PARK BOARD MEETING
Foster Community Center
June 12, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim McClurken, Rick Kibbey, Zoe Ahlstrom, Michael Rudduck, Mike Dombrowski

MEMBERS ABSENT: Veronica Gracia-Wing, Kimberly Whitfield, Rosalinda Hernandez

OTHERS PRESENT: Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation Director; Kellie Brown, Board Secretary; Peter Wood, Friends of Ormond; Erika and Travis Poland

CALL TO ORDER: 6:31 p.m.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Kibbey moved to approve the May 8, 2019 minutes as submitted, seconded by Ahlstrom. 5 yeas; 0 nays

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

New Board Member

Kaschinske introduced new board member, Mike Dombrowski. Mike stated he is married, has a 2 ½ year old daughter, lives on N. Hayford. He works for a software company and bikes in the parks.

Kaschinske also introduced Erika Poland who was in attendance. She will be the new 3rd Ward board member effective July 1. Poland stated she lives in the Lansing Eaton neighborhood, has been a resident for 13 years and has always enjoyed the park system.

PFAS

Kaschinske stated the Old Oakland Neighborhood, which is on the border of the old General Motors plants; Racer Trust tested the ground water for contamination. The city is involved due to the community garden at Dunnebacke Park. Racer Trust tested the soil and found 1.6 parts per billion, a level higher than the drinking water but at this time, the science is not available on what the contamination to food would be. In view of this information, the garden project will plant only non-edible plants.

Racer Trust is in communication with the neighborhood and the city is communicating with the garden project who is not interested in other parks at this time.

The city is not looking at testing soil in all gardens.

Rudduck inquired how many parks are next to industrial.

Kaschinske stated this has been discussed and there are none in the proximity this park had to GM.

Travis Poland commented he dealt with PFAS at the State and would recommend looking at the Delta and Tecumseh River Drive areas due to run off.
Kaschinske stated Julie Lehman oversees the garden project and she is included in communication.

Ahlstrom mentioned a bill package was recently introduced regarding PFAS.

OLD BUSINESS

Board E-mail Policy

This was discussed at the last meeting and it was decided Ruddock would respond first and Ahlstrom second. Kaschinske would like this put into writing.

UPDATES

Park Projects

Kaschinske reviewed the projects for this past month.

Mural Festival

Kaschinske stated there were concerns about placing the murals on the brick buildings and the damage it could do. There was further discussion and a meeting to consider options and ensure the integrity of the brick. The options were not satisfactory and the murals will not be placed on the community centers brick, however other locations were recommended.

Water Trail Signage

Kaschinske stated there was a need for trail signage on the water for boater, canoes, and kayakers. M-Grow (Middle Grand River Organization of Watersheds) has initiated this project. Kaschinske provided examples of the signs that will show the mileage to Lake Michigan and also provide location for 911 calls. This is for the middle river, Eaton Rapids to Lyons.

Ahlstrom inquired the size of the signs. Kaschinske stated approximately 2’ x 3’.

REMARKS BY BOARD MEMBERS

McClurken inquired if they city has a way to reserve the genetics of the old trees.

Kaschinske stated no, but if there is group who would be willing he would work with them.

Kibbey stated is Lansing is the Tree City; there are other areas to put trees instead of just street trees.

STATEMENT OF CITIZENS

Peter Wood assumes the weather is hindering the completion of the sidewalk and basketball court. They plan to celebrate the completion of the project.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Kellie Brown, Park Board Secretary
Approved July 10, 2019