



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located in City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:09 p.m. by Chair, L. Berauer.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (7) L. Berauer, B. Macomber, D. Barrett, J. Lawter, G. Nystuen, S. Rosencrans, T. Berla

Ex-Officio Members Present: (0) None.

Ex- Officio Members Absent: (2) S. Kunselman, M. Anglin

Members Absent: (2) S. Offen, J. Grand

Staff Present: (8) J. Straw, C. Saam, J. Nealis, J. Dehring, A. Kuras, D. Borneman, K. McKinnon, L. Bowen, C. Smith

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Berauer asked the Commission if there were any changes, there were none. The agenda was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS (3 Minutes per Speaker)

Christine Warren expressed appreciation regarding the efforts that have taken place on renaming the Terhune Park. Ms. Warren also stated this park is small but has been marked with DAR markers due to the gravestones being there.

The improvements that have been made by the Parks and Recreations Department have been appreciated and the renaming of the park (The Terhune Pioneer Memorial Park) is fully supported. The interpretive text that gives the history of the park has been shared with Elaine Bater and should be placed in the park in the form of a sign.

A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A-1 Commissioner Nystuen moved, supported by **Commissioner Macomber** to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2008 meeting with the noted corrections on page 5, lines 208 and 209. The minutes of June 17, 2008 were approved unanimously.

51 **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

52

53 **Presentation on the game of Petanque**

54

55 **Howard Ando** and proceeded to explain the game of Petanque.

56

57 Petanque is one of the fastest growing sports in the world. It originated in France and can
58 bridge generations because almost anyone can throw a ball close to the target from ages 8
59 to 88 and beyond. The size of the Petanque ball is approximately the size of a baseball; it
60 weighs approximately 1½ pounds for an adult.

61

62 There are smaller sizes for juniors and even smaller sizes for the junior juniors. One of the
63 advantages of this sport over other sports is that it can be played by many generations. If
64 you have problems bending over to pick up the ball, there are devices to assist you.

65

66 Mr. Ando explained the concept of Petanque in depth, as his wife passed literature to the
67 Commissioners.

68

69 Mr. Ando stated that he and his wife would like to propose to make a gift to the City of Ann
70 Arbor. They would provide the funds for the construction of a Petanque facility in Ann Arbor
71 if approved. Imagine your community playing together; think about being teamed with your
72 granddaughter, or you and your spouse against your next door neighbors and making new
73 acquaintances. This is a way of building community cohesion. They are seeking the Park
74 Advisory Commission's endorsement for our funding of a public Petanque Court.

75

76 Our game is simple, it is played with the metal balls that were previously discussed, the
77 target is thrown out and the object is to throw your balls as close as possible to the target
78 ball. After everyone has thrown their ball, the scoring occurs (an example of the scoring
79 was on the back of the handouts that were passed to the Commissioners).

80

81 Players over four generations can play. Even people in wheelchairs can play this game.

82

83 The name Petanque comes from the Patois of Southern France and basically it means feet
84 together. It was invented in approximately 1910 from a more vigorous game so that even a
85 very good player who was in an accident and became wheelchair-bound could play from his
86 chair.

87

88 Pamela Simmons was kind enough to allow us to give a demonstration at the Senior Center
89 at Burns Park. Seniors were very enthusiastic about it. The demonstration was videotaped
90 by CTN and can be seen on Senior Moments at the end of the month.

91

92 The game of Petanque is being introduced into many schools. One of the examples shown
93 on the Power Point presentation was an elementary school in Arizona where a professional
94 Petanque player came to show how to play the game. The game was well received.

95

96 Mr. Ando showed his own personal court, also stating that long-time Ann Arbor resident,
97 Elizabeth Payne along with three generations of her family enjoy playing the game of
98 Petanque.

