

PARK BOARD MINUTES
July 8, 2009
Letts Community Center

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rick Kibbey, Paul Carrier, Ron Lott, Cynthia Ward, Dusty Fancher, Pat Murray, Tina Houghton (arrived 7:20)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Don Ballard, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director; Brett Kaschinske, Manger of Leisure Services; Loretta Stanaway, Friends of Lansing Historic Cemeteries (FOLHC); Sue Eareckson, Friends of Bancroft (Friends); Rebecca Saunders; Kellie Brown, Interim Board Secretary

CALLED TO ORDER: 7:06 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Lott added election of Park Board officers

STATEMENT OF CITIZENS

Sue Eareckson, Friends of Bancroft, stated because of the drain project and the need for the golf course to separate tees six and seven Murdock organized a meeting with the drain commissioner. Everyone walked the golf course and came to a workable agreement; the golf course will get a small piece of land at the edge of the park at the foot of the hill and the park will get the land from the men's seven tee. The Friends really appreciate the efforts and this arrangement will preserve some plant life and a small wet area.

Stanaway stated the FOLHC did the Founding Father tour on Father's Day. They have set the fall tour/fundraiser for Sunday, September 27 from 3 to 5 pm at Mt. Hope Cemetery. Veteran's Memorial Task Force has met and will meet next week. They have several new people who have agreed to serve. Needed to hear from Murdock about where the Mother's Committee Less We Forget group stands; they have contacted Murdock and are still interested in having a memorial in Lansing. The Boy's Training School site is ready to discuss landscaping and the historical marker has been approved by the state and it is a matter of sending in the money. There were hostas planted on the slope and every one has been chewed down by the deer. Forestry has pulled shrubs and planted several trees this year; they have also put in the special care flowers. The friends group also has three members interested in serving on the 5-year plan committee.

BOARD MINUTES

June 10, 2009 Board Minutes – Murray moved to approve minutes, Ward seconded to approve as amended on page three; the word previsions changed to revisions. 6 yeas; 0 nays

Motion carried

NEW BUSINESS

Park Board Schedule

Lott moved to accept the schedule as proposed by Murdock's memo. Carrier seconded. 6 yeas; 0 nays

Fancher asked if the Board has met at the Southside. It was clarified this is a new location

Motion carried

Summer Program Update

Brett Kaschinske provided a power point presentation on the Leisure Services summer programs.

There are 15 playground sites and 4 community centers and provided attendance numbers for the playground sites; Cavanaugh, as well as North are the highest and Willow is the lowest.

There are 117 adult softball teams, 22 men's baseball teams, 78 youth softball and baseball teams and 13 high school fast pitch teams. Statistics are on the web site and teams visit the web frequently for information.

Hunter pool is averaging 200 visitors a day and Moores is 80 a day. The weather has not been the warmest and there was an issue with the heater at Moores.

Therapeutic Recreation has received a \$15,000 grant and purchased 3 sport chairs and 2 hand cycles. Ward asked if we have contacted Michigan Protection Advocacy (MPA) and Kibbey recommended Michigan Disability Rights Coalition.

MSU Crew camp is taking place this week.

Gier gym west wall has been removed; Southside Community had the groundbreaking for Phase II. We are in the center with kids' camp and evening programs.

Ranney scoreboard is the newest and is in cooperation with Bob Every.

Leisure has three inflatables available for rent; 56' obstacle course, 28' climbing wall and a moon walk. The obstacle course and climbing wall include staff with the rental.

Outdoor Bill of Rights has 10 rights and the goal is to get kids outside. There are bracelets that represent each right, when they get all 10 bracelets they turn them in for a certificate and t-shirt.

The summer concerts started with 400 in attendance at the first concert, however the weather for the next 3 was dreary and rainy so attendance was lower.

The July 4th parade had great attendance and the rain held off.

We are working with an e-marketing project called EMMA to send out a monthly newsletter of park events and information to the e-mail addresses we have in our Rec-Trac data base.

Ballard stated the 1st Tee program is finishing the first session and is looking for kids for the second session. There were 95 in the first session and it is for ages 7 to 17, but they are flexible and scholarships are available.

Election of Board Officers

Fancher moved to keep Rick Kibbey as Board President, seconded by Carrier. No other nominations or opposition, nominations closed. **Motion carried.**

Carrier moved to keep Dusty Fancher as Board Vice President, seconded by Ward. No other nominations or opposition, nominations closed. **Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

Amendment to Memorial Review Board Ordinance

Ballard provided an example of what Jemerson is doing and the procedures. Jemerson has approached the City Attorney which involves a process of forms to be completed. Ballard provided a first draft to change the ordinance, there is already an issue and a second draft will be needed. Draft number one is the appearance of the draft, page 4 is incorrect as it states the Park Board recommends to the Memorial Review Board and it should state recommendation is to the Mayor and Memorial Review Board. Jemerson wants to move on this quickly and would like the board members input.

Kibbey stated he has four different sets of regulations on how facilities are named. He has located two and will continue to go through his records for the others.

Ward inquired what public park amenities means. Ballard stated it would be a bench, scoreboard, etc.

Ward asked is there is a timeline for comments. Ballard stated as soon as possible.

Wright Property

Ballard stated there have been no changes since the last park board meeting, as the department has not heard from Mr. Wright regarding his property.

UPDATES

SSCC

Information provided in Kaschinske's power point presentation.

Friends of Crego

Kibbey stated Crego is a marsh, is a phenomenal habitat for wildlife and he thought it was worth having a friends group. The group's goal would be to get the park open again. He has prepared a letter and will bring it to the next board meeting.

Gier

Information provided in power point. Contractor is the same one as for the Mt. Hope Basin; Kincaid.

Mt. Hope Basin – Phase III

Plan to start in 7-10 days, also finishing the ramp work from the last project. Horrocks will be back to adjust the ramp as it does not meet ADA.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Kellie Brown, Interim Board Secretary

Approved September 9, 2009