**MINUTES**

**Commissioners’ Meeting**

**SIXTH TAXING DISTRICT, City of Norwalk**

**September 6, 2023**

**6:00 p.m., Community Center and via Zoom**

Commission Chair Mrs. Langalis called the meeting to order at 6:03pm

Attendees – Commission Chair, Mrs. Langalis, Commissioner Mr. Meyerson, Commissioner Mrs. Sattler, Treasurer, Gil Kernan, Assistant to the Treasurer, Doug Hillman, Assistant Property Manager, Eric Holter

Minutes from the July 12, 2023 meeting were approved by Mrs. Langalis, Mr. Meyerson, and Mrs. Sattler.

**New Business**

New Pickup Truck – It was discussed that the current blue pickup truck used for sanding/plowing/leaf collection is 8 years old, and in need of major repairs. Buying a new truck is the proper course of action rather than fixing the truck due to costly repairs that are only a short-term solution. Eric Holter stated that the state has a vendor that gives preferred prices to the government, but the wait time for a new truck is 6-9 months. Eric will look around at pricing for a truck a few years old that could be obtained quicker. This topic will be discussed further at the October meeting.

Dog Park Registration – Posting on social media of unsafe conditions due to aggressive dogs has become a topic of concern. There was discussion about a registration process, but there were concerns over who would provide the manpower to manage the process.

Other items of note:

The dog park committee said there are about 80 visitors per day – 30 from the District, 50 from outside the district.

Any one visitor can only bring a maximum of 3 dogs.

Jody Sattler is investigating the best implementation process and cost.

Mrs. Langalis said the district sets up the registration process and the Dog Park Committee manages going forward.

Shakespeare on the Sound 2024 – The dates for Shakespeare on the Sound at Pinkney Park in 2024 will be:

Load in May 30

Performances June 12 – June 30

Load out July 3

Potting Shed Rental by the Gardeners

The commissioners have approved for the Gardeners to rent the potting shed at the Community Center in order to allow for others to enjoy the space. They will need insurance naming the Sixth Taxing District as additional insured and need to not rent at times that conflict with other events. The gardeners will monitor and supervise the events as needed.

Mr. Meyerson stated that the frequency of the rentals needs to be appropriate.

ACTION ITEM – Doug Hillman to draft a letter from the district to the gardeners to communicate ground rules for the arrangement.

Summer Music Festival Recap – Mr. Meyerson gave a recap stating the concerts were a big success. 2 area for improvement are:

Bathroom cleanliness – Through discussion it was suggested that the RCA hire a cleaning crew for during the concert. Or have volunteers from the RCA keep the bathrooms cleanly.

Bayley Beach parking lot – A more official job of lining the parking lot should be looked into.

Fence Plantings – Mrs. Feral gave an update on how the plantings near the “community fence” have been going for 2 years. She explained that she and her husband have done a lot of work to make the area look nice by planting mountain mint. Mrs. Feral thanked Eric Holter very much for all his, Jose, and Luis’ help to set up a watering system and with other materials and time.

WIFI – Mrs. Sattler mentioned that the RCA had a contractor out to evaluate the WIFI at Pinkney, Bayley, and the Community Center and results are forthcoming.

Pinkney Park Barn Project – Mrs. Sattler stated whose items are in the barn needs to be identified so they can be cleaned out in order to do a renovation. Mrs. Sattler will meet with Wendell Livingston after a wedding at Pinkney Park in order to start the process.

**Old Business**

RPE Playground Update – The district will ask someone from RPE to attend the October meeting to give an update.

Ambler Tree Planting – The plantings are underway and will be done this fall at all properties involved – Ambler Lot, Pinkney Park, Bayley Beach, and the Community Center.

Art Center Seawall – The seawall is done, but some landscaping is needed as a result of the project. Eric Holter will look into what is needed and have the work done in house or bring in a contractor.

**Commissioner’s Report**

Mr. Meyerson – Stated that the beach had no vandalism issues as a result of the new security firm that started last year.

**Assistant to the Treasurer**, Doug Hillman

Doug Hillman mentioned the 2022-2023 audit will start October 2. Doug also stated the 2023-2024 Operating fund is in good shape and that even though only 2 months into the fiscal year, that the budget versus actual will most likely end the year with a beneficial variance.

The Capital fund is fully funded. The Railroad fund is off to the same start as last year.

**Assistant Property Manager**, Eric Holter

Eric said that a fence at the Railroad on the west bound side on the resident side of the parking lot needs replaced. He is looking into estimates and will also see if the landlord is willing to pay for any of the new fence.

Eric stated that a new cedar post has been ordered to replace the damaged one near the cemetery.

Eric had an electrician look at putting in hand dryers at Bayley, Pinkney, and the Community Center. The estimated cost is $1,400 - $1,800 at Pinkney and the Community center, but the amount of work required at Bayley Beach is not worth it.

Jose and Luis have trimmed the Community Center hedges and placed mulch under them.

**Fire Marshal**

July – 2 inspections, 1 investigation, 1 meeting

August – 4 inspections, 2 conferences, 2 investigations, 1 meeting

**Beach Director**, Bill Nollman

Beginning the prep for the off–season. The life guards are officially dismissed. Garth Griffiths is easing into the end of season as well as we take on the last projects.

Upcoming event - the Art Ladrigan swim race on the morning of 9/16. Likely the last day Di will be open.

Gene will be back with crew to address the repair of the Pavilion down ramp and some related painting and assuming go-ahead, the work would be completed in Sept./Oct.

**Rental Coordinator**, Bill Nollman

We had/will have four weddings in the month of September- three at Pinkney and one at the Community Center. There are a fair number of birthday parties.

We have a couple of 2024 weddings booked already.

We also have a slew of activities booked for the Library and our local “clubs” (Chamber Orchestra, Quilters, Rug Hookers, Gardeners, RPE, etc.) as well as renewed bookings from other outside activities that have become very loyal and profitable to the 6TD (Adderly School, Jumpin’ Jams, etc.).

**Other**

It was discussed that a board on the Farm Creek bridge is decayed and needs replaced. Eri will take a look at it.

It was discussed that there are lots of electric bikes around town and many are driven by underage people. It has been email blasted out to the community and at least many more are wearing helmets.

Next meeting

October 11, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.