

**CITY OF WIXOM
49015 PONTIAC TRAIL
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, JULY 9, 2018**

ROLL CALL:

The Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance:

- COMMISSION:** John O'Brien (Chairman), Maryann Chupa, Tom Menzies, Tom Marcucci and Mary Crause
- ABSENT:** Lisa Ferrari (Excused), Jason Martinez and Mary Walsh
- 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 9, 2018 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes:

MOTION and seconded by Commissioners Menzies and Chupa to approve the April 9, 2018 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes.

VOTE:

MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence to be reviewed.

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. OTC Playground Enhancement Fund – Set up meeting with Mr. Dungan

Ms. Magee noted that in April she informed the Commissioners that she would put \$25,000 in the capital budget to balance out the \$100,000 that Mr. Dungan wants to meet his goal. He still wants to donate \$10,000-\$15,000. He has donated \$77,000 so far and he is still onboard with the playground community build concept. She spoke to him because she wanted to get an outline from him for his upcoming class of students in September. Ms. Magee said that Mr. Dungan wants his OTC marketing students to be very active. His concept is that his students will get the information out, organize the community build and get the people there. They will be doing the marketing and press releases. Chairman O'Brien asked who will be handling the build and design. Ms. Magee said that Mr. Dungan wants his students to become involved in that. Commissioner Menzies noted that discounts are available if done before the end of the year. Can

Mr. Dungan's students get started in the spring? Will they build it in the fall? Ms. Magee said it will not be done this fall since it will take them some time to do. Research equipment, finalize a design, and organize the Community Build program. It would be delivered in the spring. It will be Mr. Dungan's spring class doing this. It is better off being done in the spring. She noted that Commissioner Menzies and Chairman O'Brien are on the playground committee. They will secure a timeline as to what Mr. Dungan's students will be doing and assist the students as they need. Chairman O'Brien said that Mr. Dungan may not be aware that if the order goes in by the end of the year there is a significant cost savings. Commissioner Menzies noted that they have already received quotes couple times.

2. Parks & Recreation Survey Results

Ms. Magee noted that the survey came out well and they had a good response. Residents are generally happy. However, they were least happy about the Holiday Markt, but many had not attended. There have been developments between the last Parks & Recreation Committee meeting and tonight. The Mayor met with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) on June 26, 2018 and noted the holiday events such as the Markt may be not occur as in the past. City Manager Brown just announced that the Holiday Markt and Treelighting events will be combined and will take place on Friday night on the South side of Pontiac Trail. The event will include many aspects from the Markt, such as the carolers, ice sculptures, carriage rides, beer tent with music and a real tree to light. He advised City Council of this in an email. Ms. Magee noted that Commissioner Menzies spearheaded this and brought it to the attention of the City Manager. It was also discussed in the budget meetings. Mayor Ziegler asked about it prior to the DDA meeting. She informed him of the Parks & Recreation Commission's recommendation from the April 9, 2018 meeting. The Mayor inquired about the cost. The topic came up in the DDA meeting and it was decided that it would be further discussed by City Council. There will be a big tent with beer, music and wine. Santa will be here for the kids and they will offer hayrides, carriage rides, Fire & Ice Display, carolers, and ice sculptures. The DDA will decorate the storefronts with holiday lights. They will also get a big holiday tree which was suggested by the residents in the survey responses. The event will start at 5 p.m. and end at 10 p.m. Kids will have their own activities. Commissioner Crause asked whether the German wine will be offered this year. Ms. Magee said probably not. She noted that they previously spent \$30,000 on the Markt. By combining the event, it will save \$13,000 this year with the new format. Commissioner Menzies noted that several of the residents who were surveyed had been to the event but more than half of them did not rate it as great. The vendors were all happy but they made out the best. There were so many gaps in the Markt, especially on Saturday.

3. Review of Events:

▪ **Founders Day**

Ms. Magee noted that it needs to be spruced up a bit and they will work on that.

▪ **City Appreciation Picnic**

Ms. Magee noted that she liked the format. There was alcohol and people stayed around longer. Commissioner Chupa noted that the raffle was nice.

▪ **Family Fun Night**

Ms. Magee said that it was well attended and good for families.

- **Lite the Nite**

Ms. Magee said that the fireworks were better than last year and there was no trouble. Commissioner Menzies said it was very busy. Chairman O'Brien noted that it seemed like there was a bigger police presence. Commissioner Marcucci said that the band was good.

4. Upcoming Events:

BBQ & Blues

Ms. Magee said it will be held a week from this Thursday on July 19th. They have a lot of barbecue vendors. Chairman O'Brien confirmed with Ms. Magee that the scholarships will be given out then.

- **Fall Fest**

- **Holiday Event Status**

Ms. Magee noted that this had already been discussed earlier.

INFORMATION:

1. Michigan Airline Update

<http://www.miairlinetrail.com>

Ms. Magee noted that John Hensler is the Trail Manager. The agenda meetings and updates are on the Trail's website referenced above. The Trailway Council applied for the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) grant and the City was given a letter of commitment. The local match is \$1.3 million and they have unofficially been notified they will receive it from a private donor which is great news. The original application included local funding of 20 percent. MDOT responded they required a higher local match which would be \$1.3 million. Chairman O'Brien and Commissioner Marcucci asked whether Walled Lake is trying to back out of its commitment. Ms. Magee said that Walled Lake has been challenging. They signed the agreement in 2009; however, they have been the hold up. They are still committed; however, there have been some conversations that they may no longer be a part of the Trailway. An individual, Mike Levin, donated private funds for all of the engineering work. That private donor gave \$1.3 million. Wixom has to apply because they are the only ones who are a municipality. Commerce Township cannot apply since it is a township. The applicant must be an Act 51 community so Wixom is doing the official application for all three communities. Chairman O'Brien mentioned that he saw the bridges up by M-5. Ms. Magee noted that the private funder is also funding \$900,000 for the next phase going west. It is DNR property that will be developed through to Milford. An individual connected with Oakland County has been writing the grants at no cost to Wixom. They have taken the lead and they have the planning and mapping resources. The City is trying to renovate the depot too.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Chairman O'Brien asked whether DPW has been notified to fill in the potholes in Gunnar Mettala Park. Ms. Magee noted that they have to borrow Milford's grader. Chairman O'Brien noted that it needs

asphalt. Ms. Magee said that it is asphalt from Maple Road. Ms. Magee will send a note. She realizes the entrance is getting bad.

Chairman O'Brien asked when the next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting is. Ms. Magee said it will be held on October 8, 2018.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Ms. Magee noted that she would like to come up with another event for the adults in the community. The staff wants to do a pet adoption day. She solicited ideas from the Commissioners. Commissioner Chupa asked when the event would be. Ms. Magee said in late fall or spring. She would like to replace the Holiday Markt with something. Commissioner Chupa suggested doing a pet adoption this year or next. She noted that it has never been done. Ms. Magee said she is not sure when it would be done but it could be scheduled for late September.

Ms. Magee noted that the entire City municipal parking lot is being redone. They will be going down 12 inches and replacing its base. The City Hall side will be done first prior to the upcoming primary election.

ADJOURNMENT:

This meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was motioned and adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Nancy Fisher
Recording Secretary