

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Monday, January 25, 2016- 6:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers
301 W. Main St.
Owosso, MI 48867

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Espich called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE: Was recited.

ROLL CALL: Was taken by Recording Secretary Roxane Cramer

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Mike Espich, Commissioner Shane Nelson, Commissioner Kristen Woodbury,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Vice Chair Jeff Selbig, Commissioner Randy Woodworth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sue Montenegro Assistant City Manager and Director of Community Development, Jon Beebe and Eric Sanderson, designers of the disc golf course, several persons in attendance concerned with placing the disc golf at Hopkins Lake Park.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: **COMMISSIONER NELSON MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JANUARY 25, 2016, WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES: THE NEXT MEETINGS WILL BE FEBRUARY 8, 15 AND 22, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER WOODBURY, AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **COMMISSIONER WOODBURY MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR JANUARY 11, 2016, SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER WOODBURY, AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Terry Mcleod, South Durand Road, Lennon, She stressed how important it is to get the “ Rails to Trails” trail into town. She said that Owosso Township allowed people to park in their lot but because they have moved their offices and no longer own the property she is concerned where the bikers will park.

Robert Flynn, Pine Street, Owosso, He stated that use of the trails at Hopkins Lake skyrocketed about 5-6 years ago. He asked the commission to take into consideration all the work done on the trails by the volunteers that had worked on it.

Steve Wickham, Hollister Road, Laingsburg, asked that the trail system stay the same to continue the use of the trails.

Chairman Espich addressed the audience members by reminding them the Parks and Recreation Commission is only an advisory board to council and will make recommendations to city council. He also stated that no decisions are going to be made tonight regarding the disc golf course.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Staff memorandum
2. Minutes from January 11, 2016
3. Map of Kiwanis Trails
4. Winter Carnival activity sheet

BUSINESS:

1. Disc Golf

Ms. Montenegro showed an aerial map of Hopkins Lake with the layout of the disc golf. Jon Beebe and Eric Sanderson, the designers of the course, stated that they tried to place the disc golf course out of the way of the trails. He said there aren't any fairways or pads on the trails.

Ms. Montenegro addressed the audience and let the audience members speak in an orderly and respectful way. The majority in attendance were concerned that the disc golf course would interfere with the trails. They were also concerned with the removal of trees. Ms. Montenegro explained that there would be removal of underbrush not large trees.

Jon Beebe and Eric Sanderson agreed to go and stake out the course. There also will be a meeting held between Chairman Espich, Bob Flynn (who has been involved with upkeep of the trails for many years), John Beebe, Eric Sanderson, and Ms. Montenegro prior to February 22nd, the next regular Parks and Recreation Meeting, their goal is to come to a consensus so both groups can use and enjoy the park.

2. Polar Plunge

Chairman Espich asked for updates on the carnival to go along with the Polar Plunge. Ms. Montenegro said that there has been a donation for 200 hot dogs and buns. Chairman Espich has not heard back on confirmation of a tent. Ms. Montenegro reported she has 17 confirmed plungers adding Nick Sebeasty to the list. Commissioner Nelson suggested putting the pledge forms on Facebook and that way they could be printed off. Commissioner Nelson reported he has the Hula Hoops & ropes (for tug of war). Ms. Montenegro also reported almost everything can be adapted to no snow. If it isn't cold enough Ice sculpting and ice skating would be the only thing that may have to be canceled. Ms. Montenegro said she spoke to the DPW about extending the ladder in order to give the jumpers something to grab onto getting out of the water.

DISCUSSION: None

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Several audience members, as they were leaving, thanked the commissioners for letting them speak.

ADJOURNMENT: **MOTION BY COMMISSIONER NELSON TO ADJOURN AT 7:06P.M.
SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER WOODBURY, ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED**

Next meeting - Monday, February 8, 2016 at 6 p.m. – Special meeting to discuss the Polar Plunge.