

DEXTER VILLAGE PARKS COMMISSION

August 21, 2012

Regular Meeting

Chair Brian Brassow called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. at the Village Offices, 8123 Main Street, 2nd Floor.

Present: Brian Brassow, Toni Henkemeyer, Joe Semifero, Becky Murillo

Absent: Randy Hermann, John Coy and Vacancy

Bishop and Dettling, staff also present.

Approval of the Minutes- Moved Henkemeyer, support Brassow to approve the June 19, 2012 minutes as amended. Voice Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried

Approval of the Agenda -

Moved Semifero, support Henkemeyer to approve the minutes as written.

Voice Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION - None

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

- A. Chair –
 - a. Thank you to those who attended the Mill Creek Park opening
 - b. Geocache Update – 75+ finds have been registered.
- B. Commissioners and Ex Officio
 - i. Ex Officio, Semifero reported on Cityhood petition deadline of August 27 and next steps, Northern United Brewing Company approval at 2319 Bishop Circle East, Consideration of a Stormwater Management Plan.
- C. Community Development Office Report – Report in packet additional information provided on:
 - a. Mill Creek Park construction update. Additional consideration to elimination of the stairway bike ramp. The Commission discussed the pros and cons of the ramp and the cost/benefit. The commission directed staff to review a credit with the contractor for eliminating the ramp given the limited population that it serves, potential trip hazards, the difficulty of use given the 70+ steps and the slopes. The Commission discussed that it may be easier to carry a bike or use the alternative routes. Staff will follow up with the contractor and consultant and report back to the commission.
 - b. Intern Project – Staff will provide the word document to the commission to help with the graphics since Albra (former intern) is no longer working for the village.
 - c. 5 Healthy Towns – Move More Subcommittee Volunteer – Donna Dettling was present at the meeting to present information on the Dexter Wellness Coalition and their initiatives. The Move More subcommittee is similar to the PaRC goals and they are in need of additional members. Donna Dettling will continue to keep the Commission informed about the needs and goals of the group.
 - d. Washtenaw County Segment D1 and HCMA Trail Update – Segment D1 will start in September 2012 and be completed prior to January 2013 if all goes as planned. HCMA will start their trail construction from the Subdivision Connector /B2B to Hudson Mills in January 2013 with a completion in summer 2013.
 - e. Eagle Scout Projects –
 - i. Community Park shelter – no updates
 - ii. Community Park landscape timbers – a scout is preparing his plan to compete installation of landscape timbers around the perimeter of some of the existing equipment.
 - iii. Mill Creek Park North – landscape timbers installed with donation from Comcast.
 - f. Bathrooms Downtown – Jake’s BBQ went out of business at 8050 Main Street. The Village Council has authorized staff to obtain quotes to renovate the Village owned building into public restrooms.
 - g. Nascar Green – The Village received a donation of 35 trees from Nascar Green as part of the Pure Michigan 400 held at MIS on August 19, 2012.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of: Village of Dexter Dog Park – The commission briefly discussed the project and the property on Dan Hoey Road. The Village Council is currently reviewing what to do with the house on the site. The PaRC decided to postpone further discussion until there is a better understanding of Council’s goals for the property.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Consideration of: Art Selection Committee recommendation for placement of art in Mill Creek Park – Heron – The Commission discussed concrete installation to be coordinated with Johnson Signs and pedestal installation, keeping heron at least 2 feet from the walk, locate temporarily to see if location is best. Moved Semifero, support Brassow to recommend approval of the permanent Heron art in Mill Creek Park.
Voice Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried
- B. Consideration of: Recommendation to the Village Council to adopt a Tobacco Free Parks Policy – The Commission discussed the policy, why and how it would be enforced, how sidewalks and street would be enforced. The Commission discussed that it is a policy and not an ordinance and that public health and education is the main goal. Moved Brassow, support Murillo to recommend that the Village Council adopt the Tobacco Free Parks Policy.
Voice Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried
- C. Discussion of: Bike Loan Program – The Commission discussed the possibilities of the program, how it would work, how much it would cost, longevity of bikes being stored outdoors, type of bikes, adult and kids bikes, loop that would create a desire to rent a bike, other communities have these programs for transportation needs and less for recreation needs. The Commission was supportive of the concept, but wasn't sure about the practicality. Donna Dettling from the 5H Move More Coalition would relay the message. No Action.
- D. Discussion of: Mill Creek Park Stairway Donation – The Commission has discussed offering the opportunity to residents, visitors and others to donate to the stairway under construction from Mill Creek Park to the Library and Farmer's Market. The Commission discussed various plaques that could be used and potential denominations. \$100-\$500 denominations were discussed depending on the cost of the plaque. Metal and plastic kick plates were also discussed. Staff will continue to research and bring additional information back to the Commission for consideration. No Action.
- E. Discussion of: Mill Creek Park Stone Based Kiosks – The Commission discussed the examples and materials included in the packet. The Commission suggested the 4 sided kiosk be green to match the green light poles and benches near the location and to have the 2 sided kiosk located near the bridge to be black to match the bridge and trash cans in Mill Creek Park behind the Fire Station. The Commission decided non-illuminated signs due to park hours being dawn to dusk. Staff will get additional information on materials, covering, sign materials, cost of replacing or changing and then provide additional information to the Commission. Staff will also work through the details with Washtenaw County and their contribution to the signs. Staff will also contact HRWC about their space on the sign highlighting the region's water trails. Mill Creek Park interpretive signage has been ordered, a contractor has been scheduled to install the pedestals and the signs should be ready in 4-6 weeks. Staff will send out an email to set up a meeting to walk the site to select final locations for the sign installation within the next few weeks.
- F. Election of Officers – Moved Henkemeyer, support Murillo to nominate Brian Brassow as Chair, Toni Henkemeyer as Vice Chair and John Coy as Secretary.
Voice Vote: Unanimous Motion Carried

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION - None

PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING

- A. Donation Guidelines and Volunteer Management Plan (TBD)
B. Mill Creek Park Update and Signage
C. Dog Park

ADJOURNMENT - Brassow considered the meeting closed at 9:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Filing Approved 9-18-12

Allison Bishop
Staff Liaison, Village of Dexter Parks Commission