

Charter Township of Redford

Parks Commission Meeting January 12, 2009

The regular meeting of the Charter Township of Redford Park Commission was called to order January 12, 2009, by the Chair at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Chair, John Keenan
Vice Chair, Dennis Bauer
Secretary, John Hebner
Treasurer, Lois Wludyka
Commissioner William McSween
Commissioner Robert Mockeridge
Commissioner Amy Hichez
Youth Commissioner Amanda Shaffner
Youth Commissioner Layla Abdel

Also present: Debbie Break, Tom O'Connor, Theresa Burgess, Mike Curle, Jan Pokorny, Jim Forner, Tami Valentine, Ron Pokorny, Autumn Hill and Konstandia Koivas.

09-001 Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by BAUER, supported by WLUDYKA, to approve the amended agenda by adding Tony Hawk grant to New Business. All ayes. Motion carried: 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent.

09-002 Approval of Minutes from December 8, 2008: Motion was made by BAUER supported by MOCKERIDGE to approve the minutes. Motion carried: 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent.

09-003 Approval of Minutes from Special Meeting from December 15, 2008: Motion was made by HEBNER supported by MOCKERIDGE to approve amended minutes by changing the Secretary's name at the end of the minutes from Keenan to Hebner. All Ayes. Motion carried: 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent.

Citizen Comments:

- Jan Pokorny: Wish Scott Gray and Mike Curle Happy Birthday.
- Tami Valentine: Would like the Park Commission to give her permission to have a stand selling Girl Scout cookies outside at Claude Allison Park on Saturday and Sunday afternoons for a couple hours. The sale benefits her daughters Girl Scout Cadet and Brownie Troops. Commissioner McSween wanted to know how long she would be selling. It would be for 5 to 6 weekends once the cookies become available.

09-004 Motion by: was made by MOCKERIDGE and supported by MCSWEEN to allow Tami Valentine to sell Girl Scout Cookies at Claude Allison Park once she submits all necessary paperwork to Mike Curle. All Ayes. Motion carried: 7-0 Ayes; 0 absent.

- Tami Valentine would also like to see improvements to the room used by the Redford Dance program. She was informed by Theresa Burgess there are plans to do just that this summer.

New Business:

- A. Introduction of new Youth Commissioners:** Commissioner Keenan welcomed the two new Commissioners who are both juniors at Redford Union High School. Theresa Burgess explained they are here as an exchange with this commission, Township Board, along with the Youth Commission. They will take back information they learn about parks and recreation to the Youth Commission monthly meetings. Theresa asked the Commissioners to take them under their wings and explain procedures to them and also to use them as a voice for the youth in the Township. Dena and Autumn from Thurston High School are also here tonight and they will be alternates if one of the others can't make it.
- B. Concert in the Park in cooperation with the Bullfrog bar:** Jim Forner representing the Bullfrog bar asked the Commissioners for permission to have a festival of bands at Capitol Park or some other suitable location in Redford to hold the event. Admission would be charged, wrist bands, alcohol tent, food, and merchandise vendors. He is asking for assistance from the police department to aid in security and local transportation to the event. They expect anywhere from 1,500 to 7,000 people to attend the event depending on the local popularity and the popularity of the bands involved. After much discussion and concerns expressed by the Commissioners about parking, safety, profanity in song lyrics, noise for the surrounding neighborhood, liquor control, porta-johns, rain-out date (Sunday, Twp Parade), space required to hold such an event since Capitol Park would not be big enough and revenue to the Township for hosting such an event. Commissioner Keenan asked Jim Forner to return in two weeks for the Commission's decision and to bring as much detail as possible, preferably a business plan about the event and its sponsor SMG. Also, Mr. Forner would have to go before the Township Board to get their approval on such a large event.

09-005 Motion: was made by MOCKERIDGE and supported by HICHEZ to table the discussion until the next meeting. All Ayes. Motion carried: 7-0 Ayes; 0 absent.

- C. Add Capitol Park Diamond 2 to the fall softball league:** Due to budget concerns and looking for new revenue streams Scott Gray asked the Commissioners to approve adding Capitol Park Diamond #2 to the softball league. Traditionally St Robert Belleramine has used this area for soccer practice. Mike Curle conferred with Kevin McCoy to see if the portable soccer standards could be moved to another area for St Robert's practice sessions. Kevin said it is doable. Mr. Gray said this would allow him to add 4 more teams to each night which would bring in an additional \$6500 to the softball program. This change would also provide more concession revenue. St Robert's could use the area behind the community center or Ashcroft Park.

09-006 Motion: was made by MOCKERIDGE AND supported by BAUER to add Capitol Park Diamond #2 to the Softball League. All Ayes. Motion carried: 7-0 Ayes; 0 absent.

