

Charter Township of Redford

Parks Commission Meeting December 8, 2008

The regular meeting of the Charter Township of Redford Park Commission was called to order December 8, 2008 by the Chair at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Chair, John Keenan
Vice Chair, Dennis Bauer
Secretary, John Hebner
Treasurer, Lois Wludyka
Commissioner William McSween
Commissioner Robert Mockeridge

Absent: Commissioner Amy Hichez

Also present: Debbie Break, Tom O'Connor, Theresa Burgess, Mike Curle, Jan Pokorny and Mike Dennis.

08-140 Approval of Agenda: Motion was made by MOCKERIDGE, supported by McSWEEN, to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried: 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent.

08-141 Approval of Minutes from November 24, 2008: Motion was made by HEBNER supported by BAUER to approve the minutes as amended by adding Bill McSween's question to Mike Curle about the differences in money for Special Events from 2005 - 2007. Motion carried: 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent.

Citizen Comments: None

New Business:

➤ **Commissioner Goals for 2009:**

- Commissioner McSween: (1) Despite tough economic times add one more employee to the Parks Maintenance Staff for safety reasons and employ a full time secretary in the Parks & Recreation office. (2) Restore the tree and maintenance program.
- Commissioner Mockeridge: (1) Add more picnic shelters in the parks. (2) Enhance the relationships with community groups such as the Jaycees or Rotary Club, and encourage them to get more involved to help raise money for the parks. (3) Add more equipment to the expanded skatepark.
- Commissioner Hebner: (1) Add bike paths. (2) Add more trees for shade in the parks.
- Commissioner Keenan: (1) To bring a baseball tournament to Redford in 2009. (2) Run an Arts festival this coming summer.
- Commissioner Bauer: (1) Add more shelters and bike paths. (2) Make all parks ADA accessible. (3) Look for all Grants that are available. (4) Improve ball fields and add bleachers. (5) To hold tournaments the fences have to be at 205 feet. The fence at Manning Park is only 187 feet, so make as many field fences as possible

tournament regulation. (6) Big on improving Bell Creek Park. Work with Wayne County to help accomplish this.

- Commissioner Wludyka: (1) More picnic shelters. (2) Complete a bike path.
- Commissioner Keenan wanted to appoint a committee to write grants. Commissioner Mockeridge said he would take the lead with the help of Commissioner McSween to form a grant writing committee. Commissioner McSween has previous grant writing experience. All commissioners are encouraged to add suggestions. The committee also needs to coordinate with Mike Curle, Theresa Burgess, and Mike Dennis. Commissioner Keenan would like to see the committee write one grant per month.

08-142 Motion: Motion by BAUER supported by WLUDYKA to form a sub-committee to write grants for Parks and Recreation. 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent.

- Commissioner Keenan wanted Mike Dennis to speak to the Commission about the type of projects he is involved with that would benefit Parks and Recreation.
 - Mr. Dennis is involved with the plan to have a non-motorized bike path run from Lola Valley Park to Bell Creek Park. Part of the plan includes a pedestrian bridge across the river at Bell Creek Park. The bridge project alone would cost approximately \$700,000. Most projects which include money from a Grant include a percentage of matching funds on the part of the Township. The percentages vary.
 - Another project includes an ADA walkway from the parking lot at Capitol Park to an ADA picnic shelter and playscape.
 - There are plans to expand the weight room at the Community Center into the dance room and refurbish another room as a dance room which would look more like a dance studio.
 - Mr. Dennis just ordered \$4,000 of skateboard equipment for the newly expanded skatepark.
 - After the census in 2010 more areas in the Township may become NSA areas (Neighborhood Strategy Areas).
- Set Special Meeting Date for 2009 Budget Review: The date for the meeting will be Monday, December 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Redford Community Center in Meeting Room C. Another meeting has been set for Monday, December 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in case it is needed at the same location.

Department Report:

- Theresa Burgess: Nothing at this time.
- Mike Curle: The Spring/Summer brochure is being prepared. Need to sell business ads to help off set the cost of the brochure.
 - New fitness instructors beginning in January 2009.
 - Due to lack of funding the Courts will not be able to provide community service workers to help scrape picnic tables. The program will shut down for January and February.
 - Kevin McCoy built the stand for the Christmas tree at the Marquee.
 - The Santa Brunch was a great success. Everyone had a good time.

- Tom O'Connor: Is excited about the Commissioners goals for 2009. He will be available to help out in any way.
- Debbie Break: Will have the report on the Santa Brunch at the next regular meeting in January 2009.

Commissioner Report:

- Commissioner Wludyka: Had a good time at the Santa Brunch.
- Commissioner Bauer: Nothing to report at this time.
- Commissioner Hebner: Nothing to add.
- Commissioner Keenan: Sorry he missed the parade. He attended the Arts and Park Conservancy meeting at the Library and would like to dovetail with them for a shelter in Claude Allison Park.
- Commissioner Mockeridge: Likes Mike Curle's idea to involve the seniors in helping to fundraise for a picnic shelter at Claude Allison. He would like to hear any ideas on this. He would like to have Kevin McCoy and Scott Gray attend a meeting so the Commissioners may meet them in January.
- Commissioner McSween: Nothing at this time.

Park Bills

08-143 Motion was made by McSWEEN supported by MOCKERIDGE to approve the Park's bills for 75100 Recreation and 75200 Parks Maintenance. Motion carried: 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent

Communication: None

08-144 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. by WLUDYKA, supported by McSWEEN.
Motion carried: 6-0 Ayes; 1 absent

Respectfully submitted by Commissioner John Hebner, Corresponding Secretary

Recording Secretary: Debbie Break