



Commission Agenda Report

City of Kalamazoo

FROM: John Hilliard, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Chair
Prepared By: Frances Jewell, Parks and Recreation Director

SUBJECT: 2005 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Annual Report

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB), submits the following 2005 Annual Report for your information.

2005 PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

Board Members

John Hilliard, Chair	1/01/08	Garrylee McCormick	1/01/06
Josh DeBruyn, Vice Chair	1/01/07	Gary Wager	1/1/08
Patricia Klein	1/01/07	Lance Ferraro	1/01/06
Larry Haley	1/01/06		

In 2005, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB) met on 12 occasions and recommended approval of over 40 art fairs, health fairs, and special events including New Year's Fest, Milham Park Art Fair, and the One/One Run at Spring Valley Park. They also reviewed and recommended approval of the 2006 fee structure for exclusive Park rentals and various Recreation activities (2005 fee structure approval was recommended in 2004 but not included in 2004 Annual Report).

During the year, PRAB discussed and participated in many decisions, making recommendations on several major park issues. Major Board discussions and recommendations included:

- Appointment of Chair, Vice Chair, extension reappointment of one member, and appointment of one new member
- Attended a joint meeting of the cities of Portage, Kalamazoo, and Kalamazoo County Parks and Recreation Advisory Boards.
- Woods Lake Park improvements
- Revision of PRAB Bylaws
- Support of Upjohn Park grant applications for Boundless Playground and DNR Redevelopment Project
- Recommended that City not sell Eastern Hills Golf Course.
- Park Surplus Property Assessment with recommendations
- Support of various citizen groups for development of master plans for LaCrone

- Park, Milham Park, Woods Lake Beach Park, and Fairmount Dog Park
- Support of Eastside Youth Center in Rockwell Park
- Appointed a sub-committee to review fees.
- Recommended keeping the Iannelli Fountain in Bronson Park and adding an informational plaque.
- Attended various Parks and Recreation events and programs held throughout the City.

PRAB remains committed to Parks and Recreation's operations and programs. PRAB remains committed to providing appropriate recommendations to the City Commission in its capacity as an advisory board.

Parks and Recreation Department Mission Statement

The Vision of the City of Kalamazoo Parks and Recreation Department is to create a community of neighborhoods where people live, work, and play. We do this by being good stewards of the environment, providing dynamic parks, trails, and recreation programs for all citizens, and by promoting youth development initiatives in support of healthy families.

k:\pat\prab\annual prab report 2005.doc