

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
APRIL 12, 2017
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Earl Wolf and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Chairman Earl Wolf, Vice Chair Howard Dahlstrom, Commissioners Jane Reagan, Teri Nelson, Matthew McHale, Kent Hall, and Patricia Pratt. Absent: None.

Also Present: City Deputy Clerk Barbara Burke, City Manager Alan Dolley, citizens James DeForest and Tammy Gilroy.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Reagan**, to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion passed by voice vote.

5. Audience Participation:

Chairman Wolf called for public comments at this time.

James DeForest introduced himself as backup Council representative to Parks and Recreation Commission. He was happy to see a full commission in attendance.

Tammy Gilroy stated she was happy to see a full quorum.

6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2016:

Motion by **Reagan**, second by **Dahlstrom**, to approve the regular Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes of December 14, 2016 as presented.

Motion passed by voice vote.

8. Discussion Items

8a. Farmers' Market Annual Report:

The Farmers' Market Ad Hoc Committee is working on fundraisers. Commissioner Nelson asked about fees for the volunteer booth and Commissioner Reagan will contact the farmers' market manager to clarify.

8b. Update on Old School Park Playground Project/Fundraising/Signage:

There was discussion about an official name of the playground near the old community center. There may be a name recommendation to Council in the future.

Upcoming fundraisers include euchre tournaments at the Williamston Eagles, and a fundraiser dinner at Sunnyside café on April 22 (4-7 pm).

Private donations can be payable to the Williamston Area Beautification Fund (WABF) and given to Dahlstrom.

8c. Update on Memorial Park/Honor for All Pathway:

Commissioner Hall feels the Honor for All Group is leaning toward the plan with the path through the woods. He plans to contact Ingham County to request some of the money designated from the park millage.

8d. Update on Riverwalk (Old Mill Park) Pathway/Boardwalk

There was discussion on the appraisals of the easement properties for the Riverwalk.

8e. Friends of Williamston Parks' McCormick Park Volunteer Work Date:

Tentative work date is Saturday May 6, 2017, at 9 am. There will be a list of tasks that are volunteer friendly. Chairman Wolf and the DPW fixed broken items.

8f. WildType Island/Riverbank Maintenance Contract:

Per the recommendation from WildType, this year they will treat for invasive species. There will be no burn this year.

8g. Update on Summer Concerts in the Park:

Band shell concerts begin May 25 with the Williamston High School Jazz Band. July 27 features the entire Michigan National Guard Band. There will be a lunch for them at the Williamston Eagles, everyone is invited. There will be a Rod Stewart Tribute Show with performer Danny D. Kiwanis is working on concessions. Concerts are currently 80% funded, and expect to be totally funded soon. There will be no fundraiser at the Brookshire this year.

8h. City Questions:

Old Pavilion Maintenance/Renovation Plan –

The old pavilion has rotting board issues and the entire thing may have to be replaced.

Any police/law enforcement issues (band shell) this summer –

The police have no new issues, but if anyone sees anything, call the police.

10. Audience Participation:

Chairman Wolf called for public comments at this time.

Gilroy said there is a DDA work session next Tuesday, April 18, at 4 pm. This includes a walking tour of downtown beginning and ending at City Hall, with discussion afterward in City Hall Council Chambers. The work session will be in conjunction with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation to discuss the Michigan Main Street program. Everyone is welcome.

11. Member Comments:

Commissioner Pratt said it was nice to see everyone.

Commissioner Nelson invited everyone to the Friend of the Parks fundraiser dinner at Sunnyside Café on April 22, from 4-7 pm.

Commissioner Dahlstrom asked about the boardwalk near Old Mill Park.

Commissioner Hall stated that the Memorial Day parade is now called The Bill Turner Memorial Day Parade. It starts at 10 am.

Commissioner Reagan said she is loving retirement and wishes everyone a Happy Easter. The farmers' market opens on Sunday, May 21.

Chairman Wolf recognized the passing of Larry Wittrup, who served on City Council and numerous City commissions, and stated there is a memorial on June 28 at Wheatfield Valley Golf Club. The Red Cedar Garden Club is selling certificates to Christians Greenhouse as a fundraiser. The Depot Museum is holding a High Tea and Vintage Fashion Show on Sunday, May 7, from 4-6 pm. He has completed QR codes on downtown buildings. People can scan the QR code for a building and get a history and photos.

12. Adjournment:

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

***THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD.**

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

Barbara J. Burke, Deputy Clerk

Date Approved: _____