99

100 Art Holtz a former NFL referee who resides in Ann Arbor also was shown enjoying this
101 game.
102
103 Petanque can be introduced very easily to anybody, and there is a continual level of
104 improvement in skill that goes along with it. The other aspect of this game is that of strategic
105 decisions, which makes an individual think about the response to an opponent's execution.
106
107 Mr. Ando proceeded to explain in depth the fundamentals of the game by showing two
108 teams at play.
109
110 Mr. Ando stated that he and his wife are proposing a gift to the City to construct the facility
111 and are willing to promote public awareness of Petanque. One benefit is that the game is
112 fun and people want to try it, from even the wheelchair-bound and small children can
113 execute the skills required to play this game. It is a generation-builder from those of the
114 World War II era to young persons in the Google age.
115
116 In summary it is a great sport for all ages. It is a sport that you can carry on and continue to
117 improve at over a lifetime. Mr. Ando has consulted with the Park Planners and potential
118 sites have been identified. The issue presented here is your endorsement so we can
119 promote the project.
120
121 **S. Rosencrans** asked for a description of what the proposed facility would look like as well
122 as how much area would be required.
123
124 **Howard Ando** explained there are five lanes and can be played between two individuals on
125 opposite teams but each team can have between two to three people. The area needed is
126 approximately 26 yards by 16yards; this would be larger than a tennis court but smaller than
127 a basketball court. Excavation would take place, after this a fine limestone would then be
128 placed down on top.
129
130 There are two Petanque clubs in Michigan, one at Campus Martius Park in Detroit, Michigan
131 and another in Royal Oak, Michigan.
132
133 **Howard Ando** stated the court would be level to the ground and could be used for anything.
134
135 **D. Barrett** asked if residents use their own balls to participate.
136
137 **Howard Ando** stated some sets would be provided, and depending on the location there
138 could be sets available for rent, but people would prefer to use their own set. Mr. Ando also
139 stated he would talk to various business owners' about selling Petanque sets.
140
141 **Jane Wilkinson** stated the sets are available on line.
142
143 **L. Berauer** asked how the public awareness campaigns would take place.
144
145 **Howard Aldo** stated he paid a company \$300.00 for a study to be done. If the response
146 from PAC is positive, a web site could be created and other media could be used to
147 promote the game.
148

149 The promotion of this game has already taken place at Pioneer High School, resulting in
150 twenty-six signatures of interest. A presentation has also been given at Recreation and
151 Education as well. The Michigan Petanque Club and the Detroit Petanque Club offered to
152 come and teach the game to those interested.

153
154 **Jane Wilkinson** stated one on one speaking to neighbors will also be done to educate them
155 regarding the game and with approval there would be a promotional day with the
156 neighborhood.

157
158 **Howard Ando** stated it would depend on the neighborhood, and would be presented to
159 their sensitivity. The immediate neighborhood would be the place to start. If it is successful
160 in one neighborhood, it would spread to other neighborhoods.

161
162 **L. Berauer** stated this would be a wonderful recreational addition to the community, mostly
163 because of the intergenerational play possibilities and also due to there not being many
164 readily available recreational games for those who are in wheelchairs.

165
166 **D. Barrett** stated it is very generous to come to the Commission and offer to pay for this
167 recreational sport and he cannot see a reason not to do this.

168
169 **S. Rosencrans** asked what the cost would be.

170
171 **Howard Ando** stated approximately \$20,000.00, and being a retired employee with Pfizer
172 there is a possibility with the appropriate arrangements, up to \$15,000.00 could be matched
173 and gifted. Comfortable seating is also devised in the plan so a variety of people could use
174 them.

175
176 **Jane Wilkinson** introduced Mary Steflek Blaske and Marty Levie stating they are both in full
177 support of this recreational game.

178
179 **Mary Steflek Blaske** spoke in support of the Petanque Court and stated this project would
180 bring the community together.

181
182 **J. Dehring** spoke on possible sites for Petanque to be played. One suggestion was Burns
183 Park since the Senior Center is located there. This sport could be an addition to their
184 programs.

185
186 West Park is another possibility since the master plan is being developed and it is centrally
187 located. Another possible location would be the Southeast East Area Park. This park has
188 space, which could be facilitated. If the plan moves forward then neighborhood meetings
189 would also take place to help determine a location.

190
191 **C. Smith** stated the plan would be implemented similar to the Skate Park location.

192
193 A site would be identified that would be suitable for neighbors and public input regarding the
194 idea would be sought out.

195
196 **B. Macomber** asked if this would be a pervious or impervious surface, and if storm water
197 issues would have to be dealt with.

198

199 **J. Dehring** stated that there have been discussions on what was used in other locations. It
200 would be a pervious surface, most likely similar to the stone used for accessible pathways, a
201 limestone, based with sand to allow the drainage to move through it based on the
202 information shared.

