

APPROVED
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
05/07/13

Chair, Garrylee McCormick called the meeting to order at 5:20pm in the Parks and Recreation Community Room in Mayors' Riverfront Park.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Garrylee McCormick, Michael Markel, John Johnson, Meka Phillips, Travis Bell, and Andre Campbell

Members Absent: Natalie Patchell

City Commission Liaison: Don Cooney - absent

Friends of Recreation Liaison: Kathy Wiedmayer - absent

Staff Present: Sean Fletcher and Cheryl Pesti

Introduction of Guests: Lois Richmond, Marge Kars, Betty Ongley, Cameron Brown and Helen Brown

Changes to the Agenda: None

Special Presentations: Abraham Lincoln Statue Proposal

Lois Richmond, Marge Kars, Betty Ongley, Cameron Brown and Helen Brown (Abraham Lincoln Project Steering Committee) made a proposal to put an Abraham Lincoln Statue in Bronson Park. There are not a lot of details, but PRAB would be consulted each step along the way. The board unanimously supported the idea of moving forward with the plan, provided they would be kept apprised of plans as they developed.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the April 2, 2013 were unanimously approved.

Old Business: MI Big Green Gym

Sean just asked that everyone on the board sign up for the contest. Also please sign up any friends/family who may be interested.

New Business:

Sean had several items he just wanted to bring to the board's attention. No concrete details as of yet.

- A. Bronson Park idea - possible portable skating rink next winter
- B. Bronson Park idea – music/pop-up retail at lunch
- C. Bronson Park – Japanese Maple Bed Numazu Plaque is missing
- D. Bronson Park – Request for Korean War Memorial to be moved to Rose Park
- E. New Car Show – Car dealers looking to use Bronson Park for a car show
- F. Herbicide/Pesticide Policy – Garry Lee witnessed someone spraying Round-Up on one of the flower beds downtown and wanted to know what the City policy is regarding pesticides. Sean will look for a written policy.

Event Recommendations for Approval:

KPL Party in the Park— unanimously approved

Light the Night — unanimously approved

Power Branch Inc 7th Annual Mental Health Awareness Festival— unanimously approved

“Art in the Park” — unanimously approved pending an approved fee schedule

Comments:

Citizens: Gail Gleason (East Side Neighborhood) introduced himself. He was attending the meeting to draw some attention to the Rockwell Park tennis courts. Sean will have Mark Polega look in to cleaning, painting lines, and putting up a net.

Commission Liaison: None

Friends of Recreation Liaison: None

Parks and Recreation Managing Director Monthly Report:

We are still working with ETC on the Community Survey and with MC Smith on the Five Year Master Plan. The first public meeting regarding the Master Plan will be in the Mayors' Riverfront Park Community Room June 19th at 6:00pm.

Staff:

We have been working on getting seasonal positions filled.

Board Members:

Meka — asked about a plan to tour the parks as previously discussed. Sean thinks we should tour half this spring and half in the fall.

Michael Markel—Expressed gratitude to Sean for meeting with Cheryl and Don of the Oakwood Neighborhood Association.

John Johnson—Brought up the fact that we should be approaching schools/neighborhood association for use of their facilities since space seems to be an issue regarding our programs. The concensus of the group is that it would be beneficial to offer programs in different neighborhoods. It would be easier for the neighborhood children to attend, if transportation wasn't an issue.

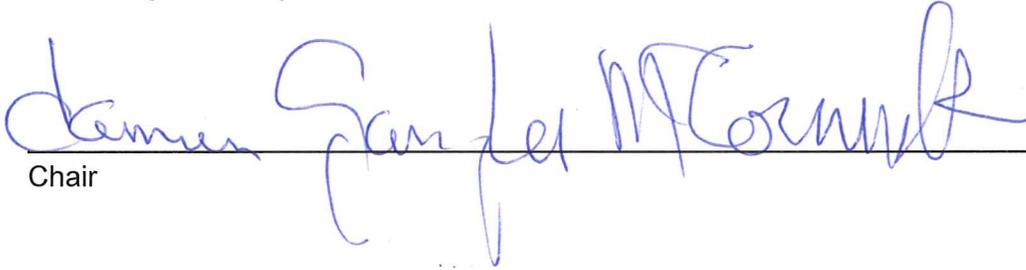
Garrylee McCormick—Wanted to Thank Andre and the Boy Scouts for picking up trash in the park and planting the trees on Arbor Day

Adjournment: 6:35 PM

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Pesti, Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C Pesti". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "C".

Recording Secretary

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Samuel McCormick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "J".

Chair