

CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, November 17, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94101503664>

Dial-In Information

888 788 0099, 877 853 5247 US Toll-free

Meeting ID: 941 0150 3664#

A G E N D A

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Becky Murillo - Chair

Toni Henkemeyer – Vice Chair

Scott Bell – Ex Officio

Anne Marques

Ronald Miller

Joanne Wagner

Jacob Young

Student Representatives: Adam Hauser

Natalie Walton

Nicholas Williamson

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – OCTOBER 20, 2020 AND NOVEMBER 17, 2020

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

5. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

6. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. Chair

a. Huron Waterloo Pathways Initiative

B. Commissioners and Ex Officio

a. Tree Board

b. City Council

c. Art Selection Committee

d. Student Representatives

C. Staff Report

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of: 2021 – 2026 Master Plan Update

B. Discussion of: Mill Creek Park Beavers

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion of: Park Maintenance Requests

9. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

10. PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

11. ADJOURNMENT

**CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2020**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:03pm via Zoom Meetings.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Murillo, Bell, Marques, Miller, Wagner, and Young

Commissioners Absent: Henkemeyer

Student Representatives Present:

Student Representatives Absent: Hauser, Walton, and Williamson

Others Present: Justin Breyer, City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Miller; Seconded by Marques to approve the minutes from September 15, 2020 as presented.

Unanimous Voice Vote
Motion Adopted

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Murillo; Seconded by Bell to approve the agenda as presented.

Unanimous Voice Vote
Motion Adopted

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. CHAIR

None

B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO

Tree Board – None

City Council – Scott Bell reported that Courtney Nicholls, City Manager is resigning to take a position elsewhere.

Art Selection Committee – None

Student Representatives – None

C. STAFF REPORT

Justin Breyer submitted his report per the packet.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION OF: 2021-2026 MASTER PLAN UPDATE

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the following related to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

- The Commission discussed each Action Plan project of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

B. DISCUSSION OF: DOG WASTE STATIONS

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the dog waste stations:

- Looking into the number of bags used
- Peace Park is facing becoming a dumping ground
- Peace Park, Monument Park,
- Co-locate doggie pots with trash cans
- Reach out to East Grand Rapids about dog waste bag containers

OLD BUSINESS

None

PARKS MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

- Dog Waste Stations

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Dog Waste Stations
- Master Plan

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Bell adjourn the meeting at 8:47pm.

Unanimous Voice Vote
Motion Adopted

Justin Breyer
City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager

**CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 10, 2020**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:03pm via Zoom Meetings.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present:

Murillo – Present virtually from Dexter, MI
Bell– Present virtually from Dexter, MI
Marques – Present virtually from Dexter, MI
Miller – Present virtually from Strausburg, PA
Wagner – Present virtually from Dexter, MI
Young – Present virtually from Nashville, TN

Commissioners Absent: Henkemeyer

Student Representatives Present:

Student Representatives Absent: Hauser, Walton, and Williamson

Others Present: Justin Breyer, City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Marques; Seconded by Bell to approve the agenda as presented.

Unanimous Voice Vote
Motion Adopted

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. CHAIR

None

B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO

Tree Board – None

City Council – Scott Bell reported that next week's Parks meeting will be his last meeting.

Art Selection Committee – None

Student Representatives – None

C. STAFF REPORT

Justin Breyer submitted his report per the packet. He provided the following updates:

- The November Election

NEW BUSINESS

A. CONSIDERATION OF: SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR THE 2021-2026 MASTER PLAN

The Parks and Recreation Commission discussed the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Public Input Meeting:

Motion by Murillo; Seconded by Bell to set the public comment period and public hearing date.

Ayes: Bell, Marques, Young, Wagner, Miller, and Murillo

Nays: None

Absent: Henkemeyer

OLD BUSINESS

None

PARKS MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

- Trash cans for new section of Trail
- People putting bicycles up against the fence along Baker
- Signage at Central St. Trail
- Feature on website – search by activity, size of park, what amenities are there

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Parks and Recreation Master Plan

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Young adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm.

