

PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 7, 2010

Board Present: Mark Anthony Martin, Jason Koscinski, Janet Luchies, Vicki Locke, Mike Zajac, Susan Williams and Bery Pannkuk

Excused: Elizabeth Jarzambek and John Pfund

Staff Present: Bill Deming and John Milowe

Guests: Residents – Elton Hiscock and Dennis Boyle. WMU students in Recreation Management – Jason Groth, Zach Meisner and Dianna Lenaway.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at Schrier Park

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: The March minutes were approved with amendments.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Schrier Park Overview** – Mark Martin provided a historical overview on Schrier Park. Resident Elton Hiscock requested an access be made in the split-rail fence behind his residence and resident Dennis Boyle requested that a load of woodchips be provided as he will add to trails as necessary. John Milowe offered to work with both residents.
- B. Sub-committee reports:**
1. Green-a-Thon – Everyone is encouraged to attend and assist with this project April 24. There will be face painting, the “Sun Seeker” car from WMU, and many local businesses. Bill will be sending information as to where volunteers will park.
 2. Health Event – There will be a sub-committee meeting at Stuart Manor on April 15, 2010. Over 7 vendors have committed at this time, with donations from other local businesses.
 3. Paddle Fest – The date is July 17, 2010 at Ramona Park Beach. A meeting is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. May 4, 2010 at Ramona Park Beach.
- C. Smoking Ban** – Correspondence has gone to City Council for review at the April 13 meeting. On hold until Council responds.

SUMMARY ACTIVITY:

1. Recreation Softball has 156 teams signed up to date (167 last year). Bill is pleased with the number of teams participating during the down economy.
2. NW Portage Bikeway extensions are underway.
3. Family Fishing Fair is scheduled for April 24 from 4-8 p.m. at Ramona Park. The city received a National Grant for the “Take Me Fishing Program.” Bass Master Champion Kevin VanDam, DNR Sports, boating outfitters, Lee’s Sports, the MDNRE and concessions are some of the participants scheduled.
4. There is renovation of the retention basin at Oakland Drive Park currently underway. This is a storm-water enhancement project.

Comments From Board Members

Vickie Locke – Asked about the feasibility of moving snow around in some parks to create sledding hills. Bill Deming will investigate.

Mark Martin – Spoke about smoke free parks and letter sent to Council.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vicki Locke, Secretary