

**CITY OF DEXTER  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 15, 2016**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:012 pm at the City Offices, 8123 Main Street.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Becky Murillo, Ray Tell, Michael Cavanaugh, and Toni Henkemeyer

Commissioners Absent: Ellen Han, John Coy

Other Present: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Motion by Henkemeyer, Seconded by Cavanaugh to approve the minutes from February 16, 2016.

Motion Adopted

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Motion Adopted

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**

None

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**

**A. CHAIR**

Becky Murillo reported that the 5-H Coalition would be starting a yoga class on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. She reported that the program would need a new name and still needs to get permits from the City. The program would run June through August.

**B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO**

Tree Board - None

Ex Officio - None

Art Selection – Toni Henkemeyer stated that there had been no meetings since she was appointed to the Committee. Justin Breyer stated that the meeting that was scheduled had to be cancelled due to weather, but that a new date was going to be selected.

**C. STAFF REPORT**

Justin Breyer submitted his report per the packet. He reported that the Parks and Recreation Master Plan had been submitted and that the City received a response from the State that the Plan was well received.

He also reported that he had spoken with the Department of Public Works and the ice rink would be coming down within the next two weeks.

Justin Breyer also reported that the Planning Commission set a public hearing date for the Capital Improvements Plan and that they had removed the language regarding the Community Park path extension from the Plan. He suggested that if any members of the Parks and Recreation Commission had strong feelings about the project that they attend the next Planning Commission meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. DISCUSSION OF: FIRST STREET PARK PLAN**

Justin Breyer reported that at the last City Council goal setting session meeting City Council had discussed the First Street Park shelter and was interested in seeing a strategic plan for the Park before approving the expenditure for the structure. Mr. Breyer also stated that one of the ideas to come out of the meeting was to engage a local planning student to develop the plan as a part of a class project. The Commission discussed the timing of the project, how it would affect stakeholders, and potential costs. The Commission provided consensus that staff move forward with recruiting a local planning student to develop the Plan.

### **B. DISCUSSION OF: MILL CREEK PARK PHASE 2**

Justin Breyer reported that the City received news that the Washtenaw Area Transportation Study (WATS) would be removing the Mill Creek Park Phase 2 Trail project from their Transportation Improvements Program (TIP) plan. This means that the City would no longer be receiving the \$180,000 grant. Mr. Breyer also reported that Paul Evanoff would be moving forward with the wetland delineation project through the summer and that several local organizations would be applying for Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund grants. The Commission discussed the consequences of this information and provided consensus to not apply for the MDNR Trust Fund grant in 2016.

### **C. DISCUSSION OF: HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

Justin Breyer presented information related to Americans with Disabilities Act standards for playgrounds. The Commission discussed how this information could be used to make decisions on current and proposed parks projects. The Commission discussed the status of a handicap accessible picnic table that used to be located in Mill Creek Park. Mr. Breyer indicated that there was discussion at the Farmers Market and Community Garden Oversight Committee meeting about interest in locating the handicap accessible table. The Commission discussed decorative concrete and brick types and how they relate to ADA accessibility. The Commission then discussed having an evaluation conducted about ADA accessibility of existing parks.

### **D. DISCUSSION OF: PARKS AND RECREATION BUDGET**

The Commission discussed a variety of budget-related topics and projects. This conversation included:

- Annually purchasing a new liner for the winter ice rink. Moving the ice rink to Mill Creek Park and having it close after dusk. No new lights should be purchased for the ice rink;
- Researching the port-o-potty contract;
- Not engaging SmithGroupJJR for Task 3 of their proposal. Seek a quote from PlantWise or other groups for a plan and plantings along the hill;
- Include \$3,000 for pedestrian counter installations;

- Include \$10,000 for ADA improvements. This could also be used as a grant match for a larger ADA-related project.
- \$15,000 to implement a plan for First Street Park. This may include installation of a shelter and signage improvements.
- \$2,500 for PlantWise maintenance of the rain gardens along Jeffords;
- \$3,000 for benches at Lion's Park

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Henkemeyer to recommend to City Council the Parks and Recreation budget for 2016-2017 as discussed.

Ayes: Murillo, Henkemeyer, Cavanaugh, Tell

Nays: None

Motion Adopted

## **OLD BUSINESS**

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

None

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

None

### **PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Henkemeyer to adjourn at 9:20 pm

Motion Adopted

Justin Breyer

Assistant to the City Manager