Unanimous Voice Vote

Motion Adopted

Justin Breyer

City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager

STAFF REPORT

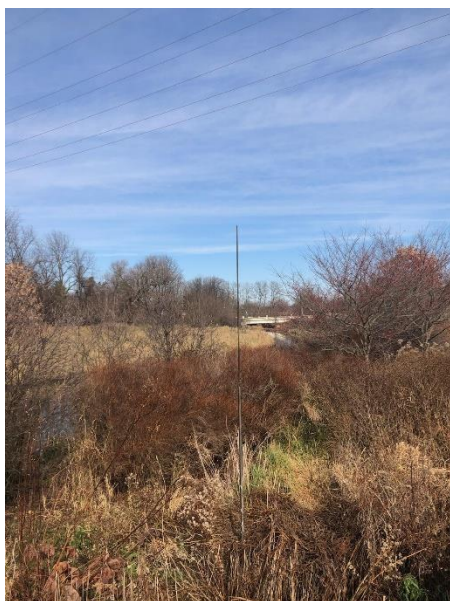
To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk

Date: November 14, 2020

Mill Creek Sculptures Vandalism

Staff was notified on Saturday, November 11th that sculptures and signs located in Mill Creek Park were vandalized. Staff will be working with the Sheriff's Office, the City's insurance, and the sculptors regarding next steps.



Mill Creek Park Beavers

Staff was notified by Bill Phillips of the Ann Arbor Trout Unlimited that beavers have taken residence in Mill Creek Park South. Apparently the beavers are working to dam the small tributary that feeds into Mill Creek on the opposite side of the Creek from the new trail segment.

Virtual Meetings

On Friday, October 16th Governor Whitmer signed a bill to permit virtual meetings of public bodies through December 31, 2020. Prior to this bill, the Governor's executive orders relating to virtual meetings had been deemed invalid by the Supreme Court.

Mill Creek Park Slope Bid

The City released a bid for improvements to the Mill Creek Park Slope. At the deadline, the City received 1 bid from Anglin Civil, which was approximately \$60,000 more than the engineer's estimate. Staff spoke with Paul Evanoff and representatives of SmithGroup regarding options to achieve a better bid result. Through the discussion, feedback on the bid documents and process was provided, and staff will be re-releasing a set of updated bid specifications later this month.

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk

Re: Discussion of: 2021 – 2026 Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Date: November 14, 2020

As discussed at previous meetings, the 2016- 2021 Parks and Recreation Master Plan is coming due for an update with the Plan expiring on December 31, 2021. In order to have full overlap of current approved plans, the 2021-2026 Plan will need to be submitted to the MDNR by February 1, 2021. Staff has provided a draft timeline of work for the 2021-2026 update.

A full compiled version of the draft Master Plan is available on the City's website at:
https://www.dextermi.gov/Departments_Services/Parks_and_Trails/11-8-20-DRAFT-2021-2026-ParksandRecreationMasterPlan.pdf

The Parks and Recreation Commission is asked to take some time to review the draft plan and be prepared to discuss the Plan at the regular Tuesday, November 17th meeting.

Submittal Requirements

- Two forms of public input
- Plan submitted to State by February 1st of the year applying. This is a change from 2016 where the application deadline was March 1st.
- Draft Plan must be available for 30-days for public review and comment, then hold a well-publicized public hearing
- Resolution by the Parks and Recreation Commission must come after the 30-day review period and before adoption by City Council

Updated Draft Timeline

- ~~Tuesday, October 13, 2020: Public Input Meeting~~
- ~~Tuesday, October 20, 2020: Parks and Recreation Commission Reviews Public Input and Action Plan sections~~
- ~~Tuesday, November 10, 2020: Parks and Recreation Commission hold Special Meeting. Commission reviews complete draft plan, sets public hearing date, and sets 30-day public comment period for 11/15/20 – 12/15/20.~~
- ~~Sunday, November 15, 2020: Notice of Public Comment and 30-Day Public Review Period published in City's paper of record.~~
- Tuesday, December 15, 2020: Parks and Recreation Commission holds public hearing, adopts resolution of adoption, and recommends adoption of document to City Council
- Monday, December 28, 2020: City Council adopts plan
- Week of January 4, 2020: Adopted Master Plan forwarded to County Planning Agency and Regional Planning Agency and submit plan to MDNR
- February 1, 2021 – Deadline to submit plan to MDNR



