

**CITY OF DEXTER  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 20, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:05 pm at the City Offices, 8123 Main Street.

**ROLL CALL**

The Commission members and staff introduced themselves and gave a few words about their background.

Commissioners Present: Becky Murillo, Randy Hermann (left at 7:55 pm), Toni Henkemeyer, Ellen Han, Katie Koch, John Coy, and Julie Knight

Other Present: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion by Hermann, Seconded by Henkemeyer to approve the minutes from November 18, 2014 as presented.

Motion Adopted

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion by Hermann, Seconded by Henkemeyer to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion Adopted

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**

**A. CHAIR**

5-H Coalition – Becky Murillo reported that she was not able to attend the 5-H meeting on January 13, but that the City did receive grant funding for the “Edison Street Play Ground.” Commission members posed questions to Becky about the playground and play structure relating to costs, timeline and construction. Becky stated that she believed the grant funds could be used for equipment purchases and that construction should begin by July 2015.

Becky also introduced the topic of SRSly Cinema and provided a description. SRSly Cinema was presented as a 10-week community-based outdoor film viewing experience. The Commission discussed possible locations for this event, including: Monument Park, Mill Creek Park, the side of the Fire Department building. Becky stated that Chelsea’s SRSly Cinema event had approximately 100 people. The Commission also expressed concern about competing with Sights and Sounds and the movie being kid-friendly. The Commission came to a consensus to contact Brian from Dexter Daze about purchasing a white screen, and that Saturday would be the best day of the week to host this type of event.

Becky was also contacted by a group that has formed to pursue the creation of a path from Chelsea to Dexter. She will be meeting with the group and will provide further updates to the Commission.

## **B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO**

Tree Board – John Coy reported that this is the Tree Board’s slow season. The Tree Board planted in the fall, and will meet in March to discuss spring planting. He also reported that the Board’s budget is in good shape and that their focus is on maintenance and their 5-year plan.

City Council – Julie Knight reported that the Election Commission has met and is making progress. The City is seeking responses to an RFP for Assessing Services, the deadline of which is January 26, 2015.

## **C. STAFF REPORT**

The Commission reviewed the staff report. Justin reported that the ice rink in Monument Park opened January 6 and that lights for the rink had been installed on January 14.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. 2015 – 2020 PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

Justin Breyer asked the Commission where it was in terms of discussing the Parks and Recreation Plan update. The Commission stated that the last items discussed were the public survey and approving the items for the CIP. Justin stated that he had reviewed the survey and that it received 78 responses, which is just fewer than 2% of the population of Dexter. The Commission requested that staff bring the results of the survey for the next meeting.

John Coy introduced discussing proposed projects with the public prior to the plan’s passage. The Commission discussed holding a public input meeting in late summer or fall.

Justin asked the Commission how they wanted to proceed with updating the plan. Commission members came to a consensus to review and update one section of the plan per meeting with the goal being to have the document ready for submission to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) by fall of 2015.

### **B. EDISON STREET PARK PLAY EQUIPMENT**

The Commission discussed the name of the park. Justin stated that the park was previously discussed under the name “Lion’s Park” due to its proximity to the existing Lion’s Park. Becky stated that there was no official name listed on the grant application to 5-H, so the name is up for discussion. The Commission discussed donations, naming rights and the possibility of holding a “Name the Park” contest.

The Commission discussed the costs of the play structure equipment. Justin reiterated that he and Becky scheduled a meeting with Matt Pegouskie from 5-H on Wednesday, January 21 and that the costs of the equipment would likely be discussed. Becky commented that Matt had forwarded the information for a play structure equipment company that produces “build your own” play structures at a cost less than other manufacturers.

The Commission came to a consensus that Dexter should have a community build day for the park. Becky stated that the City should be ready to break ground by July. Justin asked if there were major events in June or July that may conflict with this event, and Civil War Days was mentioned as being the second week of June.

Justin reported that he was developing a donation solicitation letter. The Commission discussed requesting donations and/or volunteers from the Knights of Columbus, the Lions, and Chelsea proving Grounds.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. DISCUSSION OF: PARK MAINTENANCE REQUESTS**

John Coy requested that staff provide an update on teh Community Park trail project at the next meeting.

### **B. RFP FOR RAIN GARDEN MAINTENANCE**

Justin introduced the need for professional maintenance on the City's rain gardens.

Motion by Coy, Seconded by Koch to approve the request that City staff search for a group or organization that can provide dedicated professional maintenance to the City's rain gardens.  
Motion Adopted

### **C. 2015 EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA**

The Commission discussed the date of the Easter Eggstravaganza. Aknowledging that Easter is April 5, the Commission came to a consensus that the event should be held on Saturday, April 4. Toni stated that she had purchased a bunny costume for last year's event, but that she would look for the Beatrix Potter costume that the Commission actually wanted. The Commission came to a consensus that it would need to start making decisions about this event at the next meeting.

The Commission requested that staff include statistics from last year's event with the next agenda packet.

### **CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Henkemeyer to adjourn at 8:28 pm

Justin Breyer  
Assistant to the City Manager