

## PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

A regular meeting of the Troy Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Troy Community Center, room 504.

Steve Toth called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

Present: Steve Toth, Gary Hauff, Jeff Stewart, Janice Zikakis, Orestes (Rusty) Kaltsounis, Julia (Judy) Baker, Elaine Bo, Brian Goul, Kurt Bovensiep, Elizabeth Slifkin (student representative)

Absent: Tim Mcgee, Laurie Huber

Visitors: Alyssa Firth, Janeen and Frank Urban, Liyun Zheng, Wenbo Zhang, Xiaoying Guo, Wen You, Fan Rong, and Qin Liu.

Resolution # PR - 2015 - 04 - 001

RESOLVED, that the addendum to the minutes of February 19, 2015 are approved as submitted.

Yes: 6

No: 0

MOTION CARRIED

RESOLVED, that the minutes of April 16, 2015 are approved as submitted.

Yes: 6

No: 0

MOTION CARRIED

### I. New Business

#### A. Election of Officers –

- Discussion of appointing new board chair and having elections at the November meeting.

#### B. Badminton –

- Janeen Urban spoke for the group of visitors regarding the time allowed for badminton in the gym. She stated that they would like to see the time allowed be extended for one hour due to there being more badminton players than basketball.
- Elaine Bo explained that staff takes a count of those playing pickleball, basketball, and badminton, and that they are working around the needs of those groups.
- Brian Goul noted that he has not heard of their concerns since being in the current position and that he would look into it.
- Rusty Kalstounis stated that this is a management issue not board member issue.
- Kurt Bovensiep asked the visitors if badminton could be played on synthetic turf. Their reply was that it would be difficult.

## II. Old Business

### A. Trails and Pathways –

- Kurt Bovensiep gave a report on the forum held August 20<sup>th</sup>. Based on 54 participants attending the forum and online comments, there is a split of 60/40 with 60% not in favor of trails being built behind or next to their property. Due to the split the city is looking at alternative routes and will be holding another forum on October 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.
- There were 2400 letters sent to homes that would be affected by current planned route, directing them to [troy.mi.gov/troytrails](http://troy.mi.gov/troytrails) to leave comments.
- Changing the route could affect the \$600,000 grant from MDOT.
- The three routes are available to view on the website.
- Kurt Bovensiep encouraged park board members to get Community involvement. He would like to see more of the community at the forum.
- The results of the forum will be brought the committee for approval and then it will be taken to council.
- Kurt Bovensiep has had discussions with Friends of the Clinton River Trail in regard to homeowners that have been affected by the trail.
- Current proposed route will run alongside current paths, and 150Ft behind property lines.

### B. Dog Park -

- There is progress on the development of the Dog Park.
- A Planned Unit Development between the City of Troy and Stonecrest is being discussed.
- Stonecrest is developing a congregate care facility on the south side of the Dog Park. This facility will be a 100 unit assisted living facility.
- The developer will be responsible for building a parking lot, pond, fountain, road entrance, and sidewalk. The City would only have to install fencing and restroom.
- The wetland will remain intact and retention pond will be shared by the City and developer.
- There are discussions of the naming of the Park.
- If all goes well, development of the Dog Park will take place in the spring of 2016.

### C. Member Comments –

- Steve Toth stated that as an active user of the Community Center he appreciated the three day shutdown for the cleaning of the equipment. He also noted the gym floor looks great re-finished. Elaine Bo also mentioned it had been re-taped and that the wood studios were re-finished.
- The progress on the air handling unit was clarified to be taking place in May or June of 2016. The pool may be closed for three to four weeks while it is installed.
- Jeff Stewart asked if there would be door openers installed on the cafeteria (room 402). Elaine explained that Carla Vaughan had met with Friends of Troy Seniors and they have come up with \$3000 for the

automatic door installation. Kurt Bovensiep mentioned that if funding was hard to come up with that they could look into a Community Block Grant.

- Jeff Stewart also requested that the vacant bird nests, and evidence of birds be cleaned up at the North entrance.

### III. Staff Reports

#### A. Kurt Bovensiep -

- The partnership between Total Sports and the city is progressing to build a Soccer Dome at the southwest corner of the Community Center. The dome will have one full size soccer field. Total Sports and Total Soccer Club has reached an agreement on the development of the Dome. There is an increase demand for an indoor soccer field due to Troy Sports Center removing their indoor field.
- City Council has approved tree planting in the City. The budget was increased and Council wants larger trees planted. The cost of planting larger trees is greater therefore the City will only be able to plant approximately 200 trees per year. Resident requested trees will be planted first.
- Troy Family Daze well very well. Troy Family Daze was held on City property this year for the first time and there were only minor issues to be corrected for next year. Residents noted that there was a strong police presence. People stated that it felt as if it was the safest festival that they've attended.
- An RFP went out for Parks Concessions. The first time it went out to bid there were not any bids. The second time Jack Johansson bid to have Johansson Family Entertainment at Firefighters Park. They will be providing a family run business offering ice cream. Jack Johansson wants to make Firefighters Park a destination for families to go to.
- Park patrons are requesting kayaking and non-motorized boating at Sylvan Glenn Lake. Attorney Bluhm has said that there would be no additional liability allowing non-motorized boating on the lake. The City may make improvements to the beach area. City Manager, Brian Kischnick suggested bringing the idea to the board. If the board approves allowing non-motorized boating on the lake the proposal will then need to be brought to police and fire for their approval and then to the City Manager. Rusty made a motion to move forward with the idea of allowing non-motorized vehicles: Jan seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

#### B. Elaine Bo

- Elaine noted that room 504 was the current Birthday Party room. The room has been recently repainted. The Community Center is currently having 2-5 birthday parties per weekend.
- Brian Goul gave a report on the Troy Family Aquatic Center. Season pass sales, attendance and daily use were up in 2015. Glo Night was at 280 in attendance. The Dog Swim had 132 participants this year. The

Troy Family Aquatic Center was voted #1 on DetroitVote4 the best, for the second consecutive year. The season was a week longer, but was shut down for two days with the power outage. June was a slow start due to cold weather.

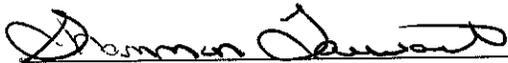
- Summer Camp attendance was down this year. Brian Goul will be revamping the programs for next summer. Brian noticed that the weeks that there wasn't an offering for 5-6 year olds, camp numbers were down.
- Recreation is competing with Lifetime's aquatics, Aqua Tots, and Church camps.
- 2015 was the first year the City has taken over concessions at Troy Family Aquatic Center. Recreation opened Harvey's Hut. Profit is at approximately \$20,000 net. The department is looking at prices and menu items for next year.
- Elaine Bo discussed the need to make adjustments to the costs due to the increase in minimum wage increase taking place through 2017.
- Elaine Bo updated members on three upcoming events at the Community Center: The Daddy Daughter Swim, Pumpkin Swim, and Holiday Photo with your pet.
- Family Nights are starting again. They will be held the second Saturday of the month. New themes this year.
- Fitness Passport memberships have reached 1000 members.
- Steve Toth asked Elaine if the National Park Association meeting she attended discussed new trends in Recreation. Elaine mentioned Bubble Soccer and bowling was interesting but costly. She also noted that the focus is on customer service and training staff.

The meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 19th, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.



Steve Toth, Chairperson



Shannon Louwaert, Recording Secretary