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

8140 Main Street • Dexter, Michigan 48130-1092 • (734) 426-8303 • Fax (734) 426-5614

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk

Re: Discussion of: Mill Creek Park Beavers

Date: November 14, 2020

Staff was notified that beavers have taken residence in Mill Creek Park. These beavers have begun to dam a tributary feeding Mill Creek, threatening planted trees and shrubs. Attached to this memo are e-mails between staff, Bill Phillips of Ann Arbor Trout Unlimited, and the Michigan DNR.

As indicated by the DNR, one option is to hire a trapper, with trapping season being November 10 – April 23rd. The removal of a dam may require an EGLE permit.



Justin Breyer <jbreyer@dextermi.gov>

We are doing drone surveys of the tributary that runs into Mill Creek where the beaver dam is located.

1 message

William Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>
To: jbreyer@dextermi.gov

Fri, Oct 23, 2020 at 10:46 AM

Justin,

We are checking out the tributary to see the extent of the water impoundment created by the dam.

I will send you a copy of the pictures and video that helps us know what we are dealing with as soon as we have completed it our survey.

You have DNR Wildlife Biologist Dennis Tison's response to my questions about the beaver dam.

I want to make sure that it is ok with you that we can protect the trees and shrubs that we planted from the beaver predation with poultry fencing secured to rebar before we purchase the poultry fencing and rebar.

We will make it as invisible as possible.

We will remove the rebar and fencing once it is no longer needed.

Please advise me that it is ok for us to use the poultry fencing and rebar to protect the trees and shrubs that we planted to help stabilize the bank in Mill Creek Park.

Thank you Justin!!!
Bill

Sent from my iPhone



Justin Breyer <jbreyer@dextermi.gov>

Mr. Denny Tison Michigan DNR Wildlife Biologist.

5 messages

William Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>

Wed, Oct 21, 2020 at 9:44 AM

To: TisonD@michigan.gov

Cc: Bill Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>, jbreyer@dextermi.gov, John Bauman <BaumanJ@michigan.gov>

Denny Tison, Wildlife Biologist, Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

John Bauman has referred me to you as the person to contact regarding our Ann Arbor Chapter of Trout -Unlimited Michigan Department of Natural Resources - Michigan Trout Unlimited Staff - Mill Creek Brown Trout Research Project in Dexter Michigan's concern about beaver activity in a Mill Creek tributary in Mill Creek Park in Dexter, Michigan.

We are working on our Mill Creek Bank Stabilization Project that includes having planted over 150 trees and shrubs along the west bank of Mill Creek in Mill Creek Park to help stabilize a section of the bank and create some shade and and cover for fish and aquatic insects of Mill Creek in Mill Creek Park.

An unexpected problem from beaver damage to our plantings has come up.

We are working to protect our plantings with rebar supported chicken wire enclosures.

Another potential problem has appeared with the beaver constructing a new dam that is reducing water flow through a tributary that flows into Mill Creek approximately 1/4 mile or less from our tree and shrub plantings.

The dam gets higher, wider, and longer daily. The pond behind it grows deeper, longer and wider daily, threatening to kill/drown groups of trees within Mill Creek Park in Dexter Michigan.

The dam is also creating new, steadily flowing, runoff from leaks in the dam impoundment and elevated water flowing around the dam that flow into Mill Creek that looks like it will contribute to erosion of a section of the west bank of Mill Creek Park.

We are in process of creating the rebar supports for chicken wire and cutting the chicken wire to the appropriate lengths to create enclosures to protect our bank stabilization tree and shrub plantings from beaver predation.

I have asked two drone operators to help us define the extent of the dam length and size and consequent impoundment size created by the dam(s) with aerial photographs and video.

We at the AATU Mill Creek Brown Trout Research Project are asking for your evaluation of our beaver situation and suggestions for dealing with the beaver activity in Mill Creek Park.

