

MINUTES OF THE RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 6, 2009

Rec&Ed Offices

1530 Eisenhower Place

Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Members Present: Tim Berla, Sheila Calhoun, Tom George, Colleen Greene, Paula Greeno, Joanne Kimata, Sequoyah King, David Korman, Shannon Kos, Nate Nemon, Betty Wier

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

Visitors: none

Call to Order: Paula Greeno called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Shannon Kos moved to accept the minutes of December 2, 2008 Tim Berla seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Public Commentary: none

Old Business

- A. Adding new playing fields – Sheila suggested consideration of use of the playing fields on the former Pfizer property, which include one softball field, a sand volleyball court, and one soccer field. This will be University of Michigan property once the deal is completed, which is estimated to occur in May or June 2009.
- B. Rob Millett Recognition – Larry will get the plaque to Tim to be presented at the next PAC meeting. Colin will receive the resolution electronically so it can be forwarded in the PAC packet.

New Business

A. City/School Issues – Sara reported on a staff meeting that was held on December 9, 2008 with the City Administrator, Schools Superintendent and other central staff members from both the city and schools for the purposes of discussing three issues – the shared use agreement for Mack Pool, the use of the Eberbach Cultural Arts Building (CAB), and the agreement for the use of the city's ball diamonds. It was a productive meeting that led to general agreement on these three issues. The city would like for the school district to lease the CAB, and will develop a lease agreement proposal. The city requested a deed to the Mack Pool, which the district is willing to provide after the legal description is supplied by the city. Sue McCormick requested a separate meeting with Larry and Sara to talk about some details of the field use agreement that her department wanted to address before renewing the agreement. That meeting took place on January 5, and several decisions were made. The new agreement will specify the fields, with the goal of reducing the number of different fields used to cut costs. The new agreement will address multiple draggings on one day, and the cost of moving base anchors. Lastly, the city may decide to institute a rental fee for field uses other than for the school district programs. If so, that fee will be collected by Rec&Ed from users and passed on to the city. A follow up meeting is to be scheduled soon to finalize these details. On January 6

Superintendent Roberts received a letter from Roger Fraser stating that the City will renew the field agreement after the resolution of the outstanding issues regarding the CAB and Mack Pool. Sara reported a concern over timing, because Rec&Ed is planning to hire staff and purchase equipment in order to handle the field markings, which is work that was previously contracted with a private vendor. Planning time will be needed for that transition, in order to be ready for the season to begin April 1.

Briefing Agenda

- A. Items from RAC
 - 1. Report from PAC – Tim Berla reported PAC will be working on the Parks and Recreation budget, which may be reduced by up to 15% for next fiscal year.
- B. Items from Parks and Recreation – Colin Smith followed up on the budget discussion and mentioned that while all City departments were asked to model a 15% reduction, it will not necessarily result in an actual 15% cut across the board. Parks and Recreation will be working with PAC to prioritize projects/facilities. There was also discussion about on-going interest in having a City Council representative regularly attend RAC meetings. Colin volunteered to follow up and requested copies of foundation documents articulating a role for City Council.
- C. Items from Community Education and Recreation – Sara Aeschbach reported that the winter Rec&Ed brochure has been distributed, and includes many new offerings.

Transmittals: none

Adjournment: Shannon Kos moved to adjourn the meeting and Tim Berla seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by Paula Greeno at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Aeschbach