

APPROVED
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
08/06/13

Chair, Garrylee McCormick called the meeting to order at 5:24pm in the Parks and Recreation Community Room in Mayors' Riverfront Park.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Garrylee McCormick, John Johnson, Natalie Patchell, Michael Markel, Travis Bell, and Meka Phillips

Members Absent: Andre Campbell

City Commission Liaison: absent

Friends of Recreation Liaison: absent

Staff Present: Sean Fletcher and Cheryl Pesti

Introduction of Guests: Rabbi and Mrs. Haller (Chabad House) and Jack Urban

Changes to the Agenda: Under old business, discussion of Menorah at Bronson Park

Special Presentations: None

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for both the July 2, 2013 and July 16, 2013 meetings were unanimously approved

Old Business:

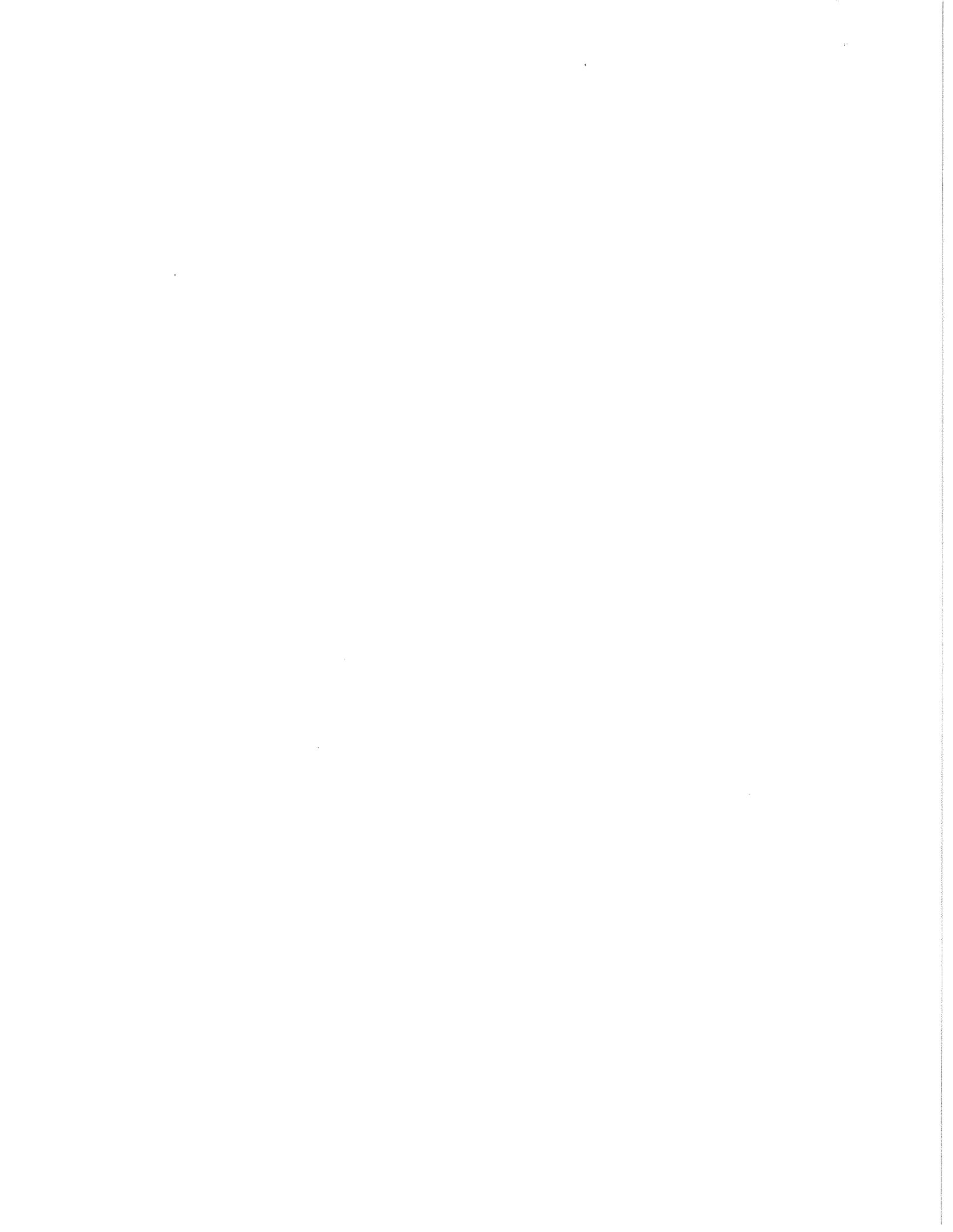
Menorah—Rabbi Haller discussed the symbolism of the menorah. Mrs. Haller explained the size (approx. 10ft) and had examples of what the display may look like. The board unanimously approved the addition of the menorah to the Bronson Park holiday displays. Sean Fletcher will remain the point person on this project. Location, set-up, liability waivers, contract, etc will all still need to be worked out.

