

**APPROVED**  
**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**  
**May 7, 2008**

Chair Wager called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm in the Parks and Recreation Community Room in Mayors' Riverfront Park.

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Lance Ferraro, Gary Wager, Garrylee McCormick, Griffin Williams, Michael Dombos, Larry Ross, and Zachary Greening

**Members Absent:** Gina Antoniotti and Brian Fricke

**City Commission Liaison:** Barbara Miller, present

**Friends of Recreation Liaison:** absent

**Staff Present:** Frances Jewell and Pat Vinge

**Introduction of Guests:** None

**Changes to the Agenda:** Add Salvation Army to Event Recommendations

**Special Presentations:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** *The April 1, 2008 minutes were unanimously approved.*

**Old Business:**

**Property Review Committee**

Chair Wager sent a letter to the City Manager requesting that the Parks and Recreation Department be reinstated to the Property Review Committee; at present no answer has been received. Barb Miller offered to bring this up at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

**Board Member Recruitment** – Zach has a possibility for a new members and Griffin has contacted one of the youth groups at school. Michael Dombos suggested that a note be sent to the neighborhoods as well as the public schools for potential community service. Barb offered to formally thank departing members for their service at a City Commission meeting. Gary said that a letter of appreciation from the Board is also normally sent to departing members.

**New Business:**

**College Park Lease Agreement (recommendation requested)**

Frances shared that Kalamazoo College has had a lease agreement to operate and maintain College Park from 1982 until 2001. From 1982 to the present, Kalamazoo College has maintained the property. The City owns College Park and by the terms of the proposed lease agreement, the City will grant Kalamazoo College the right to operate and maintain the Park for a period of 5 years with the option of three additional 5 year periods. Frances requested a recommendation from PRAB regarding the lease agreement. ***PRAB unanimously approved a recommendation of support for the College Park lease agreement between the City of Kalamazoo and K-College.***

[At approximately 5:30, after sharing her Monthly Report, Frances excused herself for a prior commitment.]

**Event Recommendations for Approval:**

***The Board unanimously recommended that the City Manager approve the following events:***

- West Main Hill Neighborhood Association – Annual WMH/USTA Picnic, Henderson Park – Tuesday, August 5, 2008
- The Salvation Army , Concert, Bronson Park, Thursday, May 15, 2008, 5 pm – 9:00 pm [concert 6:30 or 7:00 – 8:00 pm)

**Comments:**

**Citizens – Non Agenda Items:** None

**Commission Liaison:** None

**Friends of Recreation Liaison:** Gary Wager said that he has difficulty making the new Friends meeting time of the third Monday of the month at 9:00 am. He asked that a new liaison be appointed at the June meeting.

**Parks and Recreation Managing Director – Monthly Report :**

Frances Jewell said that the NACD fundraiser is continuing for the Splash Park which will be located at 530-534 Florence Street. The Splash Park will become part of the park inventory. Frances said that a lease agreement for the Splash Park is being developed and when prepared, she will bring before PRAB for a recommendation. All members present were supportive of this project and a formal recommendation will be made when the lease agreement is brought before the Board.

Work at Bronson Park has begun to connect the fountains to the sanitary sewer system since chemicals are used in the cleaning process of the fountains. Funds were allocated in the 2008 CIP for this project.

Frances shared that the City Commission will be asked by the City Attorney's Office to remove language in the Ordinance that allows the City Manager to adopt rules and regulations for the operation City Parks. This is no longer necessary since it was fully superseded by Section 33-23 which outlines in detail rules for City Parks.

Frances shared that she checked on the cost of the Smartshop machette sculptures and they can be purchased for \$300 each.

**Staff:** None

**Board Members:**

Gary Wager said that on May 6, a nice ceremony dedicating the park bench donated by the Ladies Library Association was held at Woods Lake Beach Park along with a tour of native plants by Nate Fuller. Canoe the Kazoo events are coming up. The Kalamazoo River Cleanup Coalition will hold an anniversary celebration May 16 from 3-5 pm at the Edison Neighborhood Association with several speakers. A representative of the EPA will also be there to discuss issues with interested individuals and groups. Griffin shared that there will be a kayak/canoe river cleanup on May 31 starting at 10:00 am from MRP to Verburg Park. Lance said that the Vine Neighborhood is looking into the possibility of doggie waste bags for neighborhood parks. It was requested that this be discussed at the next PRAB meeting, with staff providing estimated costs for the equipment that would be required.

**Adjournment:** A reminder was made that the next meeting will be held at the Youth Development Center, 230 E. Crosstown Parkway at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, June 3. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Vinge, Recording Secretary