

**Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting of the Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**Council Chambers, City Hall**  
**June 27, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairperson Ladd.

Roll call was taken by Recording Secretary Marty Stinson.

**Members Present:** Commissioners Terri Brown, Sherri Chavora, Jerry Hebekeuser, Jeff Selbig, and Chairperson Marsha Ladd.

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development; and Councilmember Martenis.

**Approve Agenda for June 23, 2011:**

**A motion to approve the agenda as presented by Commissioner Hebekeuser and supported by Commissioner Brown.**

**Ayes: all, motion carried**

**Approve Minutes from May 23, 2011 meeting:**

**A motion to approve the minutes from the May 23, 2011 meeting was made by Commissioner Chavora and supported by Commissioner Brown.**

**Ayes: all, motion carried**

**Public / Board Comments:**

Councilmember Martenis noted that the city council would like a written status report regarding the Bentley Playscape project with information such as a timeline for fundraising, how much money has been raised so far, and when the playscape may be built. Adam Zettel, Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development, replied that the build date depends on the fundraising progress and will probably be in 2012. Maintenance improvements at the park depend on the state grant application results which may occur towards fall.

Mr. Martenis also would like to see the Parks and Recreation Commission ask the council for some money as extra money was found in the budget and they were able to give another group \$15,000 this year. He also suggested a millage proposal for all of the parks and recreation activities, not just Bentley Park.

Commissioner Hebekeuser suggested that every parks and recreation meeting should have a financial report and then turn it over to the council also.

Commissioner Brown asked what is involved with a millage proposal. Mr. Martenis stated it was too late for the November voting, but could be possible for next year.

Mr. Hebekeuser suggested that a board member attend the council meeting following a parks & recreation meeting each month to present information and be available for questions.

**Communications:**

1. Staff memorandum
2. May 23, 2011 minutes
3. Bike City initiatives
4. "Together We Play" essay grant contest materials

**Business:**

1. Trail Meeting Update

Mr. Zettel commented on the Bike City work shop on June 17 involving Councilmember Tom Cook and several other representatives from area non-motorized transportation organizations. There may be a social networking site to coordinate the various groups. CIS and Rails to Rails were present at the meeting.

Mr. Hebekeuser commented that we should have someone from this board attend the various meetings for the groups listed.

2. Park Plan Update

Mr. Zettel talked about updating the 2006 Park Plan by making adjustments to show the current status at the various parks, and then sending it to the city council for a public hearing. This will be the 2011 plan. We also need to discuss regionalization in the long term; possibly a regional park authority.

3. Fundraising

Fundraising finances were discussed. Mr. Zettel will have the city finance department contact Commissioner Chavora regarding the activities for the Buy a Brick for Bentley program. The application to order bricks is on the city website. Ms. Chavora talked to many people during the Curwood Festival and raised \$82.73. She also signed up about five volunteers.

4. Essay contest

Chairperson Ladd read some of the qualifications for the essay. Mr. Zettel suggested that a committee work together with one person doing the writing. He also suggested that someone check with Miracle of Michigan for their input.

5. Gazebo Painting

Ms. Chavora stated that people are concerned about not seeing anything being done yet at Bentley Park. She is looking for permission to paint the gazebo. Mr. Zettel suggested that maybe something could be found that is not in the pending grant application. He will meet with

Mark Sedlak, Deputy Director of Public Services, and see what can be done. Ms. Chavora has about eleven volunteers. Mr. Zettel will find some other projects to match the skills available.

**Adjournment:**

**A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Hebekeuser and was supported by Commissioner Brown. The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.**

**Ayes: all, motion carried**

Marty Stinson  
Recording Secretary

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