203
204 **L. Berauer** asked if a Resolution should be drafted at the next meeting.
205

206 **J. Dehring** stated yes, a Resolution similar to what was done for the Dog Parks.
207

208 **G. Nystuen** stated this would be a very nice community recreational sport and believes it
209 would be very successful, and the generous offer is appreciated.
210

211 **L. Berauer** stated the public awareness campaign is also appreciated.
212

213 **Howard Ando** stated there is a court at an acquaintance's home and the children love to
214 play the game. It is a different game, which also plays a part in sparking interest.
215

216 **Project Grow**

217
218 **C. Smith** stated the presentation for Project Grow will go on the next agenda due to an
219 emergency.
220

221 **Golf Courses Update**

222
223 **J. Nealis** spoke about Huron Hills Golf Course as well as explaining the slide presentation
224 in detail to the Commissioners. J. Nealis mentioned several events that have already taken
225 place this year, including the Herb Fowler Memorial Junior Championship which is a part of
226 the Ann Arbor Championship Series that is sponsored by Miles of Golf. It is for children,
227 male or female, seventeen years old and under. There was also an opening celebration
228 tournament, which resulted in a very good turn out at the Golf Course. The annual Mother's
229 Day event allows mothers to golf for free and another good turn out occurred.
230

231 Another highlight of Huron Hills Golf Course is the Junior Golf Instruction. J. Nealis
232 explained there are approximately 276 hours of the junior instruction program and it
233 encompasses approximately one month.
234

235 Huron is one of the few golf courses that has a very good instructional program with playing
236 leagues attached to it. The beginners and intermediates are given instruction at the practice
237 facility and then receive on-course instruction.
238

239 There is an adult instruction program that is very popular as well.
240

241 Starting in September there will be an interesting event called Night Lite Golf that will take
242 place every Friday night. There will be special glow in the dark golf balls, as well as glow in
243 the dark cups and pins.
244

245 Numerous improvements have taken place at the Golf Courses. Food and beverage quality
246 has been upgraded as well as the merchandise sold. With City Council approval there has
247 been upgrades in the equipment used at the Courses.
248

249 Additional staff has been hired to enhance customer service levels and the clubhouse has
250 also been greatly improved. We have improved the pro shop fixtures, and the exterior to the
251 maintenance building has a new roof. The building has been painted and there are more
252 flowerbeds at the entrance. New flooring will be installed after the season.

253
254 J. Nealis explained the number of rounds for golf is up between 10 and 15% and that this is
255 atypical across the country at this time – industry data shows the average course in SE
256 Michigan is experiencing a decline in rounds played YTD.

257
258 **C. Saam** stated approximately \$30,000 was used for marketing between the golf courses.

259
260 **B. Macomber** asked since the marketing played a positive part in the 12% increase at the
261 Golf Course, what would this increase translate into dollars.

262
263 **C. Smith** stated the 12% growth in terms of the visitors resulted in revenue being
264 approximately the same, due to the approval of reducing the fees at the Golf Course. The
265 first priority, which has been successful, was to bring people in the door. The revenue will
266 increase because patrons are likely to spend in other areas such as food, beverage and
267 merchandise. The green fees were cut by approximately 25%, the revenue at the moment is
268 holding steady.

269
270 At Leslie Golf Course there are other opportunities for increased revenue even with reduced
271 fees, such as the golf carts, as fees for those were not reduced.

272
273 **D. Barrett** asked about the irrigation at the Golf Course and if the pump has remained in
274 working order.

275
276 **J. Nealis** stated the pump is new and is in working order. Minor repairs have been
277 managed.

278
279 **C. Saam** spoke on the Leslie Golf Course and stated it just received a 4 ½ star rating in the
280 2008 – 2009 Golf Digest “best places to play”. This is the highest rating Leslie has ever
281 received.

282
283 Events this year included the opening celebration, a Mother’s Day event, and the
284 Championship series. We also try to host an event monthly to bring more people to the Golf
285 Course.

286
287 Leslie Golf Course has leagues and outings. The leagues are every Monday through
288 Thursday evenings and have over 200 participants each week. The Course is closed to the
289 general public everyday between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The Course is
290 reopened to the general public at 6:00 p.m. for the twilight golfing. Additional league
291 requests are coming in for the 2009 season.

292
293 The alcohol permit is an incentive for the leagues to come to the Course. An increase has
294 been seen for the outings as well.

