

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission
Council Chambers, City Hall
October 22, 2012 – 6 p.m.

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

Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Marty Stinson.

Members Present: Chairman Jerry Hebekeuser; Commissioners Sherri Chavora, Michael Espich, and Jeff Selbig.

Members Absent: Commissioner Tim Alderman

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

Approve Agenda for October 22, 2012:

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Espich and supported by Commissioner Selbig.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes from September 24, 2012 meeting:

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2012 meeting was made by Commissioner Chavora and supported by Commissioner Espich.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Public Comments: None

Communications:

1. Staff memorandum
2. September 24, 2012 minutes

Business:

1. Bentley Playscape Plaza

Commissioner Chavora noted that the electricity hadn't been installed in time for the Scarecrows in the Park. Mr. Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development, stated that the conduit will be run from the basketball court to the splash pad and then from there to the various locations. He wants to check to be sure we're not blowing breakers. Discussion continued on the bricks and walkways. Wood chips will be added along with more tables and benches. There will also be a sign added that will be similar to the way-finding signs that the Main Street group is preparing.

Mr. Zettel noted the state is allowing the city to rebid the work in the park with one bathroom at the pavilion with ADA facilities and leave the other one with new units. They may do one unit with city employees.

2. Scarecrows in the Park

Commissioner Chavora reported that it turned out pretty well with about 400 people attending. Next year it may turn into a food drive. Chairman Hebekeuser asked if next year it might be combined with the Trick or Treat Saturday. Ms. Chavora said maybe next year they could use the scarecrows in the park and then move them downtown. Chairman Hebekeuser congratulated Commissioner Chavora for the work and time she put into the project – It's a great event!

3. Disc Golf and Splash Pad Updates

Mr. Zettel shared that the DEQ is taking a long enough time that there isn't any news yet on the splash pad. He has been advised that maybe the concrete could be cured over the winter.

Commissioner Selbig was unable to get an update on the disc golf. Mr. Zettel asked if it had lost its momentum. Commissioner Selbig said no, we have the whole winter to look for sponsors. It sounds like the layout is complete; we need about \$6,000 to finish.

4. Trail Connector Updates (CIS, Rosevear, and the River)

Mr. Zettel stated that the Friends of the Shiawassee River will be doing a connector study from the township to the Riverwalk. Funding will be provided by the Cook Foundation. Commissioner Alderman will be asked to sit in on the meetings.

Commissioner Chavora asked about the property north of Bentley Park. Mr. Zettel replied that Consumers doesn't think that the property is clean enough for use. Right now they are just improving the esthetics.

Commissioner Selbig asked about signage along the river path on the other side of the river.

Mr. Zettel would like to pencil in a route between Oak Hill Cemetery, Hopkins Lake, Vandekarr Rd and Rosevear Park. Then connect that to the Riverwalk and CIS. We need to do some trail blazing that is acceptable to the various parties.

5. November Officer Selection and Action Plan

Our officer selection is usually done after the council elections in November per Mr. Zettel. The Action Plan for the Parks and Recreation Commission is usually worked on in November, December and January.

Chairman Hebekeuser stated we've accomplished a lot this year. We need to finish up the splash pad and some other projects with the trails and the regional approach / authority for recreation. He then asked about an ice skating rink if the weather holds. Mr. Zettel stated the rinks are getting cheaper. He has been checking into them and thinks maybe \$5,000 would buy a hockey rink; illumination. Something could be done with installing a curb around a tennis court. As always, it depends on the weather.

Motion by Commissioner Chavora, supported by Commissioner Espich to cancel the December meeting.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Public Comments / Board Comments

Mr. Fred Furman has property near the proposed trail from Hopkins Lake to Vandekarr Road. He has concern about liability. Discussion followed.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Espich and was supported by Commissioner Chavora. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Ayes: all. Motion carried.

Adam Zettel, Secretary

mms

Parks & Recreation Commission

Page 2 of 2

October 22, 2012