

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019  
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 Dan Rhines, Jeff Markstrom, Amie Brown, Kent Hall, and Tammy Scott. Absent: None.

Also present: City Manager Corey Schmidt, and City Deputy Clerk Barbara Burke.

**4. Approval of Agenda:**

Add under Discussion Items: 8g. Trent Allen Basketball Court Sign.

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Markstrom**, 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 Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2019:**

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Rhines**, to approve the Parks & Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of July 10, 2019 as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**7. Action Items:**

**7a. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair:**

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Hall**, to appoint Commissioner Wolf as Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

Motion by **Brown**, second by **Markstrom**, to appoint Commissioner Nelson as Vice Chair of the Parks & Recreation Commission. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

**8. Discussion Items:**

**8a. Volunteers/Playground Ribbon-cutting:**

There is a ceremony to mark the grand opening of the playground at Volunteers Community Park, 101 School Street, along with a ribbon cutting provided the Williamston Area Chamber of Commerce. This event is Wednesday, September 18, 2019, at 11:00 a.m.

**8b. Little Free Library donation:**

Chairman Wolf said the Little Free Library is now in McCormick Park by the tot lot and back from the sidewalk. He said members of the Friends of Williamston Parks will maintain it. It is registered with littlefreelibrary.org.

Commissioner Nelson said the Kiwanis will look into cleaning the rooftops on the equipment in the Tot Lot.

**8c. Tree plan for Volunteers Park? i.e. possible donations:**

Chairman Wolf said the City Engineer is reviewing the tree plan for this park when people want to donate a tree.

**8d. Summer review/comments/critique (concerts, special events, N Night Out, etc):**

Lots of events were held this summer and McCormick Park was busy. Manager Schmidt said there was one complaint about parking in the downtown area when there was a large event going on.

**8e. Possible Band Shell amplifier/speaker donation:**

Chairman Wolf said the Williamston Area Beautification Fund (WABF) organizes the summer concerts and the “pass the bucket” donations were very generous this year. He inquired about a possible sound system for the bandshell – information and ideas are needed. The idea of family movie nights in the Park is being discussed.

**8f. Recycling in Parks:**

Manager Schmidt said the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is working through its list of beautification improvements. The bases of the decorative lightposts are chipped and peeling and DTE is working on repainting these. There has been some discussion on a recycling bin in McCormick Park.

**8g. Trent Allen Basketball Court Sign:**

The Trent Allen basketball court sign was taken down and is being worked on to match the other signs. It will go up shortly.

**9. Staff Reports**

Manager Schmidt said the DDA parking lot project, behind the hardware store and The Bistro, should be completed this year.

The Middle Street/Mullet Street project is nearing completion.

**10. Audience Participation:**

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

**11. Member Comments:**

Commissioner Hall gave an update on Memorial Park. Volunteers from the Operating Engineers will be doing a training exercise working in the park. Stevens Construction will be moving the old storage shed.

Commissioner Brown said the Worship Festival held in McCormick Park was awesome.

Commissioner Markstrom said the Planning Commission did not meet this month. They are working on zoning ordinance amendments, focusing on the sign ordinance first. He inquired as to the status of the Library Storywalk. Manager Schmidt said Julie Chrisinske, Williamston Librarian, had to go back to the CADL Board with information and the Williamston Library has been closed for renovations.

Commissioner Nelson thanked everyone for their time and help with National Night Out. Commissioners said they were glad she was okay after her health scare.

Commissioner Scott said the Eagles have a lot going on – Trivia Night, Pie in the Face, and Jim LaClear’s memorial service on September 15 at 1:00 p.m. The Chamber has a Board meeting this Thursday, and there is a ribbon cutting for Volunteers Community Park on September 18 at 11:00 a.m.

Commissioner Rhines said there is an Annual Joint Meeting between the City and Williamstown Township on September 30, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Commissioner Wolf thanked the City for making the City look like a million bucks for all the events. The new pump in Old Mill Park is an improvement. He wondered why the main event band during the Worship Festival had a separate stage instead of using the bandshell. It was mentioned that it may have been in the band’s contract. He said there are a couple of great events in McCormick Park this weekend.

**12. Adjournment:**

Chairman Wolf adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:58 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Barbara J. Burke, City Deputy Clerk**

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_