



Holyoke Parks & Recreation - Commission Meeting

Monday, May 9, 2022

5:30 pm

City Hall 536 Dwight Street Holyoke – Parks and Rec Office

Minutes

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SEP 16 2022

1. Call to Order

Commissioner Jose Bayron called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Holyoke City Clerk's Holyoke, MA
Commissioner Helene Busby, Acting Parks and Recreation Director
Maureen Tisdell and City Councilor Juan Anderson Burgos were present.

2. Acceptance of Minutes from April 5, 2022 Meeting – Commissioner Jose Bayron made a motion to accept the minutes. Commissioner Helene Busby seconded the motion.

3. City Council Order

Introduced by Councilor: Kevin A. Jourdain, David K. Bartley, Will Puello
Ordered, That the Mayor and Parks and Recreation Department please fund the Spanish Festival with \$5,000 for their staging and sound equipment. This money was allocated for them in the FY 22 budget but was transferred apparently. This has been a very important program the city has supported for many years and we need to continue it now that the pandemic is over with and the event has returned. If there are insufficient funds for some reason in the Recreation Dept (originally funded with \$33,000 in staging and events lines) budget then please make a transfer request from another other area up to and including stabilization if need be. The organizers were counting on these funds. This is a small amount of money for an event that brings so much joy to so many thousands of people. Thank you in advance for your support. In City Council, April 5, 2022. Received and adopted.
The Commissioners reviewed Mayor Garcia's response to this order. Both Commissioners agreed with this response.

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Introduced by Councilor Israel Rivera

Ordered, Order that Parks and Rec Department come up with a uniform system around flying patriotic flags. Different parks fly different flags which is totally understandable, I would just like to see a system that is equitable to all.

In City Council, May 3, 2022. Copy to Parks and Rec

This order was received and accepted by the Commissioners.

4. New Business

Councilor Juan Anderson Burgos – Pride Celebration, June 18, 2022

Pride Celebration will occur on Chestnut Street, between Hampden Street and Dwight Street. Councilor Anderson Burgos requested a permit for Veterans Park to allow vendors to set up tables on the pavement. All other activity will occur on the street. Commissioner Jose Bayron made a motion to grant a permit for the Pride Celebration. Councilor Helene Busby seconded the motion. Councilor Anderson Burgos will also be responsible for the loud-speaker permit.

Dog Park – Discussion was held with Councilor Anderson Burgos regarding a dog park at Rohan Park. The issues of maintaining a dog park, cleanliness and noise complaints were discussed.

Miracle League Playground Contract – Commissioners were updated on the contract. The DPW Engineer has some concerns about the language in the contract. The CPA Committee is continuing to edit the contract.

Blue Sox Contract Update – Contract remains the same as 2021. No changes were made for 2022. The Contract will be submitted for signatures.

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Community Field Dog Park – Discussion was held regarding implementing an area in the dog park for small dogs.

5. Old Business

Roberts Field Track – Only one bid was submitted. If the bid is rejected, it can be rebid in the fall for construction in 2023.

Mayer Field Installation Update – Playground equipment has been delivered and the installation process has begun.

6. Parks and Recreation Commissioners – Signatures

The Parks and Recreation Commissioners unanimously voted to have the Mayor sign off on personal requests and reimbursement forms for the Parks and Recreation Director.

7. New Parks and Recreation Director – Tom Reynolds was voted by the Parks and Recreation Commission as the new Parks and Recreation Director. His start date is June 13, 2022.

8. Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Tisdell

Addendum:

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the Parks & Recreation Commissioners which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.