

APPROVED
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
February 3, 2009

Chair Wager called the meeting to order at 5:38 pm in the Parks and Recreation Community Room in Mayors' Riverfront Park.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Gary Wager, Garrylee McCormick, Larry Ross, and Natalie Patchell. Michael Dombos arrived at 5:34 pm.

Members Absent: None

City Commission Liaison: Barb Miller

Friends of Recreation Liaison: absent

Staff Present: Frances Jewell and Lisa Brown

Introduction of Guests: Several journalism students from WMU: T.J. Hall, Kallie Leonard, Michael Crouch, Lisa Gass, Roger Sievers, Jon Stonehouse, Jeremy Wilson, Rachelle Damico, Raquel Garmo, Jess Herndon, Kellie Davis, Patrick Laslie, Scott Sievzenga, and Chris Kosbe

Changes to the Agenda: None

Special Presentations: None

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the January 6, 2009 meeting were unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Board Member Recruitment – Gary Wager contacted the candidates that had submitted applications to see if they were still interested. William Kelly indicated that due to schedule conflicts he would no longer be able to serve. Steve Chervenak indicated that he was still interested in serving, but he was scheduled to work and was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Natalie said that she had spoken to her contacts at the high schools to notify them of the two youth spots available on the board.

New Business:

City of Kalamazoo Website Navigation – Michael expressed concern about the lack of ease in navigating the City's website. Frances had some print screens for him to assist in the navigation.

Event Recommendations for Approval:

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

- Kalamazoo Institute of Arts 58th Annual Art Fair @ Bronson Park – June 5, 2009 from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm and June 6, 2009 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Kalamazoo Valley Crop Walk @ Bronson Park – May 3, 2009 from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm
- Kalamazoo Deacons Conference Community Picnic @ LaCrone Park – June 13, 2009 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- Kalamazoo Deacons Conference Back to School Bash @ LaCrone Park – August 28, 2009 from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

- Eagle Take Flight Promotions “Art in the Park” @ Milham Park – June 27, 2009 from 5:00 am (for set up) to 6:00 pm (for tear down)

Comments:

Citizens – Non Agenda Items: None

Commission Liaison: None

Friends of Recreation Liaison: Absent

Parks and Recreation Managing Director – Monthly Report:

Frances provided the board with a CD of the draft Five Year Master Plan for Parks & Rec. Garrylee questioned why one of the parks appeared in there twice. Frances indicated that this is a draft, and that is the kind of things we are looking for and will be edited before the final document is issued. Frances also shared the following information:

- \$100,000 grant received from Irving S Gilmore Foundation for LaCrone & Woods Lake
- Groundbreaking ceremonies for a section of Kalamazoo River Valley Trailway are scheduled for 2/5/09
- The City has submitted a “wish list” of proposed projects for the stimulus package totaling \$70 million (including in the list are 8 Parks projects)
- The Downtown Plan is available at the DKI website
- Save the Date postcard for the Friends Golf Outing

Staff: None

Board Members: Larry spoke of the Asylum Lake property, that is owned/managed by WMU, and the plans to convert the portion from Drake Road to Stadium into an industrial park (which would be an expansion of the BTR Park). Several of the attending journalism students asked specific questions about the Master Plan, which were responded to by Frances.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Brown, Recording Secretary