- D. Tony Hawk Grant:** Commissioner Mockeridge asked if we had applied for this before. Theresa Burgess said no. Commissioner McSween said the grant might not be granted since the median income for the area is in excess of \$50,000, but suggested if it is doable perhaps revenue from the cell towers could be used. Tom O'Connor thinks the median income is more like \$44,000. Mike Curle will check with Mike Dennis to get exact amount, and pointed out the Master Plan would have to be revised to reflect this kind of improvement, since it is not in the plan. Commissioner Mockeridge suggested using Claude Allison for the park if granted the money. Commissioner Bauer asked what the past Commission wanted to do and suggested informing the Parks and Art Conservancy. Mike Curle said they would push for this. The roller blade rink at Claude Allison could be re-commissioned to a skate park. Commissioner Keenan suggested trying to get

revenue from Wayne County Parks. Commissioner Mockeridge will work with Theresa Burgess on this grant project.

Unfinished Business:

Accept the recommendation from the previous Park Commission on 11/24/08, i.e. the Minutes from 11/10/08 and the Motion to adopt the same language used by the Redford Township Board of Trustees.

09-007 Motion: was made by McSWEEN and supported by WYUDYKA to accept the previous Minutes of 11/10/08 and to adopt the same language used by the Redford Township Board of Trustees.

Department Report:

- **Mike Curle:** has been taking the responses from the online Parks & Rec. Survey and will have a report at the next meeting. He is working with Theresa to get all the fitness classes running. We will have gymnastics again. The next dance payment is due the end of January. He also briefly went over the budget time line until completion with the Commissioners.
- **Debbie Break:** Nothing
- **Scott Gray:** Both of Scott's classes are full. He plans to run more camps this summer. There are 16 basketball teams. They are in the 4th week and going good. He is thinking about increasing the concession prices by .25 cents this season across the board. He and Mike will take a look at it and get back with the Commissioners.
- **Theresa Burgess:** is almost done working on the Spring/Summer brochure. She is looking for ads and is offering 2 for 1 advertising for this brochure and the next. Flyers went out last week to the schools. An instructor for Zumba will be in for an interview tomorrow. The new Cheerleading instructor from the Redford Rangers Cheerleading Squad will be starting the end of January. Redford residents want Basketball. They are looking to run summer basketball camps using local and collegiate coaches. The first e-news letter went out and will continue to be done on a monthly or bi-monthly basis. She received about 13 requests from the news letter in the past week. She is applying for a \$10,000 grant from General Mills for after school programming promoting nutrition and physical fitness three times per week. January 27 begins the next Parenting series, "Keeping Your Child Safe in the Community". The police department will be involved, child care provided along with dinner. She and Mike are working with the high schools to try to get a swimming program started. The Parks and Recreation yearly conference is coming up soon and she and Mike will be attending. There will be a multicultural fair held at Thurston High School on February 27 from 6 – 9 p.m.
- **Tom O'Connor:** Nothing

Commissioner Report:

- **Commissioner Hebner:** Nothing
- **Commissioner Wludyka:** Nothing, expect she will not be at the next meeting, since she will be on a senior trip.

- **Commissioner Bauer:** Debbie did a good job with the Commissioner's goals. He would like to take the top seven goals and form committees to help accomplish the goals. He also wanted to know if there was going to be an outdoor ice rink again this winter. Mike Curle told him yes as soon as the new liner arrives.
- **Commissioner Keenan:** Said the outdoor ice skating rink would be bigger this year – about hockey size. He figures people get about 30 to 33 days usage each winter. Mike Curle said Jan Pokorny will check it and get a count on the number of people using it at night.
 - Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano rejected the proposal to return 25% of the Parks Millage money to each community's Parks & Recreation Department; therefore, other means of funding will have to be found.
 - Commissioner Keenan is looking to get dates for the end of July for a baseball tournament. He will be meeting with the little leagues and travel teams soon.
- Commissioner Hichez: Nothing.
- Commissioner Mockeridge: Nothing.
- Commissioner McSween: Will be going to Washington D.C. to attend the inauguration.
- Youth Commissioners: Nothing

Park Bills

09-008 Motion was made by MOCKERIDGE supported by McSWEEN to approve the Park's bills for 75100 Recreation and 75200 Parks Maintenance. All Ayes. Motion carried: 7-0 Ayes; 0 absent.

Communication: None

08-009 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. by HEBNER, supported by MOCKERIDGE. All Ayes. Motion carried: 7-0 Ayes; 0 absent.

Respectfully submitted by Commissioner John Hebner, Corresponding Secretary

Recording Secretary: Debbie Break