295
296 The number of rounds for golf is up close to 50% from last year, the weather has been very
297 good and this has been a positive. More carts have also been leased to keep up with
298 increased demand. The revenue is up 30% with food and beverage sales.

299 Weekend grilling started this year on Saturdays and Sundays and has had a very good
300 response.
301

302 **B. Macomber** asked if expenses have increased.
303

304 **C. Saam** stated yes, expenses have gone up due to staff, new equipment and clubhouse
305 improvements.
306

307 The expense for new equipment was approximately \$500,000.00 and has enhanced the
308 quality of the Golf Course. There is an increase of maintenance staff.
309

310 Other improvements included our customer service with staff greeting everyone and we
311 have course rangers to address any problems that may arise. This has changed the
312 atmosphere to a very positive customer service experience. There will be a new patio and
313 chairs, the parking lot has been repaved, flowers and wood chips have been added and the
314 flooring will be replaced when the season is over.
315

316 There are plans to hire a Director of Golf at Leslie Golf Course. The golf outings for the 2009
317 season will be presented to area clubs and businesses.
318

319 **G. Nystuen** stated the improvements look great.
320

321 **C. Saam** stated there have been many positive comments.
322

323 **D. Barrett** asked if merchandise sales have increased.
324

325 **C. Saam** stated the merchandise at Leslie Golf Course has not increased as much as it has
326 at Huron Hills Golf Course.
327

328 **D. Barrett** asked if there are plans to increase the merchandise at Leslie Golf Course.
329

330 **C. Saam** stated yes, the merchandise would be enhanced.
331

332 **J. Lawter** asked why there are not golf carts at Huron Hills.
333

334 **C. Smith** stated there are the safety aspects of crossing the street at Huron Parkway and
335 the land on the back nine is very hilly and that there are space constrictions.
336

337 **B. Macomber** asked if the new computer system could also track where customers are
338 coming from.
339

340 **C. Saam** stated she has not been able to analyze this information as of yet and will try to do
341 that in the winter months.
342

343 **G. Nystuen** asked if there are any special needs that have been identified.
344

345 **J. Nealis** stated he would like to have carts at Huron Hills Golf Course, but this would have
346 to be looked at in the future.
347

348 **C. Saam** stated the outing opportunities at the Leslie Golf Course could be improved by
349 having a pavilion or some sort of structure built there.
350

351 **S. Rosencrans** stated it is amazing that both Jason Nealis and Cheryl Saam have done
352 such a wonderful job having come from non-golf backgrounds.
353

354 **C. Saam** stated the Assistant Facility Supervisors who are very familiar with the Golf
355 courses have been a very big help.
356

357 **B Macomber** asked if one of the winter projects would be discussing a larger facility for the
358 outings.
359

360 **C. Saam** stated yes that would be a project that will be discussed.
361

362 **B. Macomber** asked if solar panels for powering golf carts would be a possibility.
363

364 **C. Saam** stated yes, this would be a possibility.
365

366 **G. Nystuen** stated that the ads for advertisement on the AATA buses are wonderful to see.
367

368 **L. Berauer** asked if the liquor license has caused any problems
369

370 **C. Saam** stated there have not been any major problems.
371

372 **L. Berauer** asked if you could only buy the liquor in the clubhouse.
373

374 **C. Saam** stated the liquor could also be bought on the course, the entire course is licensed.
375

376 **C. Smith** thanked S. Rosencrans for noticing the great job that Jason Nealis and Cheryl
377 Saam are doing.
378

379 **C. Smith** also stated he has been going to the courses for a long time and seeing the
380 clubhouse completely full and seeing people enjoying the facility was very rewarding.
381

382 **L. Berauer** asked how much longer could the irrigation system function.
383

384 **J. Nealis** stated he could not give an exact date on how long the irrigation system will last. It
385 has been repaired less than five times this season and these repairs have been minor.
386

387 **C. Smith** stated with the pump being replaced there is more control over the pressure and
388 the flow going through the irrigation system, resulting in less strain on the system.
389

390 **J. Nealis** stated the irrigation system has three speeds and it does not have to turn on at full
391 speed. By doing this, the system does not have as much pressure put on it.
392

393 **D. Barrett** asked if a demographic study may be done on who is actually at the courses and
394 if the patrons that are participating are from the immediate area or not.
395

396 **J. Nealis** stated this information could be difficult to gather.
397

398 **G. Nystuen** asked about the drainage recommendation that was supposed to be done this
399 month.

