

The regular meeting of the Charter **Township of Redford Parks Commission** was held on December 10, 2007 in the Redford Township Community Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM .

Roll Call – Present: Diana Brang-Schroeder, Kevin Dodd, John Keenan, Steve Offman, Laura Weaver, and Youth Commissioner, Susan Vulaj.

Absent - Maureen Okasinski and Saira Comerford

Also in attendance: Fire Chief Les Wedge, Joy Leavens, Jade Leavens, Loran Stenzel, Linda Sites, Vicky and Kevin McNulty, Kim Cavanaugh, Megan Zawislak, Julia McComb, John Casey, Tom O'Connor, Theresa Burgess, Jan Pokorny and Mike Curle.

07-107 – Approval of Agenda

- Motion was made to approve the agenda by Commissioner Offman, 2nd Commissioner Dodd. All yeas.
Motion passed.

07-108 – Move New Business in Front of Old Business

- Motion was made by Commissioner Offman, 2nd by Commissioner Weaver. All yeas.
Motion passed.

07-109 - Approval of Minutes

- Motion was made to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2007 meeting, by Commissioner Weaver, 2nd by Commissioner Offman. Discussion - Commissioner Offman wanted the minutes to reflect that votes for each of the officers were voted by acclamation; change made. All yeas.
Motion passed.

07-110 – Approval of Public Forum Meeting

- Motion was made to approve the minutes of the Public Forum held on November 12, 2007 by Commissioner Offman, 2nd by Commissioner Dodd. All yeas.
Motion passed.

07-111 – Approval of Minutes.

- Motion was made to approve the minutes from the November 26, 2007 meeting by Commissioner Weaver, 2nd by Commissioner Keenan. All yeas.
Motion passed.

Citizen Comments

Fire Chief Les Wedge appeared before the park's commission with respect to his idea to have an outdoor skate park in Redford Township. He had two locations in mind; one at Pomona and Five Mile Rds. and the second at or near Kinloch just west of Beech Daly in Lola Valley Park. He had spoken with Mary Haney of the Lighting Commission about lighting and that was not a problem. The area at Five Mile and Pomona Rds. currently has sledding and he would support an outdoor ice rink being placed there to complement the sledding.

Fire Chief Les Wedge spoke fondly of his memories as a child using the outdoor ice skating rink in Lola Valley including warming himself by the outdoor fire and with hot chocolate. He was very enthusiastic about these outdoor ice rinks locations and volunteered to have the

Redford Township Fire Dept. flood the area. The Fire Dept would also monitor the use and maintain these two outdoor ice rinks. He had not contacted anybody yet but wanted the Park Commission's thoughts on the matter and suggested the Parks might want to have an outdoor concession stand to sell such items as hot chocolate and other goods. He intended on contacting our Wayne County Commissioner, Phil Cavanaugh as well.

Kevin Dodd thanked Fire Chief Wedge for his initiative, noting the area was out of the jurisdiction of the Parks Commission as the area was owned by Wayne County.

07-112 – Motion – Outdoor Ice Rinks at Lola Valley

- A motion to work with Fire Chief Les Wedge regarding possible new locations for outdoor ice rinks at Lola Valley Park was made by Commissioner Dodd, 2nd by Commissioner Offman. All yeas.

Motion passed.

New Business

Known to all her students at "Miss Karen", Karen VanDeRyt, received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Parks Commission for her 10 years of service with the Parks and Recreation, as the dance program coordinator and instructor. She thanked the Commission and said "she was very proud of two of her dancers now performing in the "Nut Cracker" during this holiday season at the Fox Theatre in Detroit, Michigan."

07-113- Motion to Approve 2008 Park Meeting Dates.

- Motion was made to approve the 2008 Park Meeting dates with the exclusion of May 26 and December 22, 2008, by Commissioner Weaver, 2nd by Commissioner Offman. All yeas.

Motion passed.

Old Business

- Baseball Subcommittee, Commissioner Keenan reported that the baseball dugout matter is progressing and he hoped to conclude it by the end of December, 2007.
- Credit card fees: Discussion centered around the credit card fees the Parks and Recreation Department incurs when residents tender payment by credit card for classes. Mike Curle liked the idea because we did not have any collection problems. The latter sometimes is not the case with checks. He will look into the individual cost per transaction with the possibility (subject to this Board's approval) of including the fee in the credit card transaction. Mike stated that he wasn't in favor of charging and extra fee for credit card usage, but if the fees continue to increase, it is something we will need to investigate.

Department Report

- Theresa Burgess: The winter flyers are completed. She is working with Echo Media re: the changes in the web-site suggested at the last meeting. Bob Salmonson is going to place a counter on the web site and another template on the front page.
- Mike Curle: He worked on the Christmas parade and enjoyed it. He mentions the budget process is coming and wants the Commission's input on that. Items being considered among others will be a mobile stage, a top-dresser, additional soft landings for the play areas, sidewalks and walkways of cement to make our playgrounds more ADA accessible, red clay for the baseball diamonds, sun-shade screening at the splash park, electronic sign in front Water Dept., the needs of Claude Allison including security and the Little League Diamonds.

Commissioners' Report

- Dodd: Nothing to report, except his new position with Fed Ex. He's grateful for the opportunity to serve on this Commission. Apology for missing float building, Santa Brunch and Old Fashioned Holiday. Quote: Apology is the best way to have the last word.
- Weaver: She went to Santa Brunch and had a wonderful time, thanked Leslie and Scott for these efforts. Missed Old Fashioned Holiday as she was feeling well.
- Brang-Schroeder: She had a wonderful time at the parade. She reports that Commissioner Okasinski had a very healthy 7 lb baby, "Josette". She was not sure who had won the unofficial baby pool, but wanted it placed on the agenda for the next meeting. She wanted to gather money for a gift and card.
- Offman: Nothing to report at this time. Apologized for missing the parade, as he stated he could not walk that far currently.
- Keenan: He participated at the Santa Brunch and had a great time handing out candy canes at the Christmas parade. He thanked Laura for her education on the "fun" things to do on being a Parks Commissioner.

07-114 Approval of Park Bills

- Motion was made to approve the Park Bills by Commissioner Offman, 2nd by Commissioner Dodd.
All yeas.
Motion Passed.

Communication

- All the Commissioners wished each other and all in the audience a very Merry Christmas.
- Debbie Break will be off work for another three weeks. Expected back after the new year.

07-115– Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn the meeting by Commissioner Offman, 2nd by Commissioner Weaver.
All yeas.
Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

Respectfully submitted by: John J. Keenan, Corresponding Secretary

Recorded by: Mike Curle, Parks and Recreation Director.