

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

A regular meeting of the Troy Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held Thursday, September 25, 2008 at the Troy Community Center. Chairman, Tom Krent called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Gary Hauff, member Pauline Noce, member  
Rusty Kaltsounis, member Kathy Fejes, member  
Tom Krent, member Meaghan Kovacs, member  
Stuart Redpath, member Jeff Stewart, member  
Stuart Alderman, staff Carol K. Anderson, staff

Absent: Tod Gazetti, Jan Zikakis, Divya Subramanian.

**Resolution # PR - 2008 - 09 - 09**

Moved by Fejes  
Seconded by Hauff

RESOLVED, that the minutes from March 27, 2008 are approved as submitted.

Yes: All  
Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED

**New Business**

- A. Legal Update – The City Attorney, Lori Bluhm, was unable to attend the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting. She is planning to attend the November meeting to review the open meetings act and the duties of this board.
- B. Trails Masterplan RFP – Recently a request for proposal was sent out for a Masterplan to design a trails/pathway system throughout the City. The proposals are due by October 15, staff will review the proposals and make a recommendation for award.
- C. Raintree Park Path – A new pathway was installed in Raintree Park this past spring. It is a one mile path around the park. One resident has expressed opposition to the path so a berm and landscaping will be installed. The disc golf course at that park will be redesigned in order to accommodate the new pathway.
- D. Troy Youth Football Field Usage – A soccer field at Firefighters Park was redesigned for Troy Youth Football use. Troy Youth Football is a private, citizen run group that is an extension of Parks and Recreation. The Parks and Recreation department supplies the fields and maintenance of the fields while these groups take care of registration, provide insurance certificates, scheduling of games and officials etc. These groups also pay 40% of the field maintenance costs.

**Old Business**

- A. Nature Center Deer – There was an article in the Fall Troy Today regarding the deer population at the Nature Center. So far there have been approximately 20 responses of which most were in favor of a deer management plan. More public education will be done before any plan is implemented.

**Member Comments**

Meaghan Kovacs had three suggestions to offer for consideration.

1. Giving the child of a parent that volunteers to coach a youth program the program without cost. Ms. Anderson explained that it would mean all the other children would pay more for that program.
2. Having a wait list for each school so that a child enrolling late can be on their neighborhood team. Mr. Alderman explained that immediately following the deadline teams are formed. If a parent enrolls a child after the deadline, they are not guaranteed a spot on their neighborhood team but they are put on a waitlist and given the first team available to play on.
3. Creating a pass which would incorporate unlimited use of fitness classes. Ms. Anderson explained that we have contractors that are not employees so they are paid on a per student basis. Secondly, for those patrons that only want to use one feature of the fitness area or will only take a class on certain days of the week, they should not have to pay a part of everything else. We do offer a reduced price for patrons with a pass to the Community Center.

Rusty Kaltsounis asked if there was a park in the area of Livernois and Crooks and Square Lake and South Blvd. North Glen park exists in this area but is largely undeveloped.

**Staff Reports**

- A. Directors Report – Troy Daze was canceled due to inclement weather. The revenues vs. expenses has not been calculated as of yet. Damage to the park was less than in previous years. Park Board members asked for a report on revenue/expenses of the festival.

Golf – The weather in April, May and June did not help with rounds at the golf courses. August had the highest number of rounds at Sanctuary Lake. Staff will continue marketing Sanctuary Lake in order to raise awareness of the golf course.

Aesthetic improvements are being made to Sylvan Glen at the corner of Square Lake Road and Rochester Road. This is a high traffic corner and improving this area gives Sylvan Glen a better identity.

**Resolution # PR 2008 – 9 – 10**

Moved by: Hauff

Seconded by: Fejes

Resolved, that the October meeting is canceled unless an issue arises which necessitates a meeting. The next meeting will be November 20.

Yes: All

No: None

MOTION CARRIED

- B. Recreation Report – the summer season saw the registration numbers for Sports camps and other popular camps down slightly.

The Aquatic Center got off to a slow start due to the weather in the spring. Overall attendance was 3,000 less than last season and revenues were down \$3600 from last year. Not as many season passes were sold however the daily pass attendance was up. Swim lessons saw an increase of approximately \$4,000 over last year.

A new promotional item, a coloring book, has all our facilities in it.

The Nature Center has a new mastodon dig exhibit. Children can walk through the rib cage and there are real fossil bones buried so that kids can dig up the bones. There is also an aqua wall which will house all the aquariums for display of the animals.

Community Center hours will be reduced as of October 6. On Saturdays, the Community Center front desk will close at 1 pm and during the week the front desk will close at 9 pm. The savings will be more than \$10,000 per year. The meeting rooms and recreational area will still be open until 10:30 pm.

The Fitness room will shut down for one week while new flooring is installed. Some equipment will be moved to the cardio rooms and a portion of the gym.

New wallcoverings were installed over the summer in the banquet and fitness areas.

- C. Parks Report – The solar house grand opening will be Friday, October 3 at 1 pm. On October 4, there will be an open house with tours and demonstrations. We will begin using the solar house for various programs as soon as training is complete.

There is a new shelter in the green space at the northeast corner of the Community Center. This area will have a walking path and gardens.

**Resolution # PR – 2008 – 09 – 11**

Moved by Redpath  
 Seconded by Fejes

RESOLVED, that absent members are excused.

Yes: All  
 No: None  
 MOTION CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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Tom Krent, Chairman

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Mary Williams, Recording Secretary