400
401 **L. Berauer** stated she thought the Golf Task Force would make a recommendation.
402

403 **Colin Smith** stated he would check his notes and thought this recommendation did not
404 have to be done until the 2010 season.

405
406 **B. Macomber** asked if those funds were approved by City Council.
407

408 **C. Smith** stated those funds were not approved by City Council.
409

410 **PUBLIC HEARING**

411

412 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

413

414 **B-1** Capital Projects Update

415

416 Colin Smith stated the intent is to explain the Capital Project quarterly to see what
417 projects are happening on a more regular basis.

418

419 **Amy Kuras** spoke on this issue as well as explaining in detail the slide presentation to
420 the Commission. A. Kuras started with the renovations for the Customer Service
421 Center at Cobblestone Farm; there will be three Administrative Support Specialist,
422 along with Jessica Black and Jeff Straw housed at this facility.

423

424 There will be two individual office spaces, three common areas, matching furniture,
425 newly painted walls and carpet. The office space where everyone is relocating was
426 flooding and now has a rain garden and swales to help deal with this.

427

428 **S. Rosencrans** asked if the new offices would be in the house on the Cobblestone
429 Farm grounds or in the barn at Cobblestone Farm.

430

431 **Amy Kuras** stated these renovations are taking place in the barn area.
432

433

434 Bandemer Park improvements include the entry drive with plantings and a retention
435 pond, more green space and separating the bike path from the road. There is new dirt
436 bike jump course that is being used. The other new element is a disc golf course, which
437 is continually being used and is a nice addition to the Park.

438

439 Several game courts have been renovated this summer including Burns Park, Leslie
440 Par and the Ellsworth basketball court. Seven or eight additional courts were color
441 coated as well.

442

443 **S. Rosencrans** asked if there would be improvements done at Mary Beth Doyle Park
444 at the basketball courts.

445

446 **Amy Kuras** stated there would be improvements made to Mary Beth Doyle Park.

447 Work is being done to make the new restrooms barrier free at Olson Park and
448 Bandemer Park.

449
450 Improvements have taken place at The Leslie Science Center in the classroom space.

451
452 **C. Smith** stated signs are being placed at different locations to specify that millage
453 dollars were used to fund the improvements.

454
455 **B. Macomber** stated the restrooms at Bandemer are great, but in the morning the
456 restrooms are still locked.

457
458 **Amy Kuras** stated a new agreement was made to open the restrooms in the morning.

459
460 **G. Nystuen** asked what the hours are to have the restrooms open.

461
462 **C. Smith** stated Parks Operations schedule for mowing the Parks are also tied into the
463 schedule of opening the restrooms.

464
465 **B. Macomber** asked if the maintenance staff could commit to open the restrooms.

466
467 **C. Smith** stated this idea could be looked into especially with the Parks that are used a
468 great deal in the morning hours.

469 There was an arrangement made at Gallup Park for the restrooms to be opened earlier
470 in the morning hours.

471
472 **G. Nystuen** stated earlier in the season there was a complaint regarding trash and
473 since then the problem has been taken care of.

474
475 **B. Macomber** stated the trash is very bad at Bandemer Park where the disc golf is
476 played and suggested Adopt-A-Park could possibly help with this issue.

477
478 **Amy Kuras** stated one of the issues is getting the trucks in that particular area to pick
479 up the trash.

480
481 **L. Berauer** stated user education should play a major role in the Parks.

482
483 **J. Lawter** stated having a few trash cans to be accessible to the pathway might be
484 sufficient.

485
486 **T. Berla** suggested having more trash cans along the paved path to possibly help with
487 the trash build up.

488
489 **Amy Kuras** stated the trash vehicles are very heavy and the bike path cannot handle
490 the weight. It would have to be a different type of vehicle that is not as heavy to pick the
491 trash up in that particular area.

492
493 **J. Lawter** stated the grand opening of the Swift Run Dog Park was a successful event.

494
495 **J. Lawter** also asked if there are any plans for another Dog Park.
496

497 **C. Smith** stated he is not aware of any plans for another Dog Park, but there is room
498 for growth at Olson Park.

499
500 **J. Lawter** stated there are other options for off leash areas.

