

AUG 26 2019

**Parks and Recreation Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2019**

C-3

Chairman Gingas called the regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission to order at 6:00pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Anulli, Gingas, Glaza, Weaver, Winter, Wolschleger and Novak
Absent: Teets

Also, in Attendance: Tom Hepp, City Councilman; John DuPray, Mayor; Adam Abraham, Recreation Programmer, and members of the community.

Public Discussion:

Veronica Murphy spoke on the potential for fencing at Walter & Mary Burke park. She presented a sketch of what potential fencing could look like. She said people jumping the wall was a constant problem and believes fencing is the only way to stop it. She presented the sketch to the DDA who asked for her to come back with numbers of real cost of the fencing.

Director's Report:

July 2019 Parks and Recreation Report – June 2019 Recreation Activity

- June 14, 2019 – The department held its second annual School's Out Camp Out! We had 42 families register, and a total of around 200 people in attendance. Families enjoyed unstructured play time as well as some structured games like tug-o-war and cornhole. We also enjoyed s'mores over a camp fire and a movie in the park!
- June 17, 2019 – The Summer Camp parent meeting was held at the Cricklewood Building. We had close to 60 parents in attendance.
- June 18, 2019 – The renovations to the Burke Park bathrooms and indoor pavilion were completed.
- June 19, 2019 – The last of the New Baltimore Youth Baseball games were played for the 2019 season due to having to make up 2 rained out games.
- June 19 - 23, 2019 – The Bay-Rama Fish Fly Festival took place in downtown New Baltimore. The weather didn't cooperate too well on Wednesday and Thursday, and fireworks were postponed until Friday. The weather didn't affect the very large attendance for all of the activities that took place, though!
- June 20, 2019 – An adult day trip had a luncheon on the Detroit Princess. 50 people went on the trip and enjoyed time eating and dancing to a live cover band.
- June 23, 2019 – The Fish Fly Festival Parade was held. Approximately 100 youth baseball players and their families participated in the parade. The end of season party for Youth Baseball Program participants and their families was held immediately after the parade at the Burke Park outdoor pavilion. We had an outstanding turnout of approximately 225 people.
- June 24, 2019 – Summer Camp began and will last for 7 weeks. There are 60 children currently signed up for the full program. This is the first year we've offered morning care, and we have had great response. There are anywhere from 10 – 12 children registered per week, bringing our weekly totals to approximately 70 children. Camp registrations filled up by the middle of April this year, which has never happened before. We also have 11 Counselors In Training registered in the program to learn what it means to be a counselor and help with camp responsibilities.

- The New Baltimore Parks & Recreation Department has registered approximately 245 racers for the 34th Annual Anchor Bay Triathlon. This year's premier sponsor is Great Lakes Foot & Ankle Institute. We have updated the course map and will be ordering new full color directional signs for the race. Registration closed Saturday, July 6.

Agenda Items:

Motion by Anulli, second by Weaver to approve the Meeting Minutes from the June 2019 meeting.
All Voting Yes. Opposing: None Motion Carried.

Motion by Winter, second by Wolschleger to approve the Director's Report for July 2019.
All Voting Yes. Opposing: None Motion Carried.

Motion by Weaver, second by Anulli to approve the Meeting Agenda for July 2019, as amended.
All Voting Yes. Opposing: None Motion Carried.

Discussion:

Fencing at Walter & Mary Burke Park: The Parks and Recreation Department got two quotes for fencing along Front Street in the park. Overall, the department believes fencing is just a portion of an overall vision of an updated and upgraded entrance and flower beds along the park boundaries. The department believes that the fence would provide a long-term solution in protecting the walls and flowerbeds. With the fence, the department also believes an additional staircase, over on the beach side of the wall, would be imperative to ensure the project is successful. The department will look into getting estimates for the additional staircase, as well as going to Historic Commission with regards to the fence. The department will also explore other avenues to help finance the project. The discussion was tabled until the department can present more information to the commission.

Indoor Pavilion Update: Director Novak notified the commission that the Walter & Mary Burke bathrooms project was complete and the bathrooms were in use. The department is doing its best to keep up with the maintenance of the new bathrooms as they are seeing a lot of use, but overall no problems have arised.

Security Cameras Update: Director Novak notified the commission that the department has received the 12 new security cameras for Walter & Mary Burke Park, the internet was scheduled to be installed and the department is just a couple weeks out from being fully operational.

Seasonal Park Maintenance Supervisor Position: Director Novak stated to the commission that the department has been working on evolving their park maintenance responsibilities. This summer, the department had expanded hours of maintenance employees and the parks are in better shape because of it. With that being said, the department still has tasks it would like to complete that would require a greater skill set. The department would like to explore the idea of hiring a seasonal park maintenance supervisor position to help with keeping up with the parks. The commission asked for the department to do market research to compare the costs of hiring within verses hiring a contractor, true costs of the position and a job description. The conversation was tabled.

Park Rangers Update: Commissioner Winter asked Director Novak to provide an update for the park rangers. Director Novak stated that the rangers resolved several issues that arose in the beginning of the year and have not returned since. Commissioners did mention that when they are in the park, the rangers could be difficult to identify, but Novak stated that that was part of what made them successful in flying under the radar. The department will look into costs to add lettering to the shirts to make the rangers more easily identifiable. Chairman Gingas asked the department to invite the rangers to the next meeting so the commission could meet them.

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