

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

November 6, 2007

Community Education and Recreation Offices

1530 Eisenhower Place

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Members Present: Jon Strite, Tom George, Paula Greeno, Shannon Kos, Betty Wier, Tim Berla, Joanne Kimata, Nate Nemon, Sequoyah King, Colleen Green, Sheila Calhoun

Ex-Officio Members: Sara Aeschbach, Larry Dishman, Glenn Nelson, Christen Smith

Visitors:

Call to Order: Chairperson Paula Greeno called the meeting to order at 7:15pm

Public Commentary: none

Approval of Minutes: Shannon Kos moved to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2007 meeting, and Tom George seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

- A. Adding new playing fields – Tim Berla reported that the Knights of Columbus land acquisition is still in process. It is optimistic the land will become a park and Jeff Deering has drawn up a plan for such. Ultimate Frisbee is renting the Huron High Stadium (artificial turf) at a cost of \$243/per night and is pleased to have a high quality lighted field.
- B. RAC Appointments & Mentors – In-coming RAC members were provided with a “pre-meeting” Orientation on Tuesday, November 6 which covered the background and history of RAC. Candidates being recommended to RAC will be invited as meeting guests, pending official appointment by the Board of Education and the City. Tim Berla will serve as a mentor to Sequoyah King and Dave Korman will serve as a mentor to Nate Nemon. \
- C. Proposed RAC By-Laws will be distributed to all members and voted on at the December meeting. Research revealed that the two-term limit is referenced in the 1997 and 1998 Resolutions, as approved by the Board of Education & City Council. The by-laws do not reflect that provision.

New Business

- A. Rec&Ed Budget Report – Sara Aeschbach provided budget information including Community Education and Recreation Participant Enrollment Summaries from 1998-2007. Participation is tracked on a year-to-year basis and can help provide an overview of trends as well as provide an insight into changes which occur year-to-year. This information helps Rec&Ed determine which programs are viable. All program revenues are immediately attached to a Rec&Ed budget code. Sara also distributed the 2006/2007 Revenue/Expend Summary which reveals a -\$331,332 deficit that will need to be covered by fund equity. Sara explained that Rec&Ed offers scholarships to anyone financially eligible with no limit in terms of the number of scholarships offered. The Rec&Ed deficit can partially be explained when viewing the 2006-2007 Unique Expenditures report which shows building rent at \$140,000/year, a one-time \$50,000.00 maintenance payment to the City of Ann Arbor, and \$21,301.12 in retirement costs which for 2006/07 was the highest State retirement percentage to date. Sara reported that overhead expenses are spread over all programs, which skews the program line items as far as year-end balances. Glenn Nelson voiced

that Rec&Ed will need to increase participation, reduce expenses and possibly subcontract employees in order to reduce the deficit. It was also suggested that Rec&Ed consider the Educational Foundation as a possibility for funding to help with Rec&Ed scholarships. Sara is optimistic that Rec&Ed will end the 2007/2008 fiscal year without a large deficit.

- B. Middle School Co-Curricular Program – Jon Strite distributed a report outlining the Middle School Co-Curricular Activities Program and explained that the restructuring was done as a means to save money for the school district. In order for students to participate 3 or more days/week they must be academically eligible, which means the student must be passing all but 1 of their current classes. The “clubs” offered at the middle schools run like sports and change every quarter. The Co-Curricular Activities Programs are supported by the Superintendent, Todd Roberts.

Briefing Agenda

- A. Items from RAC
 - 1. Report from PAC – Tim Berla reported that the disc golf course is now open and that the City is developing a business plan for the golf courses with a final report due in December from the consultant. PAC passed a resolution not to sell the golf course land.
- B. Items from Parks and Recreation – Christen Smith reported that the City is in the process of working on an RFP to outsource operation of the Bryant and Northside Community Centers. The City is looking for an organization to run services as a non-profit or for-profit effective mid-January, 2008. Christen also reported that the permanent dog park located at Olson Park is now open and that only a minimal number of permits for the dog park have been sold.
- C. Items from Community Education and Recreation – there was no report

Transmittals: Community Education and Recreation Participant Enrollment Summary, 2006/2007 Revenue Summary (unaudited), 2006/2007 Expenditure Summary, Funding Sources, 2006/2007 Unique Expenditures, Ann Arbor Public Schools Middle School Co-Curricular Activities Program

Adjournment: Tom George moved that the meeting be adjourned. Jon Strite seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Chairperson Paula Greeno adjourned the meeting at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Drago, Recording Secretary to RAC