

**Recreation Commission Meeting 7/26/2021
6pm-7pm**

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: August 13, 2021
TIME: 8:20 AM

General and Ongoing Items:

Special Event Request - International Asian Music concert, at Payson Park, sponsored by the Belmont Chinese American Association (BCAA)

Commission

David Kane
Melissa Hart
Anne Helgen
Teresa O Connor
Cortney Eldridge
Jon Marshall
Brandon Fitts

Guests

Michael Gao
Jeffrey Chen
Cindy Wang

Call to order: 6:05pm

Jon: Received request from Michael on July 1. Rec Department Circled back for more info. The Department wanted to loop in with the Commission to review the request. It's a three day event culminating in Belmont on Sunday, August 1st from 6pm-8pm

The Rec Department looped in with a couple abutters regarding the event. Their concern was, "why are concerts always at Payson Park?" They didn't have an issue with this specific event but this may be a future consideration.

Michael Gao presented 5 slides on the event, the International Asian Music Concert. Sponsored by the Belmont Chinese American Association (BCAA). Payson Park is the preferred location due to its setup being conducive to live music. Park is not too big or too small and there are playgrounds for families. Easily accessible power source for equipment.

They also considered Clay Pit Pond and Winn Brook but they were ruled out due to lack of a power source.

BCAA has connected with Tomi Olsen and the Payson Park Music Festival (PPMF) for advice.

July 30th – Lexington
July 31st – Newton
August 1st - Belmont

Event is free and open to the public. Belmont Media Center will Live Stream the event. Registration fees are waived for performers thanks to donations and fundraising.

The show will feature diverse Asian Music and culture.

The goal is to make this an annual event.

They are working on purchasing liability insurance. They will be in full compliance with the town.

This is the first year for this Concert. They have organized a virtual Asian Music New Year Festival.

Anne: Concern for the sound related to the neighbors. There is a recommended decibel level and we have worked with the PPMF in the past on this. It's a reasonable request to stay within the appropriate limit. BCAA says there won't be a rock band so it should be easy to stay as an appropriate volume.

Melissa: This sounds great and is a great thing to do. An awesome event.

Anne: are we charging a permit fee?

Jon: Yes, the fee would be \$60/hour. But it's up to the Commission to adjust the fees to the resident rate. Recommends the resident fee to fall in line with other permits for this year. That may change in the future. A deeper special events fees discussion should take place at a later date in the fall.

Anne: Agreed.

Anne: The festival should remain subject to any COVID-19 regulations.

Michael: Will provide sanitizer, masks, and will offer social distancing.

Cortney: Police detail or DPW needed?

Jon: Based on the size of the event, No

David: The concert mentioned food trucks. Do we need to loop in the Department of Public Health?

Michael: Food Trucks were difficult to find and there won't be any at the event. There may be an ice cream truck though.

Cindy: New Moon fundraises for the special event. But this local group is also fundraising

Anne: This is a great opportunity for the town. I think this will be very popular. Is there a rain date?

Michael: No rain date.

Jon: Please leave the park in the condition you found it in. Carry in/carry out.

Cindy: We have lots of volunteers to help!

Motion: By Cortney to grant Michael Gao and the BCAA a permit for Payson Park on Sunday, August 1st from 5pm-9:00pm with the event happening from 6pm-8pm with the cost of \$25/hour for two hours.

Contingency #1: The BCAA obtains insurance

Contingency #2: The BCAA follows current COVID-19 Protocol

Contingency #3: The BCAA Confirm with Belmont Police and DPW that a police detail and parks crews are not needed.

2nd: Melissa Hart

All In Favor – Unanimously approved

Meeting Adjourned at 6:40pm