

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
April 2, 2019

Chair Meka Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm on April 2, 2019 at Station 5

Roll Call:

Members Present: Meka Phillips, John Johnson, Chris Patchell, Paul Teini, Kayleen Shafer, Pam Roland

Members Absent: Erin Knott, Patrick McVerry, Aliyah Adams, Chris Bol, Alison Nuismer

Staff Present: Corey Stamps

Introduction of Guests: Sandy Bliesener & Dan Ingles

Changes to the Agenda: None

Special Presentations:

Sandy Bliesener & Dan Ingles presented on a new event they are planning around Memorial Day weekend. Dan reported this event will be in memory of those who served and are no longer with us. He mentioned the idea is to use Bronson Park and line the outside of the park with flags. They plan to sell the flags to those in the community and they will also have names of each person who served. This is a great way to honor those who served and a great fundraiser for their club. Dan mentioned this idea has been done in other areas and they have had great success.

Pam Roland asked do you plan on having news coverage there? Dan responded they have not reached out to them or done any type of promotion just yet. Dan also mentioned that he served for 6 years and hasn't really thought about promoting to the community. This is just an opportunity to honor those who served.

Meka Philips mentioned this is wonderful she would just like to see it on an application to be submitted.

Chris Patchell asked how many flags do you plan on selling? Dan responded around 200 flags is the goal.

Pam asked do you have any signage about the event? Dan responded would that be appropriate? Pam responded yes, it would be wonderful to see. Dan mentioned it's a cool project and we are hoping to gauge more interest. Paul Teini responded that's a reason to add signage, so people will know what's its all about.

John Johnson mentioned they should have a contingency plan in case the flags get vandalized. Sandy mentioned the flags are 87 cents so if they were to be vandalized it would be okay.

Approval of Minutes:

The March minutes were unanimously approved

Old Business:

New Business:

N/A

Event Recommendations:

A. Shelly Francis (Cystic Fibrosis Foundation) requested event – Great Strides Walk on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. at Mayors Riverfront Park. (Approved)

Comments: None

Citizens: None

Commission Liaison:

Friends of Recreation Liaison Update:

Corey Stamps reported for Alison, Kalamazoo Friends of Recreation at the Kalamazoo Wings event was a success. They raised over \$15,000 from the jersey auction. Currently they are taking the necessary steps to be considered for another special event next season. Friends of Recreation is also planning for their spring luncheon on Thursday, May 16. This year they are planning on honoring Von Washington Jr. for his dedication to Kalamazoo's youth.

Friends of R.E.C is moving along. The youth are planning to volunteer at the Farmers Market Spruce Up on April 20th.

Parks and Recreation Director Monthly Report: None

Staff:

Corey Stamps mentioned Egg Hunt will be on April 20th from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. Meka asked will you need volunteers? Corey responded yes, if anyone would like to volunteer please just let me know.

Board Members:

Pam Roland mentioned the Junior Girls and helping with the planning of events to do with R.E.C

Kayleen Shafer asked John Johnson did he send a message to Erin Knott about not showing up to the meetings. John stated he sent a message via Facebook but did not receive an answer. Kayleen also mentioned she enjoyed the hockey game.

Pam mentioned that she talked to Patrick about adding new trees at MLK Park. The new arborist will go over and look at the details of the park. Pam mentioned there were 25 trees at MLK Park. Pam also asked what type of trees are at Crane Park? Chris Patchell responded they are Siberian Trees. Pam mentioned that Patrick sent her pictures of 2 types of trees that Todd recommended. John mentioned the new arborist may decide to add new trees.

Chris mentioned he attended the tree meeting and the new arborist will speak with everyone about adding new trees. The new arbor also plans to add more than 5 trees and have them planted before Arbor Day. Chris mentioned the new arbor seems very knowledgeable and has plans to plant a new tree at Crane Park where the tree was hit.

Adjournment: 5:57pm

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday May 7, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Parks and Recreation Community Space

Respectfully submitted by Corey Stamps, Recording Secretary

Recording Secretary

Chair