

**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

Minutes of March 13, 2003

Present:                    Larry Jose, member                    Jeff Stewart, member  
                                  Janice Zikakis, member                Orestes Kaltsounis, member  
                                  Ida Edmunds, member                  John Goetz, member  
                                  Kathleen Fejes, member                Meaghan Kovacs, member  
                                  Tom Krent, member                    Jeff Biegler, staff  
                                  Stuart Alderman, staff                 Carol K. Anderson, staff

Absent:                  Doug Bordas, Deanna Ned

Visitors:                Cindy Pennington, Gary Chamberlain, John Hug

A motion by John Goetz, supported by Jan Zikakis, that the minutes from February 6, 2003 be approved as submitted.

Ayes: All                    Nays: None  
MOTION CARRIED

**New Business**

A. John Hug, Fitness Coordinator - John has been with the City for one year and is in charge of the fitness room. He's started many new programs and is working with the Detroit Medical Center to establish a Wellness Center at the Community Center.

B. Gateways to City of Troy - Cindy Pennington, from the Planning Commission spoke regarding establishing signs at key entrances to Troy. DDA is interested in a 50-50 match and the possibility of grant money for this project will be explored.

C. Golf Course Name - "The Sanctuary" is the leading candidate for the Section 1 Golf Course.

D. Budget - The budget is still in review by Assistant City Manager, Mr. Lamerato, and will be ready for discussion at the April meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

A. Aquatic Center Rates - City Council approved the Park Boards' recommendation for the Aquatic Center rates except for the first family member season pass rates for residents, non-resident employees and non-residents. The first family member rate was set at ten times the daily admission rate. The approved first person rates are \$70, \$85, and \$97.50 for first person resident, first person non-resident employee and first person non-resident.

B. Skate Park - City Council will revisit the issue of funding for the Skate Park. Staff has met with two individuals to discuss the possibility of a City/Private individual partnership for an indoor facility. One was not interested in building the facility on City property but would manage it for the City and the other decided he could not build a facility on his property.

C. Cricket Update - The Cricket participants have indicated they will contribute to development of the Cricket field at the Nelson Drain site. In addition, they will ask surrounding businesses to use their parking lot. The contribution they will make will be in building bleachers, trash/litter control on the site and field preparation.

D. Park Planning Meeting - The April Park Board meeting will be a week earlier, April 3, and at an earlier time, 7 p.m. The budget will be reviewed first and then the park designers from M. C. Smith will be here to get input from the Park Board on the park sites.

**Member Comments**

Orestes Kaltsounis received a comment from a Council member that the department is getting too big. Discussion about this comment included the desirability of a good Parks and Recreation Department and the contribution it makes to quality of life in the community.

**Staff Reports**

A. Directors Report - A study session was held regarding the recreation program costs. The recreation division is budgeting programs to cover their direct costs. Indirect costs are not included in the fees. It is proposed that the current subsidy remain unchanged. Park operations are excluded from this except for athletic field maintenance. Minutes of the meeting indicate concurrence with the managers challenge for the recreation division to maintain the current subsidy of \$2,705,000.00.

The department has added a part-time grant writer to our staff. She is writing an application for partial funding (50-50 match) for the additional nine-hole disc golf course and for pathways at Raintree Park. Approval for the grant application is needed from City Council.

A motion by Tom Krent, supported by Orestes Kaltsounis, to recommend approval of the recreation grant application for an additional nine holes to the disc golf course and pathways at Raintree Park.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

B. Recreation Report - The Community Center dedication and open house was a success. The senior store, Creative Endeavors, opened on March 8, the day of the open house. There were over 80 sales that day.

The teen room grand opening was March 14. Teen volunteers will staff it. There is a game cube, big screen TV, pool table, air hockey table and foosball table in the room.

Online registration software is ordered. The target date to have it up and running is by fall registration.

C. Parks Report - Jeff distributed a flyer about a public meeting on the Emerald Ash Borer problem for March 26. Six counties have been quarantined for this problem.

Shelter reservation day is April 7, 2003.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Williams