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

**Roll Call:**  
**Members Present:** Meka Phillips, John Johnson, Chris Patchell, Chris Bol

**Members Absent:** Khalil Adams, Zadie Jackson, Pam Roland

**City Commission Liaison:** None

**Friends of Recreation Liaison:** Parks and Recreation Director Sean Fletcher

**Staff Present:** Katie Broekema

**Introduction of Guests:** Larry LaBond; K’aces Disc Golf.  
Pedro Griswold, Kibran Hogarty, Mark Liddle, Sean Anseth, Beth Morrison, Nick Beute, Susan Beute, Carrie Hybels, Matt, Hybels, Judith Krane- Calvert. Jennifer Ward, Natalie Patchell, Jennifer Clark, Nancy Young, Jon Hoadley, Lynn Houghton, Scott Russell, Gail Walter, Gergory Vleck; Crane Park Neighbors.

**Changes to the Agenda:** None

**Special Presentations:** None

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for the September 6, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:**  
Disc Golf: A potential disc golf course at Spring Valley Park was discussed by Community member Larry LaBond of K’Aces Disc Golf Group. Director Sean Fletcher shared it was a good way to activate the space. Larry and his organization would be donating 18 baskets for the course, and has a design layout in mind that former Parks Manager Ryan Johnson helped with. He would need staff supervision to have volunteers remind some brush and scrub from small wooded areas. PRAB member Chris Patchell would like some signage for when the disc golf course would be able to be used so that it does not affect other reservations. Cost to department would be minimal but could include tee signs, trash barrels, and making the course playable. These could be implemented over time.
Crane Park: Sean Fletcher gave an overview of the PRAB advisory recommendation role in parks projects, and set the rules for community input. In this case, the discussion concerned Betsey Anne Place and Crane Avenue. The residents on Summit Drive would like an alternative road to Betsey Anne Place for the winter months. At the time of this meeting, the City Manager’s Office had sent a reply to the request; the city will add extra plowing times to the road to make it more passable. Sean also shared that Crane Park is part of the Master Plan, with improvements being made in 2018.

The group that is opposed to Crane Ave being opened shared the following concerns:
- The prior master plan did not contain a road at this location.
- The current road is in terrible condition.
- There are park user safety concerns when you divide a park with a road.
- The road will be used as a cut through for the neighborhood.
- The road allows for inappropriate behavior inside the park.
- It is a poor aesthetic plan to divide a park with a road.
- Parkwood Upjohn Elementary is negatively impacted if traffic patterns in the area change.
- The safety of the secluded condos with the increased amount of traffic.
- Safety of historic hikes in the area if a road is reintroduced.
- The grade on Crane Ave is worse than Betsey Anne.
- Communication was lacking for the Westnedge Hill Neighborhood Association, please keep lines of communication open.

The opposed group also raised the following questions:
- How would you define a ‘winter season’ to have the road open during?
- Is Crane Ave listed as a street in MDOT documentation?
- Why is this brought in front of the PRAB Council when it has already been presented here and a decision was made?
- Is a road from Maple Street or Howard being considered as an option?

The community members that would like Crane Place to be open shared the following concerns:
- Turning right onto Park is dangerous.
- Public Safety is not able to use Betsey Anne Place; vehicles have gotten stuck in the past.
- The grade on Crane Ave is less than Betsey Anne.
- A proposal of seasonal usage of Crane Place is proposed until other action can be taken.

PRAB Chair Meka Philips thanked the community members for their time and dismissed the group. After a small discussion, PRAB concluded that they would not have a role in this outcome because it had already passed through the PRAB board, and it was currently being reviewed by the City Manager’s Office.

**Event Recommendations:**
A. Julie Kieser requested event – Jesus Loves Kalamazoo Bronson Park on Sunday July 9, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. in Bronson Park.

Chris Bol motioned and Chris Patchell seconded for a unanimous approval of this event.

Comments

Citizens: None

Commission Liaison: None

Parks and Recreation Director Monthly Report: Director Sean Fletcher first spoke as a representative of Friends of Recreation – the golf outing was a great success and raised approximately $5,000. They are still looking to establish a board of directors.

In terms of the Parks and Recreation office, online registration has been very positive for the customer and for the office environment. The department is reorganizing and adjusting to being without a parks manager for the time being until one can be hired. The Bronson Park fundraising campaign is going well, on October 19 there is an 100 Extraordinary Women event, and on October 20 Bronson Park is open to the public celebration of its past and present, with glimpses into the Park future.

Staff: None

Board Members:
PRAB member John Johnson asked about the Farmer’s Market Plan, Sean shared that this will be done in phases starting in 2018 with a plan revamp and reveal to happen early 2017.

Adjournment: 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Broekema, Recording Secretary

[Signature]
Recording Secretary

[Signature]
11-8-16
Chair