501
502 **C. Smith** stated at this present time there are not any discussions regarding another
503 Dog Park.

504
505 **S. Rosencrans** suggested placing a sign at Swift Run Dog Park to notify users that
506 Olson Park can also be used.

507
508 **B. Macomber** asked if the monitoring of the Dog Park has been looked into.

509
510 **C. Smith** stated questions have been answered to who has jurisdiction of the Dog Park
511 and it is the Ann Arbor Police Department.

512
513 **B. Macomber** asked if Community Standards enforce the Dog Parks.

514
515 **C. Smith** stated he would ask the proper parties and find out if Community Standards
516 are able to do any enforcement in the Dog Parks.

517
518 **L. Berauer** asked if Amy Kuras could discuss the time line of new projects.

519
520 **Amy Kuras** stated the projects that are forthcoming consist of sidewalk repairs and
521 replacement of sidewalks at Leslie Park on Pontiac Trail, Sugarbush Park sidewalk
522 repairs and equipment at various parks that will be updated and or replaced.

523
524 In terms of West Park, there was a meeting held in July 2008 and there will be another
525 meeting held in September 2008 regarding West Park. Storm water management and
526 increasing programming at West Park were some of the items discussed.

527
528 **B. Macomber** asked if the list of upcoming projects take care of the backlog from the
529 2007 – 2008 fiscal year project list.

530
531 **Amy Kuras** stated some of the projects that are being completed at this time are from
532 the last millage. Several other projects are from Fund 071 (the new millage).

533
534 **C. Smith** stated there were existing projects in Fund 018 and other projects are out of
535 the new millage (Fund 071).

536
537 **L. Berauer** asked when the work would start for West Park.

538
539 **Amy Kuras** stated not until next spring.

540
541 **L. Berauer** asked how much money was set-aside for the projects at West Park.

542
543 **Amy Kuras** stated approximately \$300,000.00. The retaining wall that holds up the
544 side of the tennis courts will have to be replaced. The projects in West Park will be
545 completed over numerous years.

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547 **T. Berla** asked if the tennis courts in West Park would be resurfaced.

548
549 **Amy Kuras** stated part of the problems with the cracking comes might result from the
550 issues regarding the retaining wall so that will be addressed initially.

551
552 **J. Lawter** asked if there were any news regarding the Skate Park project.

553
554 **C. Smith** explained meetings have taken place to outline the legalities of the project
555 and is ongoing.

556
557 **C - NEW BUSINESS**

558
559 **C-1** Renaming of Terhune

560
561 **L. Berauer moved** to discuss the renaming of the Terhune Pioneer Cemetery
562 to the Pioneer Memorial Park, **supported by B. Macomber**

563
564 **C. Smith** stated the memo speaks to a Resolution to rename the Terhune
565 Pioneer Cemetery to the Pioneer Memorial Park as the site does not contain
566 human remains.

567
568 **B. Macomber** asked if it would be premature to vote on the Resolution to
569 change the name of the park.

570
571 **L. Berauer** stated no, there is a Resolution before the Commission. L. Berauer
572 also asked if once the renaming of the park is approved would the Resolution
573 then go to City Council.

574
575 **C. Smith** stated yes once the Resolution was voted on it would then go to City
576 Council for approval of the renaming of the park.

577
578 **L. Berauer** stated the hopes are that a plaque would be placed in the park
579 explaining a couple of paragraphs of history so that people will understand
580 what the park represents.

581
582 **S. Rosencrans** asked that since we have Veterans Memorial Park, is the term
583 Memorial interchangeable with the term of Cemetery.

584
585 **L. Berauer** stated the term cemetery indicates actual human remains on-site
586 and the term memorial does not, and it is to memorialize the people you are
587 honoring.

588
589 **L, Berauer** called for the Commission to vote on renaming The Terhune
590 Pioneer Cemetery to the Pioneer Memorial Park

591
592 **MEMORANDUM**

593
594 **TO:** Park Advisory Commission

595
596 **FROM:** Colin Smith, Parks & Recreation Service Unit Manager

597 DATE: August 19, 2008

598

599 SUBJECT: RESOLUTION RENAMING TERHUNE PIONEER CEMETERY TO TERHUNE
600 PIONEER MEMORIAL PARK FOR PUBLIC CLARIFICATION

601

602

603 Attached for your review and action is a resolution to approve the re-naming of Terhune
604 Pioneer Cemetery to Terhune Pioneer Memorial Park. This re-naming is significant to
605 clearing up the misconception of this parkland. Terhune Pioneer Cemetery has long been
606 viewed, by citizens, as a historic, non-operating cemetery belonging to the City. Where in
607 fact, Terhune Pioneer Cemetery has no human remains buried at this site.

