

**CITY OF WIXOM
49015 PONTIAC TRAIL
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016**

ROLL CALL:

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

COMMISSION: Tom Menzies (Acting Chairman), Maryann Chupa, Tom Marcucci, Mark White, Mary Crause, Mary Walsh (6:08 p.m.) and Lisa Ferrari (6:17 p.m.)
ABSENT: John O'Brien (Excused) and Jason Martinez (Excused)
OTHERS: Deanna Magee (Community Services Director) and Nancy Fisher (Recording Secretary)

Determination of a Quorum:

A quorum of the Parks and Recreation Commission was present for this meeting.

Agenda:

No additions or changes were made to the agenda.

Approval of the April 11, 2016 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes:

MOTION and seconded by Commissioners Marcucci and Walsh to approve the April 11, 2016 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes.

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence to review.

Call to the Public:

There were no comments made by the public.

Unfinished Business:

There was no unfinished business listed on the agenda for this meeting.

New Business:

1. Review of 2016 Events
A. Founder's Day

Ms. Magee solicited feedback from the Commissioners about this event. She felt it went well and received positive comments. It was a beautiful day and there were approximately 35 cars. Every area of activity was busy, especially archery. Gibson House was open and the Historical Society will be conducting events there in the future. The City is making \$80,000-\$100,000 in Americans with Disabilities (ADA) improvements. The completed project will include ADA accessible doors and entrance ramps, improved porches, a walkway, garden and a gazebo. Commissioner Marcucci said that he was out of town. Commissioner Menzies said that it is a shame that more people do not show up.

B. Lite the Nite

Commissioner Walsh said that she attended but it was too busy for her since her arm is currently casted. She asked about whether the fireworks were different this year. Commissioner Menzies said they did not seem to go as high as previously. Ms. Magee noted that the fireworks were launched from Gunnar Mettala this year although attendees did not realize that. The display itself was 17 minutes long. Commissioner Walsh said they could be heard from her house. Ms. Magee said that they may use 5, 6 or 7 shells next year to reach even higher. There were probably 5,000- 8,000 people present. Staff will discuss options for next year of downtown again or going back to the park. It costs \$25,000-\$30,000 for Lite the Nite. Commissioner Chupa was glad that there were no fire issues due to our recent drought. Commissioner Menzies has not heard a lot of feedback about the event either way. Ms. Magee said the event will likely be kept where it is. The only option is to go back to Gilbert Willis. Commissioner Marcucci noted that there is music and entertainment at its current location. Ms. Magee noted that a clearance of 70 feet per diameter of the shells is required in all directions from the fireworks.

2. Upcoming Events**A. BBQ & Blues**

Ms. Magee noted that the BBQ & Blues is scheduled for next Thursday, July 21, 2016. They will be partnering with the Drafting Table who will be offering local beers.

B. Holiday Markt

Ms. Magee noted the Holiday Markt will take place the first weekend of December on Friday and Saturday and will be combined with the City's tree lighting. She will be having a pre-bid meeting tomorrow for the Markt's tents and equipment. The tents and equipment alone will cost \$13,000-\$14,000. She will also start working on soliciting vendors. Commissioner Menzies will ask Carmen from Oakland Community College's Culinary Arts program if he will be able to do the ice carving again this year. He confirmed with Ms. Magee that the budget for the ice carving will remain the same as for last year. Commissioner Menzies noted that last year they were able to move the ice carving over to the other side which afforded the presenter more interaction with attendees.

INFORMATION:**1. Michigan Airline Trailway Update**

Ms. Magee passed out a copy of the PowerPoint presentation regarding the Michigan Airline Trailway which will be presented by John Hensler, Trailway Manager, and Kristine Wiltfang, Oakland County Planner, to City Council on July 12, 2016. The Trailway is comprised of Wixom, Walled Lake and Commerce Township and is an extension of the existing Michigan Airline trail on the east side of the State. Mr. Hensler has a background in marketing and design and has already started working on a logo for the Trailway which Ms. Magee displayed, a track and locomotive with colors of air and sky and has designed a website. Acquisition of the Trailway should be completed within the next 2-3 weeks. Wixom is awaiting monies from Walled Lake and Commerce Township for the closing. There will be staging areas at Gunnar Mettala Park for access to downtown Wixom and at the Walled Lake depot. The Trailway Council will apply for

developmental grants from the MNRTF and MDOT. The maximum amount for the MNRTF per Development grants is \$300,000. Commissioner Menzies asked whether there are funds available to maintain the Trailway over time. Ms. Magee noted that each community is responsible for maintaining its own section of the Trailway. Wixom has allocated \$25,000 for trail maintenance annually in the City Budget. Commissioner Menzies noted that the Huron Valley Trail condition is pretty poor and encouraged Ms. Magee to contact the communities involved on the condition of their trail.

2. 2015-16 Event Sponsorship - \$43,850

Ms. Magee said that she will be sending out a fall sponsorship letter, at Commissioner Menzies' suggestion, in order to solicit year end monies hopefully for Fall Fest and Holiday Markt. Commissioner Ferrari inquired about the goal for event sponsorship and how the current funding compares to prior years. Ms. Magee said it has been fairly constant at \$40,000-\$45,000. However, that figure has moved up and down and was \$34,000 a couple years ago. She has been getting calls from people wanting to sponsor events and contribute monies. In years with higher donations, the City could use that money to improve and expand events.

Ms. Magee noted that the paving at Gilbert Willis and the Habitat parking have been completed. The habitat platform has also been repaired. She has received bids for tennis court repairs and that work will start next week at Gilbert Willis and Gunnar Mettala.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Marcucci noted that the Gilbert Willis basketball nets are old and deteriorating and require replacement.

STAFF COMMENTS:

There were no staff comments made.

ADJOURNMENT:

This meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was motioned and adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Nancy Fisher
Recording Secretary