

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 8, 2008

Community Education and Recreation Offices

1530 Eisenhower Place

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Members Present: Tim Berla, Sheila Calhoun, Tom George, Paula Greeno, Sequoyah King, Dave Korman, Shannon Kos, Nate Nemon, Jon Strite, Betty Wier

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

Visitors: Pat Bantle, Laura Machida, Dave Corsa, Betsy Beckerman, Rick Keller, Mario Romero, Brigitte Romero, Sarah Keller, Rose Wall

Call to Order: Chairperson Paula Greeno called the meeting to order at 7:08pm

Public Commentary: Dawn Lovejoy, 1900 Dexter Ave., Director of Tour de Kids for 2008, presented on the bike race which has occurred since 1980 thru 2004 for children ages 3-12. This is geared as a major community event. Funding and a complete committee have already been arranged. Ms. Lovejoy requests involvement of Rec&Ed for this event scheduled on June 15, 2008. Dianne Dudley, a Rec&Ed instructor, will be assisting with the Art Contest portion of the program. Website for information is atTourdeKids.org or dblovejoy@gmail.com.

Approval of Minutes: Shannon Kos moved to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2007 meeting and Dave Korman seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Old Business

- A. Adding new playing fields – Shannon Kos reported that AAArsenal sold their field in Pittsfield Township on December 28, 2007. No other details were available at the time.

New Business

- A. Hikone Exchange Report – The three sensei brought along parents and Hikone ambassadors to share highlights of their trip in November. Each person who spoke had very positive comments about their experience. Mr. Corsa shared an outstanding photo slideshow of the trip. The district will be sending another delegation next fall, and the selection process will be underway shortly.

Briefing Agenda

- A. Items from RAC

- a. Report from PAC – Tim Berla reported on the recent discussion regarding the golf courses. Staff recommendation from Jayne Miller is that the courses will remain open this year, but for future years several million dollars should be reserved from the general fund for necessary capital improvements. One major impact would be the failure of the irrigation system to work at Huron Hills. PAC will present a resolution at the next meeting and then City Council will take action. Fee structure will be changed as well as marketing of the golf courses. Should Huron Hills be reduced to a 9-hole golf course there is the possibility of turning part of that course into soccer fields, per the Mayor of Ann Arbor. Maintenance costs and the potential uses for the space are under discussion. There is a group lobbying for a permanent skate park in Ann Arbor.
- b. Items from Parks and Recreation - there was no report
- c. Items from Community Education and Recreation – Sara Aeschbach reported that the winter catalog is available, registration has begun, and summer classes and camps are being set up. Rec&Ed is putting together a youth summer catalog which will be available in February. Sara also reported that she and Larry Dishman will be dealing with another City issue involving a total of \$35,000 invoices for use of the lights for the ball fields. Sara is optimistic that this will be resolved through a staff review of records. The concern is that the lights were on more than necessary because Rec&Ed staff could not access the light timers to turn them off at the end of the games. Tim Berla suggested that a presentation be made to PAC showing the records on file by Rec&Ed and the formula used to calculate the time lights are required for the ball fields.

Transmittals None

Adjournment: Shannon Kos moved that the meeting be adjourned. Tom George seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Chairperson Paula Greeno adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Drago
Recording Secretary to RAC