608

609 Terhune Pioneer Cemetery contains the gravestones of John Terhune, Sarah Vreeland
610 Terhune, and Emily Whitmore. The stones were moved to this location from the cemetery at
611 the corner of Packard and Burton Roads by the Daughters of the American Revolution
612 (DAR) in the 1920s after the original burial site had fallen into disrepair.

613 At that time the remains were irreclaimable and no attempt was made to move them. Both
614 the Ypsilanti Chapter and the Ann Arbor Sarah Caswell Angel Chapters of Daughters of the
615 American Revolution have provided and confirmed these facts.

616

617 This parcel of land has always been treated as city parkland, however when recent
618 renovations were made to the memorial cemetery it was discovered that long-time, adjacent
619 neighbors believed that the gravestones truly marked the final burial site for these historic
620 figures. They also conveyed to maintenance staff that the general public belief was that
621 human remains did exist there.

622

623 Therefore, in the interest of general public knowledge and accuracy, is fitting to re-name
624 Terhune Pioneer Cemetery to Terhune Pioneer Memorial Park.

625

626

627 The vote to rename the Terhune Pioneer Cemetery to the Pioneer Memorial Park was as
628 follows:

629

630 **Ayes: (7) L. Berauer, B. Macomber, G. Nystuen, T. Berla,**
631 **J. Lawter, D. Barrett, S. Rosencrans**

632

633 **Nays: (0) None.**

634

635 **Absent: (2) J. Grand, S. Offen**

636

637 *On a voice vote – **Motion Passed** – Unanimous*

638

639 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

640

641 **E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

642

643 **C. Smith** gave an update regarding the job vacancies for Huron Hills & Buhr Park and
644 stated these positions will hopefully be filled by mid-to-late September.

645

646

647 **L. Berauer** asked where the Golf Director would be based.

648
649 **C. Smith** stated the person will be based at Leslie Park but will oversee the entire golf
650 operations and each course has a head groundskeeper that will report to the
651 supervisor on site.

652
653 **B. Macomber** expressed concern regarding the preparation of the next budget,
654 particularly as expenses from the previous year are down and asked what method will
655 be used to calculate the overall increase or decrease in the budget.

656
657 The concern is that since expenses were down due to vacancies, will this become the
658 benchmark from which these calculations will be taken and possibly won't adequately
659 reflect the Parks budget needs.

660
661 **L. Berauer** stated this was a very good point and asked C. Smith if he had any
662 concerns on that subject.

663
664 **C. Smith** stated from his understanding they will be working from the budgeted
665 expenditures from the 2008 – 2009 budget, for the fiscal year of 2010 – 2011.

666
667 **C. Smith** introduced **Kelly McKinnon** (Community Services Financial Manager) to the
668 Commission.

669
670 **C. Smith** introduced **Jeff Straw** (Deputy Parks Manager) to the
671 Commission.

672
673 **L. Berauer** expressed gratitude to both Kelly McKinnon and Jeff Straw
674 being on board. L. Berauer asked Kelly McKinnon how much of her duties
675 will be devoted solely to Parks.

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677 **K. McKinnon** stated she works solely for Community Services and handles
678 the duties for the Parks Department, Planning & Development and
679 Community Development. So her duties for the Parks Department would be at
680 least one third of her duties.

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682 **C. Smith** explained the Cost Center Reports to the Commission in detail, starting
683 with last fiscal year for Fund 0010 (General Fund).

684
685 On the target figure the expected cost to the General Fund was \$1,568,000.00 and
686 we came in under at \$1,537,000.00, the revenues were a bit lower as well as the
687 expenses.

688
689 Page two speaks primarily to administration costs, there are facility rentals activities
690 that should be seen in the next set of Cost Center Reports combined with
691 Cobblestone Farm.

692
693 In the revenue for facility rental, we were budgeting to see \$202,000.00 in revenue
694 and ended up bringing in \$221,000.00.