I am sending a cc to Justin Breyer Assistant City Manager at the Dexter City Office and the Dexter Parks and Recreation Department. Please include Justin in your response.

I would be pleased to take you on a tour of the area (masked and socially distanced of course)(Waders are highly recommended)

Sincerely, and hoping to hear from you soon!!!

Bill Phillips
Team Leader
AATU Mill Creek Brown Trout Research Project
Cell/Text :(734) 883-5738
Email: greyghostbp@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

Justin Breyer <jbreyer@dextermi.gov>

Wed, Oct 21, 2020 at 9:49 AM

To: Courtney Nicholls <cnicholls@dextermi.gov>

Justin Breyer, MPA, MiPMC
City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager
City of Dexter
8123 Main St., 2nd Floor
Dexter, MI 48130
Office: (734) 426-8303
Direct: (734) 580-2234
[Quoted text hidden]

Tison, Dennis (DNR) <TisonD@michigan.gov> Wed, Oct 21, 2020 at 3:07 PM
To: William Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>
Cc: "jbreyer@dextermi.gov" <jbreyer@dextermi.gov>, "Bauman, John (DNR)" <BaumanJ@michigan.gov>

What can be done with the beavers and dam really comes down to who owns the property and if they are onboard with removal of the beavers and the dam. The easiest method to address this situation is for the property owner to give permission to a licensed trapper to harvest beavers from this location when the trapping season for Unit C opens up on Nov 10 - April 23rd. If they need a trapper contact the Michigan Trappers and Predator Callers to see if they have anyone interested in trapping the beaver.

The removal of the dam can be tricky landowner must give permission for removal and a EGLE permit may be needed depending on the size of the wetland. I would suggest contacting EGLE about this once the size of the dam and wetland it created is known.

IF you have any other questions feel free to contact me.

Thanks

Dennis Tison, Wildlife Biologist
Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Waterloo Wildlife Office
13578 Seymour Rd
Grass Lake, MI 49240
Office Ph (517) 522-4097

Deer hunting seasons are underway! Get the latest updates on deer season dates, regulation changes, deer check station locations and more at Michigan.gov/Deer.

-----Original Message-----

From: William Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 21, 2020 9:45 AM
To: Tison, Dennis (DNR) <TisonD@michigan.gov>
Cc: Bill Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>; jbreyer@dextermi.gov; Bauman, John (DNR) <BaumanJ@michigan.gov>
Subject: Mr. Denny Tison Michigan DNR Wildlife Biologist.

CAUTION: This is an External email. Please send suspicious emails to abuse@michigan.gov
[Quoted text hidden]

Justin Breyer <jbreyer@dextermi.gov> Thu, Oct 22, 2020 at 9:08 AM
To: "Tison, Dennis (DNR)" <TisonD@michigan.gov>
Cc: William Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>, "Bauman, John (DNR)" <BaumanJ@michigan.gov>

Thank you for the information on the beavers Dennis. And thank you for following-up on this Bill.

Justin Breyer, MPA, MiPMC
City Clerk and Assistant to the City Manager
City of Dexter
8123 Main St., 2nd Floor
Dexter, MI 48130
Office: (734) 426-8303

Direct: (734) 580-2234

[Quoted text hidden]

William Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>
To: jbreyer@dextermi.gov
Cc: Bill Phillips <greyghostbp@gmail.com>

Thu, Oct 22, 2020 at 11:56 AM

Justin,

This is the response of Dennis Tison, the DNR Wildlife Biologist for Washtenaw County to my request for advice regarding our current issues with the new beaver dam in the tributary into Mill Creek in Mill Creek Park.

This is also to inform and update you about our current situation regarding the new beaver dam on the West Bank of Mill Creek in Mill Creek Park as you requested.

Please let me know if you will want any additional updates!!!

Thank you for all of your support with our Mill Creek Brown Trout Research Project that now includes our Bank Stabilization Project on the west bank of Mill Creek in Mill Creek Park!!!

Please contact me if you have any questions!!!

Sincerely,

Bill Phillips
Team Leader:
AATU Mill Creek Brown Trout Research Project
Cell/Text:(734) 883-5738
Email: greyghostbo@gmail.com
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

[Quoted text hidden]