

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes**  
**January 4, 2022**

Chair Paul Teini called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m. on January 4, 2022.

**Roll Call:**

**Members Present:** Paul Teini, Michael Harrison, Ben Stanley, Katelyn Bekken

**Members Absent:** Joseph Buckman, Rachel Hughes-Nilsson

**Staff Present:** Sean Fletcher, Shannon Keene

**Commissioner Liaison:**

**Introduction of Guests:** None

**Changes to the Agenda:**

1. PRAB Bylaws added to New Business.

**Special Presentations:** None

**Approval of Minutes:**

Ben Stanley motioned, and Michael Harrison seconded for unanimous approval of the December meeting minutes.

**Old Business:**

1. Member Criteria – The board discussed the qualifications they would like to see in new board members. The board will create a list of questions that will be sent out to new applicants after their applications have been submitted. Ben Stanley motioned to discuss Randi Xuereb's board application, seconded by Katelyn Bekken. Ben Stanley was in favor of adding Randi Xuereb to the board but was defeated by Michael Harrison and Katelyn Bekken.
2. Winter Events & Activities – Sean Fletcher let the board know the park coordinator, Don Lonsway, has half of the rink edged at Spring Valley Park. They are still working to find the right drain cap cover. Once the edging is done, the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety will come to the park to flood the rink. The department is hosting the Woods Lake Winter Golf Classic on January 29<sup>th</sup> and A Flurry of Fun at Spring Valley Park on February 12<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

1. Bikeway / Trail / Park Maintenance and Bathroom Access – Sean Fletcher spoke with the Portage Parks & Recreation Director and found out the restrooms in Portage are

kept open and heated for around \$300 a month plus an additional \$300 for cleaning. They don't keep track of the cost of clearing snow from sidewalks and trails because their staff does it. Kalamazoo doesn't have the staffing to maintain trails without exceeding the allocated overtime.

2. PRAB Bylaws – Ben Stanley read page one of the bylaws to the board and discussed certain sections. Park rules were also discussed.

**Event Recommendations:** None

**Adopt-A-Park Applications:** None

**Comments**

**Citizens:** None

**Commission Liaison:** None

**Friends of Recreation Liaison Update:** No update.

**Parks and Recreation Director Monthly Report:** Sean Fletcher let the board know an internal candidate was promoted to the Park's Supervisor position. The City Commission voted at their meeting last night to create a subcommittee for increasing funding for youth development.

**Staff:** None

**Board Members:** Katelyn Bekken requested the Kik Pool be added to the February agenda. Paul Teini requested reminders for meeting locations. No comments from Ben Stanley or Michael Harrison.

**Adjournment:** 6:48 p.m.

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at Mayor's Riverfront Park.

Respectfully submitted by Shannon Keene, Recording Secretary



Recording Secretary

2/1/2022

POT

Chair