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696 **L. Berauer** asked Colin Smith to explain operating transfers from Funds 0034 and
697 0069.

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699 **C. Smith** stated that Fund 0069 (\$85,000.00) is the storm water reimbursement; the
700 facilities were charged storm water charges as everyone is in the City depending on
701 their area of impervious surface – this money is reimbursement from the Stormwater
702 fund for educational materials and rain gardens that Parks instituted. C. Smith stated
703 he would have to obtain more information regarding Fund 0034.
704

705 This is the first year Leslie Science has been a non profit, there will be a one time
706 disbursement from the General Fund in 2009 of \$31,500.00.
707

708 The position for facility maintenance which was filled by Matt Waldsmith is a millage
709 expense and was expected to be filled by July 1 and did not get filled until October;
710 this is why you see higher expenses in Administration at Cobblestone Farm. The next
711 report will show Cobblestone and Facility Rentals merged together.
712

713 **B. Macomber** stated it appears if there were the reorganization of statements done
714 that there would still be a loss compared to the budget forecast.
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716 **C. Smith** stated yes there would be and it is primarily due to the administration costs
717 that are related to the job that was expected to be covered by the millage fully by July
718 1 but was not actually filled until October; we cannot move those expenses since it
719 was actually General Fund work.
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721 Buhr Pool expected cost to the General Fund was \$94,000.00 and came in at
722 \$84,000.00, so it performed better than budgeted. The day camp attendance was
723 very good, the swimming was down due to a very cold June and the ice rink rental for
724 Buhr Park exceeded the projected revenue.
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726 The ice rink at Buhr Park had an expected loss of \$48,000.00 but actually exceeded
727 the revenue by \$2,000.00. The expenses were lower partially due to Colin Smith's
728 time being charged to Administration.
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730 **B. Macomber** asked if Colin Smith's move left Buhr Park under staffed.
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732 **C. Smith** stated no.
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745 **C. Smith** stated The Senior Center operations came in within budget and the facility
746 supervisor, after spending significant time assisting with the Community Centers over
747 the last two years, will be returning full-time to the Senior Center.
748

749 **Also stating** the community is very pleased with the outreach centers.
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751 **B. Macomber** asked if Community Action Network as a contractor to the city has to
752 pay a living wage.
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756 **B. Macomber** stated there was \$19,000.00 revenue for the Dog Parks, will this
757 revenue be used to retain the Dog Parks.
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760 Commission.
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763 be set aside and kept for the use and improvements of the Dog Parks.
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765 **C. Smith** explained the millage funds for the end of year 2008 in detail.
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767 The revenue that was brought in was approximately \$7,500,000.00 through the
768 millage and bond payment.
769

770 What is paid out was approximately \$7,300,000.00; those are for parkland
771 acquisitions.
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773 **B. Macomber** asked about reports from Forestry and Park Operations.
774

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781 Center Reports.
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784 the revenues are not coming in, the expenditures go down correspondingly but we
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787 **B. Macomber** asked if the \$197,000.00 loss included the \$1,600,000.00 loss from
788 the General Fund.
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791 would be the combination of the Golf Courses. This also shows that Huron Hills is
792 \$1,450,000.00 to the good in revenue.
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795 General Fund from the Enterprise Fund.

796
797 **C. Smith** stated yes.

798
799 **F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

800
801 **G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

802
803 **H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK**
804 **FORCES**

805
806 **S. Rosencrans** stated the watershed ideas that were discussed in June will be presented to the
807 public at the upcoming public meetings

808
809 **G. Nystuen** stated there will be three public meetings that are forthcoming.

810
811 **I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL** (3 Minutes per Speaker)

812
813 **J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH LAND ACQUISITION ISSUES** (If Applicable)

814
815 **K - TRANSMITTALS**

816
817 **K-1** City Council Items Update

818
819 **K-2** Park Project Update

820
821 **K-3** Park and Recreation Events for July – August 2008

822
823 **K-4** June 2008 Cost Center Reports

824
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956
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958
959 **K-5** July 2008 Cost Center Reports

960
961 **C. Smith** stated pool revenues are up close to 40% for this year through July.

962
963 **L. Berauer** asked if there were any questions regarding the Cost Center
964 Reports.

965
966 There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner**
967 **Macomber** moved, supported by **Commissioner Rosencrans** that the meeting be
968 adjourned. The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

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