

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
June 4, 2019

Chair Meka Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm on June 4, 2019 at the Henderson Tot Lot

Roll Call:

Members Present: Meka Phillips, Paul Teini, Chris Patchell, Kayleen Shafer

Members Absent: Erin Knott, Patrick McVerry, Aliyah Adams, Chris Bol, John Johnson, Aliyah Adams, Pam Roland

Staff Present: Corey Stamps, Alison Nuismer, Sean Fletcher

Introduction of Guests: Erin Bensinger

Changes to the Agenda: None

Special Presentations:

Erin Bensinger reported in place of Steve Walsh for the event Will Mackie Jenkins Concert. Erin mentioned the event came about after Will Mackie reached out about playing in Kalamazoo. She thought Davis St. Park would be a perfect place to have a concert since they normally have them at there office. They are encouraging people to bring blankets and skateboards since it's a skate park. The event is free but they are also accepting donations. If it happens to rain they plan to move indoors since there will be instruments at the concert. Erin mentioned for attendance they are hoping for a good turn out, but they are unsure as the neighborhood association shows don't usually generate a lot of people. Sean mentioned, people are really into concerts. If they advertise on social media and share it with Kzoo Parks that will reach a lot of people. Erin is looking to test the waters with this event to see how it will go, and next year look to add additional things. Chris Patchell asked did they think about having a food truck at the event? Erin mentioned no, but she is open to it for the future.

Approval of Minutes:

The April minutes were unanimously approved

Old Business:

New Business:

N/A

Event Recommendations:

- A. Steve Walsh requested event – Will Mackie Jenkins Concert on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. at Davis St. Park

Comments: None

Citizens: None

Commission Liaison:

Friends of Recreation Liaison Update:

Alison reported, the luncheon in May went really well. They raised \$13,000 and they spent \$1200. They are currently looking for a new venue since the Bernhard center will be going under construction next year. Currently they are ramping up for the summer which includes attending Lunchtime Live. They are also planning for the golf outing.

Kayleen asked did a Tree fall at Milham Golf Course. Sean responded, he hasn't been out there in a while, so he is unsure.

Paul asked where does all the money go that is raised from events. Alison responded, it goes to the scholarships for programs such as camps in the summer.

Parks and Recreation Director Monthly Report:

Sean reported, we have done some value engineering to the farmers market master plan. They are currently looking to have KRVT and the sidewalk run alongside each other to create a bike path and sidewalk. They have submitted a grant for 1 million for the Gilmore Foundation which they encouraged us to do. They also have to figure out the phasing and other sources of funding for this project. Outside of that, everything is getting ready to start such as summer programs and the pool is opening. Meka asked when will you know about the grant. Sean mentioned, they do this 4 times a year so hopefully next month. Paul asked if the city planned on paying for anything. Sean responded, yes and we have already done quite a bit.

Kayleen asked about an update on the YDC. Sean responded, Public Services wants that building. Sean has said to multiple people that we have to have a youth development center so; however they decide to work that out is up to them, but no real update on that.

Kayleen also asked about the Springmont Tot Lot. She wanted to know who monitors the reviews on google because there were negative comments. One of the other comments mentioned more modifications were coming soon. Kayleen wanted to know if there were more things happening to the park. Sean mentioned, he would have to check with Patrick.

Staff:

Corey reported Lunchtime Live starts on Thursday June 6.

Board Members:

Chris Patchell reported about Crane and how they are working on saving the plants. He also mentioned the comments about the park and how people are complaining without the park even being finished.

Meka reported that she volunteered at the Egg Hunt. She mentioned it was interesting working with the prizes and dealing with the families. She had a lot of fun and it was great to see families get an opportunity to do something for free.

Sean mentioned we will be having a community Egg Hunt next year. We will engage the businesses in the area by allowing them to sponsor and egg. Our parks team will hide the eggs in our parks and people in the community will go around to find them. Businesses will supply prizes like Gazelle sports will supply shoes.

Adjournment: 6:04pm

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday July 2, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at Milham Park

Respectfully submitted by Corey Stamps, Recording Secretary

Recording Secretary

Chair