PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

**REGULAR MEETING**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 2016 – 7:30 p.m.**

# City Hall Council Chambers

301 W. Main St. Owosso, MI 48867

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Espich called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was recited.

**ROLL CALL:** Was taken by Deputy City Clerk Roxane Cramer.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Mike Espich, Vice Chair Jeff Selbig, and Commissioner Shane Nelson.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioners Kristen Woodbury and Randy Woodworth.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Eve Hickey, Marissa Rose and the leaders from Girl Scout Troop 30331; Tyler Leppanen, Assistant Director of Community Development.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA: COMMISSIONER NELSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR AUGUST 23, 2016, WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGE: ITEM NO. 2, TRAIL UPDATE BY RICK MORRIS MOVED TO NEXT MONTH, SUPPORTED BY VICE-CHAIR SELBIG.**

**AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES: COMMISSIONER NELSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF JULY 26, 2016, SUPPORTED BY VICE CHAIR SELBIG.**

**AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. Staff memorandum

2. Minutes from July 26, 2016

**BUSINESS:**

1. **Girl Scout Troop 30331 “Little Free Library” at Bentley Park**

Eve Hickey and Marisa Rose, from Girl Scout Troop 30331, explained to the commission that they want to earn a bronze award. In order to receive this award they need to do something to help their community. Troop 30331 decided they would like to install a “Little Free Library’. They explained that this is a box or cupboard placed outdoors for anyone in the community to use. You can borrow a book from it and return it or donate a different book. They chose Bentley Park near the round gazebo because they felt it is a popular spot and it would be used frequently. The girls stated if the commission didn’t think Bentley Park is a good spot they would take a suggestion from them as where to place a Little Free Library. The girl scouts mentioned another spot could be in the grassy area next to the Shiawassee Arts Council. They will be building this with the help of their leaders. They explained Troop 30331 would be responsible for the care and maintenance of it. They thought a motion sensor light on or near it would discourage vandalism.

Vice Chair Selbig asked why not install one in both locations. The girls and their leader agreed to both locations. Their leader was in the audience and explained the girls had to come up with the idea and how to build it. Leaders can only guide them.

Commissioner Nelson stated he was for this idea and his family would be willing to donate books for it. He also stated that the YMCA manages Bentley Park in the summer and would be able to help out with the Little Free Library. He asked the girls when they will be starting the project. They said the end of September. Commissioner Nelson also offered to help with donation of books from other people in the community and to store the books at the YMCA.

Chairman Espich stated he has enjoyed using the Little Free Library on Washington Street for many years.

**MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR SELBIG TO ALLOW PLACEMENT OF A “LITTLE FREE LIBRARY” AT BENTLEY PARK BY GIRL SCOUT TROUP 30331, MOTION SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER NELSON.**

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Vice Chair Selbig, Commissioner Nelson and Chairman Espich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners Woodbury and Woodworth.

**MOTION BY COMMISSIONER NELSON TO ALLOW PLACEMENT OF A “LITTLE FREE LIBRARY” BY GIRL SCOUT TROUP 30331 AT CURWOOD CASTLE PARK, MOTION SUPPORTED BY VICE-CHAIR SELBIG.**

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Commissioner Nelson, Vice Chair Selbig and Chairman Espich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners Woodbury and Woodworth.

**2. Trail Update from Rick Morris.**

 Moved to next month.

**3. Disc Golf Update.**

Chairman Espich reported that there was a construction session held at 1 p.m. at Collamer Park to prepare for the disc golf course. There will be a work session every Saturday. They meet on the east end of the Lake off Palmer Street. He also reported that there is a Facebook Page for the Hopkins Lake Disc Golf Course. This will have all the updates on the course.

Mr. Leppanen reported that Norm Campbell called and says he owns the property where the cell phone tower is located. He says holes, number 14 & 15, are on his property. Chairman Espich says there is a fence around the tower pretty close to the tower. Chairman Espich believes he has a right of way off of Palmer but doesn’t believe Mr. Campbell owns that property. The fairways of holes 14 and 15 go over the water. Mr. Leppanen says he will be working on this and figure it out. He may contact Landmark to find out where the lines are.

**3. Skate Park Update.**

Mr. Leppanen explained that the Parks and Rec Commission will need to update the 5 year plan if the commission plans on applying for the DNR grant next year. Vice Chair Selbig thought they should have the plan done by November because December is usually an off month. Chairman Espich reported that 5 years ago they sent the update to council in August or September. Mr. Leppanen explained that was a large update and he didn’t think this would be such a large update. Chairman Espich stated for the record that the discussion was now covering both business items #4 and #5.

 The commission discussed the updated drawings from Spohn Ranch for the skate park located at the Holman Pool site. Chairman Espich questioned Mr. Leppanen if the drawings took into consideration the elevation. Mr. Leppanen reported he wasn’t certain but knew the designer had used Google for the design. Mr. Leppanen felt that further into the process the design would take that into consideration.

 Chairman Espich asked Mr. Leppanen if he knew the exact amount that has been raised for the skate park. Mr. Leppanen knew it was around $23,000.00. Chairman Espich asked Mr. Leppanen to find out the exact amount. Mr. Leppanen said he would find out that amount and bring the information to the next meeting.

 Vice Chair Selbig questioned if they could check with other designers of skate parks. He also would like to check with designers based in Michigan. Chairman Espich shared when he was looking for skate park designers most of them were West Coast based. Mr. Leppanen stated that there wasn’t anything tying them to Spohn Ranch. Vice-chair Selbig would like to get other quotes from other companies.

**4. Discussion of Updating Parks & Recreation Master Plan.**

Chairman Espich questioned if the best way would be to update the master plan. Mr. Leppanen suggested a park by park update. Chairman Espich suggested assigning parks for the next meeting. The commission chose Bennett, Memorial (Adams Park) and Grand Avenue Park. Chairman Espich asked the commissioners to review the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Mr. Leppanen stated that commissioners have until April to update the Parks and Recreation Plan and would still be able to apply for the DNR grant.

**DISCUSSION:** None.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT: VICE CHAIR SELBIG MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:16 P.M., SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER NELSON.**

 **AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.**