

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
February 27, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Cado Daily, Chair, at 5:35 p.m.

Present were: Cado Daily, Chair, Lawrence Cummins, Committee Member, Kay Lynn Cummins, Vice Chair, Committee Member, Andy Haratyk, City Liaison, Gabe Lindstrom, Council Liaison and Audrey "Luche" Giacomino, Committee.

Absent were: None.

Minutes from the November 28, 2016 Regular Meeting were approved.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Gabe would like to have more kid-friendly parks. Andy wants parks to be pre-WWII condition. There has been a donor to the Parks for an amount of \$100,000. This will provide funds for opening the baby pool, installing a shade cover over the baby pool, resurfacing the big pool deck, and some auxiliary items for the pool. The bulk of the funds will go for children's play equipment to be installed in Garfield Park, two pickle ball courts installed on the tennis courts at the high school (both tennis and pickle ball can be played on the same court), and resurfacing the basketball court at Higgins Park. Fencing will be repaired in Higgins Park and \$5,000 will be spent on chairs, etc. Victorian style lights being worked on in Vista Park; \$8,000 for 12 lights. Expect completion late fall.

A goal for Councilmember Hanson is to have exercise stations installed this year. Andy commented that his work list is 23 months ahead. Comments were made on having some of the exercise activities be not just for adults but for kids.

Update on Park Preparation and Irrigation systems for the upcoming spring season were discussed:

- Irrigation has already started on the Vista for this year as there are lots of events planned and Andy wanted the grass to be strong and healthy for the season.
- Saginaw Park's water fountain was vandalized again.
- New sprinkler heads were added in Vista Park. Vista Park is still manually watered.
- The Park's Dept. still does not have a mower. Need \$4,000 and hope to raise that at the Memorial Day celebration.
- Arizona St., Grassy Park, rose garden, City Park are all in good shape. All on timers without rain sensors. Cado commented that Grassy Park is watered when it is raining. Andy said that when it rains, it isn't enough to water the grass properly, so the sprinklers are still needed.
- Park personnel are moving some plants on Arizona St.; bad placement when first installed and now they are growing out of place.
- Gazebos will be painted soon.

Kenan talked about a free (a minimally priced) tree program perhaps through the Arbor Day foundation. He will look into it. Gabe mentioned that Freeport McMoran is talking about developing a bike path around the pit. He will talk with Council Member Dunn about that as Dunn is currently part of that discussion.

## OLD BUSINESS

The Parks and Recreation By Laws were tabled.

Friends of the Pool (FOBP) update was provided:

- \$26,000 to date has been raised by FOBP. Kay Lynn and Andy met with a representative from the Red Cross to discuss pool staff training. There is an ad in the paper for a pool Manager. Two applications have been submitted. Need one life guard for adult swim, may not need just a

manager, can be a manager/life guard. Two part time managers may be hired instead of 1. After an 8 hour training, a person will be qualified to be a swimming instructor.

- The swim season will be from Memorial Day to beginning of August, approximately 6 to 8 weeks as has been the traditional season. With the funds the FOBP raised, the season will be extended. Hours of the extended season are still to be determined.

- Solar panels: No news at this time.

- Dressing room roof: As soon as Andy knows when the panels will be installed, he will enclose the dressing room roof. It will only take a few days.

- The fence between the pool and the Ramada will be removed before the pool opens.

#### MEMBER COMMENTS

Kay Lynn asked if there were more application f for the P&R Committee and if the Rose Garden needed more plants. Andy informed that the deep keep eating the buds, so no, not at this time. Kay Lynn asked if Grassy Park needed plants. Andy has ordered 10 coleus and 10 impatiens. Kay Lynn informed that the Bloomers have money; perhaps the upper Vista could use some plants. She asked if the pool could use some plants. Andy informed that Italian cypress in pots do well in pool environments; they don't shed much. The Bloomer funds could be used for palms in the interior of the Library in the new sitting area.

Cado gave an update on the Return of the Turkey Vulture weekend.

#### FUTURE ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Weed control presentation by the Streets & Infrastructure Committee

The meeting was adjourned by Cado Daily at 7:30 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair Signature