

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission
Council Chambers, City Hall
October 28, 2013 – 6 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairman Espich.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

Roll Call was taken by Recording Secretary Marty Stinson.

Members Present: Chairman Michael Espich; Vice-Chairman Jeff Selbig; Commissioners Tim Alderman; Nikki Hathaway; and Kristen Woodbury.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development.

Agenda for October 28, 2013 stands approved per Chairman Espich.

Approve Minutes from August 26 and September 23, 2013 meetings:

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2013 meeting was made by Commissioner Alderman and supported by Commissioner Selbig.

A motion to approve the minutes from the August 26, 2013 meeting with the addition that Paul Early was in attendance was made by Commissioner Alderman and supported by Commissioner Hathaway.

Ayes: all. Motions carried.

Public Comments: None.

Communications:

1. Staff memorandum
2. August 26, 2013 minutes
3. September 23, 2013 minutes

Business:

1. Spray pad

Mr. Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development, requested Mr. Acton to present an update, but he is out of town. The spray pad is installed, functional and has been winterized. It will open in the spring, 2014 and will have its final inspections from the state and county. Next month the board will review the park rules – especially those regarding the spray pad.

Chairman Espich asked if the splash pad was now a city expense. Mr. Zettel said that when it changes from installation to maintenance – sometime in the spring – then it will be the city's responsibility. We may need to add \$800 – 900 for the annual inspection.

2. Disc Golf

Commissioner Hathaway noted that she received news about the baskets – that a shipment came in and they are now available. The price is still locked in to the last quote. She is now ready to start up the

pursuit of funds again. Mr. Zettel said that he thought the cemetery was already approved, but the cemetery board is revisiting their liability concept and the city may assist in their conversation so there may be more discussion to come.

3. Bentley Park

Mr. Zettel mentioned that wood repairs, replacements, painting and fountain work will still be done. The trees are planted, bathrooms are operational and most of the painting is done. There is some ground work and seeding to be done in the spring. The sponsorship sign is up; and in general, the park looks good.

Chairman Espich stated Sherri Chavora said that Scarecrows in the Park was a positive event and she had planned to be here to report to the board.

Public / Board Comments:

Chairman Espich asked about the funding with the Foundation. Where do we proceed right now? There was a discussion about the financing and fundraising for the disc golf. Mr. Zettel explained problems with direct donations to the city regarding projects that are not entirely involved with city property such as the disc golf being on cemetery property and personal real estate. Chairman Espich talked about a possible "Friend of Parks" foundation.

Commissioner Hathaway spoke about a plunge for the parks for the beginning of funding for the "Friends of the Parks". Commissioner Selbig commented that if we have the "Friends" that the city many not budget for anything. Mr. Zettel noted that this board is not expected to do its own fundraising.

Chairman Espich asked if the "Friends" raised \$1,500 would the city match it. Mr. Zettel said that would be a council decision. Commissioner Alderman suggested that maybe an ad hoc group at another meeting could start this off. Mr. Zettel stated that Ron Baker is working with another group and might be able to help. The city would be supportive. The Friends of the Shiawassee River has been supportive to the city with their canoe launch.

Commissioner Hathaway asked if we were was still looking into a skating rink. Mr. Zettel said we're just leaving things open in case we get a donation for one or maybe a synthetic liner.

Commissioner Alderman asked about the man that wanted a fence near the Hopkins Lake Park and keeping trespassers off his property.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Alderman and was supported by Commissioner Hathaway. The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Adam Zettel, Secretary

mms