

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
JULY 11, 2018
RESCHEDULED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Earl Wolf and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Chairman Earl Wolf, Vice Chair Teri Nelson, Commissioners Amie Brown, Kent Hall, and Patricia Pratt. Absent: Jane Reagan and Jeff Roland.

Also present: City Manager Corey Schmidt, City Clerk Holly Thompson, and citizens Tammy Scott, John Bisard, and Max Donovan.

Motion by **Hall**, second by **Brown**, to excuse Reagan. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Approval of Agenda:

Add item 8h. McCormick Park Sandbox.

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

5. Audience Participation:

Chairman Wolf called for public comments at this time and there were none.

6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Rescheduled Regular Meeting Minutes of December 20, 2017:

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Pratt**, to approve the rescheduled Parks & Recreation Commission meeting minutes of December 20, 2017 as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8. Discussion Items

8a. Honor For All/Memorial Park Pathway Grant Application Process:

Manager Schmidt reported on the DNR Trust Fund Grant application for the Honor For All/Memorial Park pathway. There was a site visit by the MDNR. The deadline for the matching grant they were planning to apply for has passed. An option may be to amend the grant application to focus on the Memorial Park path. There also may be a way to do some union equipment training through John Bisard that could count towards the matching grant. DNR has stated the level of change to the grant is unusual, but is becoming more normal. The other option is to let the grant go as submitted although it will likely not score high as it is written.

Motion by **Brown**, second by **Pratt**, to amend the existing grant application and let the City Manager and John Bisard work out the details. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8b. River Walk Project:

I. Township Parking Lot/Kayak Launch Concept Request: The Township is interested in partnering with the City and DDA on a grant from the Ingham County Trails to help develop a kayak/canoe launch along the Red Cedar River incorporating the DDA's old car wash lot.

II. Easement Issue: The committee working with Landscape Architects is still working on easements for the properties along the river.

8c. Volunteer Community Park Playground/Friends of Williamston Parks:

The Friends of the Williamston Parks has been working on the matching funds for the grant to which they have already applied for. The committee is writing grants and are about halfway to their fundraising goal. The grant they have applied for has to be used by June 2019.

8d. Wildtype Inc. Riverbank Work:

Wildtype conducted a burn of the wildflower area on the riverbank.

8e. Upcoming Park Events: Thursday Concerts, ArtFest, etc.:

Chairman Wolf reminded everyone the Thursday Night Concert Series is still going on along with ArtFest on July 28th and National Night Out on August 7th.

8f. Howard Dahlstrom Park Sign Dedication:

The materials and costs were donated for the new sign at the park previously known as Deer Creek Park. A sign has been placed on the pavilion.

8g. Parks Master Plan:

Manager Schmidt reported the updating of the Parks Master Plan is coming due as it expires in 2019. He is looking into whether they can accomplish the update in house or will need outside assistance. This will be on upcoming agendas.

8h. McCormick Park Sandbox:

There is again a wasp issue in the McCormick Park sandbox. They are not threatening, but definitely look threatening. Manager Schmidt is looking into ways of treating the area to get rid of the wasps.

10. Audience Participation:

Max Donovan introduced himself as a candidate for the State House of Representatives. He explained his platform and ideas for improving Michigan if he is elected to office.

11. Member Comments:

Commissioner Pratt commented it was nice to have such a full meeting.

Commissioner Hall distributed a copy of the Michigan Trails Magazine.

Commissioner Nelson commented she still has three cans of gourmet nuts for sale for the Kiwanis fundraiser. She also commented National Night Out is on August 7th, from 3pm-9pm will have an emphasis on the military.

Chairman Wolf thanked Manager Schmidt for allowing them to have a meeting without any action items. The Depot Museum has a new War exhibit, paid for by the estate of Bill Turner. He thanked DPW for watering the flowers- they look great.

12. Adjournment:

Meeting Adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

***THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD.**

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk

Date Approved: _____