

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD ZOOM MEETING MINUTES –December 16, 2020

PRESENT: Jake Chesnutt, Kristen Weaver, Lola Skolnik, Lance Beasley, Marc Siegel, Malik Gupta;
Youth Advisory Committee Liaison to PRAB

Staff: Greg Varda, Recreation Director
Cathryn Pracht, Administrative Coordinator

Guest: Tris West, Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team President

Excused: Mayor Pro Tem Jordan, Ric Gordon, Betty Sonneveldt

Unexcused: Les Whitmer, Michael Lee

PRAB meeting called to order at 7:31 pm by Chair, Jake Chesnutt

December Agenda was approved.

November 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes were approved.

Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) Liaison-Malik Gupta

The Youth Advisory Committee is working towards establishing a YAC representative on various advisory boards to expand YAC's impact on the youth in the community.

PRAB welcomed Malik and looks forward to his involvement.

Recognition Groups:

- **Greenbelt Municipal Swim Team (GMST)-Tris West**
 - GMST serves approximately 30 swimmers that are interested in indoor swimming.
 - Prior to Covid-19, GMST merged with Severn Crossing Swim Club. This merger may increase revenue through new member registrations which would also increase GAFC memberships. Severn Crossing does not house an indoor pool however their outdoor pool offers an opportunity to expand GMST summer practice hours.
 - Due to Covid-19 restrictions, facility rental costs have increased. Most other costs have remained stable or have been reduced.
 - Revenue sources mainly come from registration fees and the city grant.
 - GMST has increased the registration fees from \$120 to \$150 with a possible increase to \$200 in an effort to increase revenue.
 - PRAB discussed that GMST's financial reserves are in excess of the annual operating expenses and were not confident in their financial need for additional subsidy.
 - A PRAB report will be submitted recommending the GMST be funded at the FY 20 level.

Department Update:**Facilities and Parks:**

- A lifeguard at the GAFC tested positive for Covid-19. As a result, the GAFC was closed and 8 staff members that were potentially exposed received testing for Covid-19. These staff members tested negative. Greg will meet with the City Manager and Human Resources Director to discuss the reopening of the GAFC.
- FY22 Recognition Group applications have been sent to the Public Information Office to be posted on the City website.

Special Events:

- The virtual Gobble Wobble received 180 registered participants.
- The Festival of Lights Craft Show was held on the Virtual Recreation Center. The online shopping has been very successful. Vendors are pleased with sales.
- Although the traditional Tree Lighting event did not occur, lights and a holiday tree adorned the Roosevelt Center.
- Chris Cherry created a wonderful video that can be viewed on the VRC, *Light up the Night with Hope*, it is a celebration of music and caring.
- Greg attended the Black History Month Committee meeting. Greg will have a brochure available at the January meeting.
- Becky Sutfin is putting together senior activity bags, which are very popular. The seniors love them.

PRAB Reappointment Update:

- The following PRAB members are up for reappointments:
 - May 2021
 - Lola
 - Lance
 - Marc
 - October 2021
 - Jake

The next ZOOM meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Cathryn Pracht, Administrative Coordinator