

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR THE
MEETING OF

May 11, 2011

Present: Rhonda Buck, Bob Cook, Megan Harley, Eric Hartfield, Jerry Hopkins, Dan Lavengood, Rod Van Oeveren, Doug Wustman

Absent: Jim Austin, Dave Skinner

Staff Present: Nancy Parent, Rebecca Rynbrandt

City Council Liaison Rich Pastoor

Call to order of the Parks and Recreation Commission – Chairman Lavengood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda – Motion was made by Rod Van Oeveren, seconded by Doug Wustman to approve the agenda. Carried.

Approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of the April 13, 2011 Meeting - Motion was made by Megan Harley, seconded by Doug Wustman to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2011 meeting. Carried.

Public Comment on Agenda Item (limit to 3 minutes) – None.

CDBG Federal Cuts, Impact to Parks & Recreation – Some of the CDBG money was slated to go toward the Pinery Park parking lot and bike path improvement project and also for security cameras at Hillcroft Park. We are expecting a 17% cut effective July 1 so the projects will have to be paid for out of the Parks and Recreation millage money or not completed. The CDBG Commission is meeting this month to review Becky's recommendations. The Parks and Recreation Commission may continue to recommend if desired. We are expecting additional cuts next year. Full funding for the parking lot and bike trail improvement has been planned for in the Parks and Recreation Department FY 2012 budget request.

Ferrand Park Master Planning – Becky reviewed the schedule that was in the Commission packet. The Commission will have a presentation in September by Becky. We are deed restricted on removal of trees. An arborist went through the park and said the trees are in good condition. We are getting a topo survey and identifying the property lines. Consultant will be looking at drainage, etc.

Capital Projects Update

Oriole Park Grand Re-Opening – This will be held May 26 with the ceremony beginning at 1:30 pm. Please be there at 1:00 if you can attend. Rod Van Oeveren is representing the Commission speaking with the mayor, and from Oriole Park Elementary we will have two children reading their essays and two others will hold the ribbon for the ribbon cutting. Kenny Westrate is organizing activity areas for the children.

WSC Phase II Renovation – The renovation is ongoing. We are adjusting the ceremony because of some issues that have come up causing delays (ref: cement). We are looking at holding it after July 4. The project must be completed in early July because we are having a fair for the Kent County Senior Millage at the center. We are expecting

thousands of people to attend the fair.

Housekeeping/Informational Items – The Maranda Park Party is on June 30. This is the only one being held in Kent County. We are expecting 8,000 to attend. Chairman Lavengood will be representing the commission at the party; however, everyone is encouraged to attend.

Commissioner Concerns and Suggestions – Doug Wustman asked if there was any discussion or anything in the master plan about developing Gezon Park because of the new GFS and YMCA going in. Becky explained that we have had preliminary conversations 2-3 yrs ago about Gezon Park with the YMCA regarding collaboration. We will work with GFS or the YMCA if they want to do any joint collaborations. GFS has in their plans to build a soccer field and a ballfield as part of their complex. We informed them that we are open to working with them. Becky discussed the agreement with SKRA at Gezon Park and some of the issues and restrictions we have.

Public Comment in General (Limit to 3 minutes) – None.

Motion to Adjourn the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting – Motion to adjourn was made by Rod Van Oeveren, seconded by Megan Harley. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Recorded by _____
Nancy Parent
Recording Secretary