

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission
Council Chambers / City Hall
January 26, 2015 – 6 p.m.

- Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chairman Espich.
- Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
- Roll Call:** Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Marty Stinson.
- Members Present:** Chairman Michael Espich; Vice-Chairman Jeff Selbig (arrived 6:04 p.m.); Commissioners Tim Alderman; Shane Nelson (arrived 6:04 p.m.) and Kristen Woodbury.
- Members Absent:** None.
- Others Present:** Ms. Susan Montenegro, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development; John Beebe; Eric Sanderson; Helen Granger, Independent.

Approve Agenda for January 26, 2015:

A motion to approve the agenda for the January 26, 2015 meeting was made by Commissioner Alderman and supported by Commissioner Woodbury.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes for December 8, 2014 meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes for the December 8, 2015 meeting was made by Commissioner Alderman, and supported by Commissioner Woodbury.

Ayes all. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Communications:

1. Staff memorandum
2. December 8, 2014 minutes

Business:

1. Plunge for the Parks

Ms. Susan Montenegro, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development gave the commissioners a packet regarding the Plunge for the Parks. Included was a list of 15 volunteers to jump for this year.

6:04 p.m. Commissioners Selbig and Nelson arrived.

The money raised from this year's Plunge will go to the skate park off from Gould Street. The bikers group wishes to contribute \$2,500 for the ramps. Ms. Montenegro hopes to raise \$6,000 with the Plunge. Anything left over from repairing the skate park will be used to repair the BMX **Course**. The Plunge is set for Saturday, February 28 at 2 p.m.

If we come short of the goal, Chairman Espich asked if the city will help out. Ms. Montenegro will check. Discussion continued regarding citizens to ask to make the plunge; posting \$25 to nominate someone else to jump; T-shirts left from last year that still can be used this year; public safety to secure the scene; SATA bus to be used for warming purposes; ambulance to be present; and other Parks and Recreation board members who are not plunging were asked to be present to help with volunteers.

Discussion:

1. Ice rink Update – Future ideas

Ms. Montenegro has been hearing good responses about the ice rink. Casey Lambert has been a big help cleaning it out and has built wooden box goals. Discussion continued about next year raising money for the former Holman Pool building made over for a warming center, and possibly moving the rink to the former pool area. Could the YMCA serve hot chocolate and maybe have a trading center for skates? Commissioner Nelson suggested some totes at this time at the YMCA building. This could be advertised at the Y and city websites. Eventually lights installed on the sled hill would also be nice.

2. Disc Golf – new developments

Chairman Espich noted that he and Ms. Montenegro met with John Beebe and Eric Sanderson and laid out a plan for the disc golf course. Mr. Beebe and Mr. Sanderson then described the course as starting at Rosevear Park and then going towards the new property off the Industrial Drive behind the cemetery and putting it more towards Vandekarr Road area. It will be 18 holes and construction of the course may be completed this summer. The new design is better and has more variety with the field, woods, etc. It could also be enter off of Vandekarr Road to play a partial game of nine holes. The funding is completed.

Motion by Commissioner Alderman, supported by Commissioner Woodbury to recommend to city council that this project proceed as designed; to reach out (by the assistant city manager) to the remaining property owner for permission to walk on property from one hole to another.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

It was discussed that this no longer requested on cemetery property and that this is 100% a city project.

Public / Board Comments:

Chairman Espich commented that he would like to develop a winter carnival next year. Michigan has two free fishing weekends. This year one is on February 14. It could be developed with the school children and coordinated with the Plunge with the Parks and get the kids involved next year. Ms. Montenegro has heard some interest with Curwood Festival in doing something in the winter also; possibly a chili cook off; ice and snow carving.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Alderman and was supported by Commissioner Selbig. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

mms

Susan Montenegro, Secretary