

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Minutes
June 4th, 2024

Chair Kazmira Herberger called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. on June 4th, 2024 at Mayor's Riverfront Park.

Roll Call:

Members Present: Kazmira Herberger, Katelyn Bekken, Isabela Ballez, Rachel Hughes-
Nilsson, Joseph Buckman, Jarrett Blackmon, Chris Bol, Riley Nilsson

Members Absent: Bjorn Nelson

Staff Present: Ashton Anthony, Deidrean Barrett

Commissioner Liaison: Chris Praedel

Introduction of Guests: None

Changes to the Agenda: None

Special Presentations: None

Approval of Minutes:

Kazmira Herberger motioned, seconded by Joseph Buckman for unanimous approval of the April meeting minutes.

Old Business:

1. National Go Skateboarding Day – Irma has prizes for the event. Parks posted about it online. It is being run solely by Irma. Volunteers needed for the event.
2. Youth Paddle 101 – More than half the spots are filled. Kayak company will be coming to lead it. Food is going to confirmed. Nature center will be there. Doug (watershed council) will be there. A few volunteers are needed. Patrick will be bringing three tables. Will be using the pavilion at Woods Lake. Kalamazooriver.org
3. Audubon Event – world migratory bird day (May 11th) Working on outreach and collaboration. Wildwood unlimited might want to be there. Spring Valley and Upjohn will be good parks for the event. Possibly in the dusk or evening. Looking for a source for binoculars. Themed, insects (what insects birds eat)

New Business: Adopt A Park-form for the adoptees to fill out of what things they have done. Adding to the packet to go out. Questionnaire development, promote the remaining 10 parks.

Event Recommendations: None

Adopt-A-Park Applications:

1. Krom & Prouty Park, Northside Association for Community Development, Aaron Anzell – Kazmira Herberger motioned to approve the application, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Comments:

Citizens: None

Commission Liaison: Streets decertified; Peak Street will be decertified by Jones Park. It's a playscape street right now. Foundation for Excellence (FFE) sidewalks, parks and recreations youth programs, upgrading trees, things that need gap funding,

Friends of Recreation Liaison Update: None

Parks and Recreation Director Monthly Report: Fisheries Habitat Grant - \$75,000 awarded for Milham Park Portage Creek restoration. One of 12 recipients statewide.

Bike Rodeo – Successful event on May 15th.

South Side Park Improvements – Playground built, building arriving. Completion by June 10th for summer camps.

Emerald Park Improvements – Bids are out. Playground installation this summer, filed improvements by September. New benches, safety netting, and pedestrian gate.

Kik Pool – Opens June 5th with a new water heater, chemical controller, and upcoming chlorination system.

Verburg Park – New rental kayak cage installed, allowing app-controlled rentals.

Bronson Park Plantings – Completed by Kalamazoo in Bloom. Flowerpots placed after Jumpstart this weekend.

Greater Greener Conference – Patrick, Ashton, and Danielle will be attending in Seattle, WA from June 22-25.

Mowing Contractor Issues – Contractor on notice for poor performance. Ongoing issues for the second year.

Arcadia Creek Festival Place – Santiago Services hired for landscaping ahead of Kalamazoo Pride. North and South Kalamazoo Mall improvements underway.

Staff: None

Board Members: Riley - volunteer hours, having Bjorn handle posting it for the school.

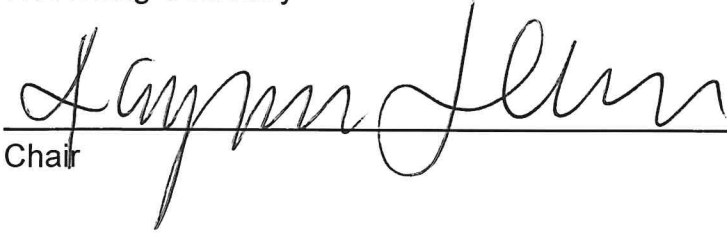
Adjournment: 6:50 p.m.

The next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 9th, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. at South Westnedge Park.

Respectfully submitted by Deidrean Barrett, Recording Secretary



Recording Secretary



Chair

7/9/24