New Business:

Schedule Park Tours for PRAB—For the September 3, 2013 meeting we will meet at Mayors' Riverfront Park at 4pm and load up in the Parks & Rec vans. We will be touring Hays Park, Woods Lake Park, Crane Park, and LaCrone Park. We plan on returning to Mayors' Riverfront Park by 7pm.

For the October 1, 2013 meeting we will meet at Mayors' Riverfront Park at 4pm and load up in the Parks & Rec vans. We will be touring Bow in the Clouds, Rockwell Park, Spring Valley, and Upjohn Park. We plan on returning to Mayors' Riverfront Park by 7pm.

Cancellation of Poorly attended Meetings—The board discussed that each year the July meeting is poorly attended do to its proximity to Independence Day. The board has unanimously decided that the July meeting will be moved to the second Tuesday in July each year.



Golf Outing—Sean Fletcher doesn't have the final totals for the golf outing. Everyone had a good time. Sean will try to get more city officials involved next year. Hopefully we can also get more of our vendors to have teams at the event next year. Garrylee McCormick mentioned he received a thank you letter. Friends of Recreation will need to send out additional information as that letter will not be able to be used for tax deduction purposes.

Event Recommendations for Approval:

Menorah—unanimously approved

KIA Art Fair 2014—unanimously approved

Turn Our Town Teal (Ovarian Cancer Awareness)—After some discussion, a decision could not be reached as clarification was needed regarding where they were going to tie the ribbons, equipment needed to remove ribbons, etc. The board unanimously voted to give Sean Fletcher the power to make the decision on their behalf once he received clarification. Natalie suggested maybe we need to establish a policy for ribbon tying requests.

Comments:

Citizens: Jack Urban

Pat Lynn would like to gift the city 100 saplings to plant this fall. She owns a nursery and if not planted, the trees will not survive the winter. Jack will follow up with Todd Pryor, the city's forestry supervisor.

Commission Liaison: absent

Friends of Recreation Liaison: absent

Parks and Recreation Managing Director Monthly Report:

The city is working on its 2014 budget. With a deficit, the Parks and Rec budget is sure to see some cuts. He is working with staff to try and strategically increase revenue through program fees and sponsorship money.

Movie night—This year the department, in partnership with the IDEA Association and Vine Neighborhood Association, is having a family movie night in South Westnedge park on August 23rd. Family games and activities will start at 7pm and the night will end watching Despicable Me. A second movie night will be held in Bronson Park on September 20th. That movie will be The Amazing Spiderman.

Sayonara Summer 5K will be held September 7th at Mayors' Riverfront Park. It is a fundraiser that will benefit the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission.

