

Approved
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
January 9, 2018

Meka Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm at the Parks and Recreation Community Space.

Roll Call:

Members Present: John Johnson, Meka Phillips, Alyiah Adams, Kayleen Shafer

Members Absent: Chris Patchell, Pam Roland, Chris Bol

City Commission Liaison: None

Friends of Recreation Liaison: None

Staff Present: Katie Broekema, Sean Fletcher

Introduction of Guests:

- Art Toy, Christopher Hodshire, John Voss – Chinese New Year Celebration
- Deacon Karen McDonald, Kierra Randolph – ISAAC organized Run
- Alison Nuismer – Kalamazoo Friends of Recreation Executive Director

Changes to the Agenda:

Special Presentations:

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the December 5, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved.

Old Business:

New Business:

1. ISAAC 5k presentation
 - a. The ISAAC community would like to host a 5k at Spring Valley park with the goal of community fellowship that leads to running and awareness. ISAAC is a social justice organization that has been around for 16 years and invites collaboration from over 25 community organizations.
2. Chinese New Year Presentation – Chris Hodshire
 - a. In collaboration with the Chinese New Year Celebration at the Chenery on February 3, 2018, they would like to hang 12 inch LED solar powered Chinese

lanterns around Bronson Park. This will incorporate more of the community in the Chinese American community present in Kalamazoo.

3. Introduction of Friends of Recreation Executive Director
 - a. Alison Nuismer has accepted the position of Executive Director for the Kalamazoo Friends of Recreation; her first day is January 15, 2018. She has a formal background in education and has spent the last 5 years in the Kalamazoo Community working with nonprofits, most recently Kalamazoo Neighborhood Housing Solutions. She is looking forward to the challenge of stepping into her new role and working closely with the Parks and Recreation Department.
4. Re-appointment of Chris Patchell to Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.
 - a. John Johnson moved, and Kayleen Shafer seconded the re-appointment of Chris Patchell. The motion was unanimously approved.

Event Recommendations:

- A. Jill Lansky (Kalamazoo Public Library) requested event – Party in the Park on Wednesday May 30, 2018 from 8:00 -11:30 a.m. in Bronson Park.
- B. Charlae Davis (ISAAC Kalamazoo) requested event – ISAAC 5k Walk/Run Building the Beloved Community: Moving Towards Justice on Saturday June 30, 2018 from 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at Spring Valley Park.
- C. Julie Klick requested event – Peace Pizzaz 10th Annual Festival on Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. at Bronson Park.
- D. Shelly Francis (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation) requested event – Great Strides Walk on Saturday, May 12, 2018 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Mayors Riverfront Park.

All Events were unanimously approved.

Comments

Citizens:

Commission Liaison: None

Parks and Recreation Director Monthly Report: Director Sean Fletcher reported that the Kalamazoo Friends of Recreation is very excited to have Alison Nuismer settled into her new position of executive director. Her first task will be the annual Friends breakfast in May, and the board is eager to help make it a success. The 2018 Parks and Recreation budget was approved, and FFE dollars are part of that budget. All Things Possible is moving forward and looking to make a strong impact in the near future.

Staff: Special event coordinator Katie Broekema reported that herself, and program coordinators Chad Wendt and Pete Aerts are looking forward to the annual MParks conference in Detroit. The sessions offered are always of great use to the department and lead to enhancements in Kalamazoo.

Board Members:

Board Member Kayleen Shafer reported that the Candy Cane Hunt went well, despite blustery conditions. She was impressed with the Recreation Staff's ability to work with the snowy weather.

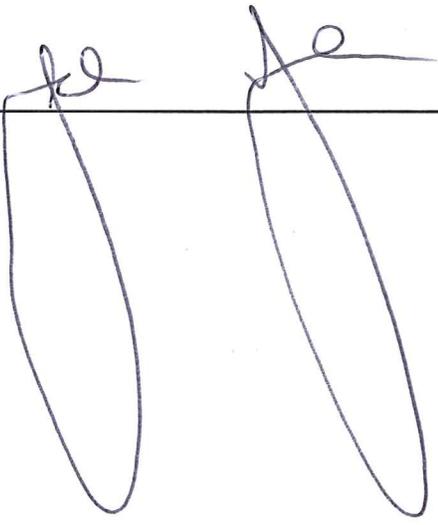
The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Respectfully submitted by Katie Broekema, Recording Secretary


Recording Secretary

3.12.18


Vice-Chair

3/6/2018