Smith Monuments will caulk the fountain at no charge. Kathy Hillman showed pictures of before and after photos of the water fountain and it has a cap on it on top and we are still trying to locate the top half and that she would like to restore it. She explained the material to clean is a safe nontoxic material and she also cleaned her mother's head stone as a test with the D2 it came out beautiful. She explained she has talked to

Cindy Gaylord, from the historic commission and they have signage put in at the Mechanic Street Cemetery and they would like the similar signage to explain the history of the water fountain and Women's Temperance Park so people know what this fountain and park is all about.

9. Scott LaBombard responded that a company is planning on using that same product on the Veterans stones in the city.
10. Michael Tirrell said this was brought up with Cindy Gaylord, historic commissioner and possibly that CPC funds can be used to help restore it back to original like the picture that Kathy Hillman presented. He asked for a motion and Kenneth Magarian said to inform Scott Hathaway when she would be cleaning it to keep an open communication.

Motion made by Scott LaBombard to approve Kathy Hillman to clean the water fountain and caulk the area as presented motion seconded by Jane DeBarbieri. Vote as follows: Robert yes, Jane yes, Vincent yes, Michael yes, Douglas yes, Scott yes, Kenneth yes and Sara yes. All in favor.  
Motion passed

11. Michael Tirrell welcomed Tom Mazello for a permit at Half Mile Falls Park for a celebration of life on Sept. 4 times 1:00 pm -7:00 pm will have a porta potty, tent and pizza and will clean up. Tom Mazello went over that Doreen Bean lives in Arizona and lived in Westfield her whole life and her husband Ken Bean passed away. They went away during COVID -19 when Westfield had a lot of cases she is coming back to Westfield on Sept. 4 (no rain date) and wanted to celebrate his life here where they lived. They expect about 50 people and she would like to put up a canopy, install a porta potty on the cement area and have pizza as food. They may bring a generator for music.

Motion made by Vincent Olinski to approve permit as presented motion seconded by Douglas Morash. Vote as follows: Robert yes, Jane yes, Vincent yes, Michael yes, Douglas yes, Scott yes, Kenneth yes and Sara yes. All in favor.  
Motion passed

12. Michael Tirrell welcomed Don Moorehouse from the Westfield Starfires with an update on Bullen's field. Don Moorehouse went over the pavilion grant from school dept. installed, new fencing, and mentioned Gas and Electric gave them wooden spools they use for tables two are near the base line and the other three are near the beer garden. He said they also brought in dirt but the rain took a toll on it. Next year, they may look into a company that can bring in a turf mix. The season is going well he gave thanks to Donny Levere and Scott Hathaway for maintaining the fields. He went over goals and Michael Tirrell said he would like him to attend in September with his ideas of changes to the area and form a Bullen's subcommittee of items discussed at meeting for the year or fencing, sports netting, infield mix or walkways or items discussed.
13. Scott Hathaway responded there is no money in the parks and recreation budget to fund anything for Bullen's field. He went over his ideas for pathways on the hill and other suggestions.
14. Michael Tirrell asked that Don Moorehouse attend every year to a commission meeting with goals and updates and if he could come back in September for a follow up of a subcommittee with school staff, dept. staff and commissioners.
15. Scott LaBombard said there was a lot of miscommunication regarding the pavilion and they did not know a grant came from the school dept. and he heard other people were using the fields that did not come before us. There was discussion made that the school athletic director has been all along allowed to organize permits and usage of school fields due to working around school sports held at Bullen's field. Scott Hathaway thought Jim Blascak might know when field is being used.

16. Michael Tirrell suggested a meeting will follow in September regarding Bullen's field and research the area guidelines that may be listed on the Starfires contract.
17. Doug Morash brought up if field guidelines were written in Starfires contract and we know the city takes the fees each year that they pay to the city.

#### Reports-Attached

1. Michael Tirrell went over Jim Blascak's report on listing of staff hired and program attendance and working on fall-winter programs with brochure company Graphic Image.
2. Scott Hathaway went over his ideas for Parker Memorial Park and would like to take out the front bushes in that area because they are old and add new plantings. Vincent Olinski responded the Veterans group has put a lot of money and investments into that Park and they will need to be informed first and he felt they may not want that park open to that area with as a wide open field. Commissioners would like to see a design, funding first along with Veteran group members involved before anything is done. Commissioners all agreed this is the best course of action before any changes are made.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Kenneth Magarian, Motion seconded by Sara Unger. All in favor. Motion passed.

The meeting ended at 7:02 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for August 9, 2021

Documents used:

Reports

Photo of water fountain

Permits

Schedule of bills

Approval of minutes by Douglas Morash, Secretary of Commission

Typed and organized by Peg Goralczyk, Head Clerk