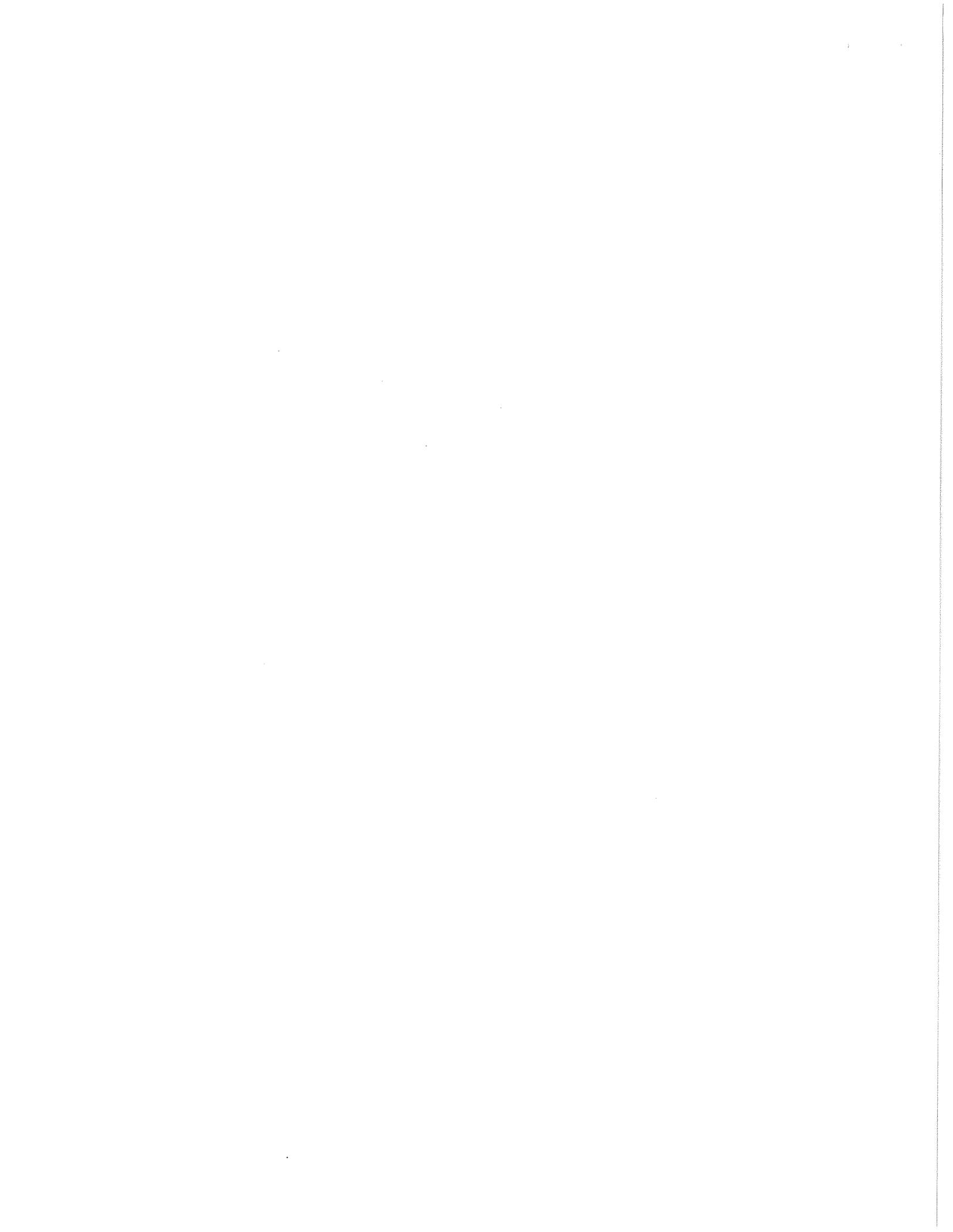
Staff: none

Board Members:

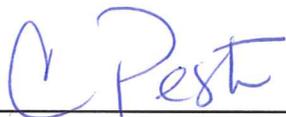
Meka Phillips—Thanked Mr. Jack Urban for attending the meeting

John Johnson—Asked for an Occupy Kalamazoo update. Apparently they are using the Lamplighter Inn as their gathering point. John also wondered about the proposed walking/biking trail to connect Bicentennial Park with downtown Kalamazoo. It is still making progress but the Bicentennial Park to downtown will probably be the last section completed.

Adjournment: 6:25 PM



Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Pesti, Recording Secretary



Recording Secretary

Chair

