

**PARK & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**APPROVED 4-15-15 BY VOTE OF 7-0**

**LOCATION:** Community Center – RM 114

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 21, 2015

**TIME:** 7:30p.m.

Members Present: Lola Skolnik, Lester Whitmer, Betty Sonneveld, Kelly Ivy, Ken Blue, Michael Lee and Leta Mach, Councilmember  
Staff Present: Brian Towson, Richard Fink  
Excused: Julie McHale (staff liaison), Chris Husker, Marc Siegel

1. Call to Order 7:35
  - a. Kickoff waiting for quorum
  
2. Councilwoman Mach Updates/comments
  - a. Greenbelt Theater Operations – work is progressing on moving forward restoration
    - i. Council is seeking more community involvement on how to implement necessary modifications
      1. February opening
      2. Council decision will be made Monday, January 26
      3. Decision will incorporate more family type films
      4. Individual concerns were stated about an extension of New Deal were stated that the New Deal should remain the New Deal and the Theater should remain the Theater
    - ii. Youth Sports was discussed
    - iii. Economic Development Advisory board was also discussed as a new board
    - iv. Minimum Wage – concerns over the salary increases versus the recoil of the loss of good will.
      1. It was stated that there is a subcommittee discussing the process of doing the analysis in order to make an advisory report to council.
      2. The concerns are the increase of minimum wage as planned completely wiping out any good will for people of experience being paid the same amount as people entering the job market
  - b. Greenbelt Middle School status
    - i. Discussion with school board over prices and negotiations for options for rentals other than the offered option but things do not seem hopeful
    - ii. This seems like a face saving effort by the school board until the Goddard School can reclaim the remaining space.
    - iii. It was discussed that this does not seem like a good deal for the city.
  
3. Department Updates – Staff liaison was not present due to inclement weather.
  - a. Recreation Supervisor position received 96 applications
  - b. Recognition and Contribution Group dates
    - i. Training is scheduled between Monday, February 9 at the Community Center in room 114, 7-9PM
    - ii. February 27 applications are due and meeting space is reserved for review of Groups
    - iii. Review Contribution Group Applications on March 18; an additional meeting scheduled for April 1 – look for emails of the applications and review prior to the meeting

- iv. Giving out Linda Ivy contact information for fundraising activities at the Labor Day Festival because the Labor Day provides you with a vendor who gives you a portion for the vendor to do a fundraising event. Board is looking for feedback from the Labor Day committee to address this in the PRAB discussions for next year.

4. Approval of Minutes:

- a. **November 19, 2014 Minutes** – approved as written, unanimously.
- b. **December 17, 2014 Minutes** – approved as written, unanimously

5. The **Buddy “Attick” Park MasterPlan**

- a. Discussion w/ Public Works Staff Present
  - i. Scope of job parks and grounds is new
- b. Lake Park Master Plan
  - i. Has reviewed the plan and understands the debates over the policy
  - ii. Lola provided a history of the lake park master plan changes over the past 20 years. The revised committee is looking to create a policy that is broad yet specific to address certain issues
  - iii. 1990 document is the approved document that is currently in use
  - iv. Discussed updates
    1. Playgrounds and GIS
    2. Surfacing – one of our suggestions is making surfacing available via web access
    3. Global Information System of the inventory of the playground equipment as part of the master plan – making the playground equipment appropriate for age groups.
    4. Inventory – was discussed as not being necessary for the master plan.
    5. Laying out the parameters without being specific in the details that keep the people who are hired to make judgment decisions for changing demographics and other policies by other agencies.
    6. Should include history – overview – use – maintenance and care – key improvements – what is missing is usage and might include a survey – how many people use – busy seasons
    7. Committees
      - a. Green aces
      - b. Forest Preserve
      - c. Committee on Trees
      - d. Recreation Department
- c. ACT Sustainable Land Care DRAFT policy – October 2013
  - i. Has reviewed the plan and understands the debates over the policy
  - ii. Lola provided a history of the background/history and the draft. The Board is looking to support the draft because we have been told that the city is at risk of being in violation of being out of state and federal compliance on invasive species.
  - iii. Supposed to have been distributed – the draft plan that was complete in October 2013
    1. Original
    2. Revised
    3. To be distributed before next meeting
    4. What is the timeline for moving forward?
      - a. Staff supports the policy
      - b. There are some minor changes that are being addressed.
      - c. The concerns are some of the wording that is to be addressed.

- d. Track changes will be communicated by staff
  - 5. Is there anything in the plan for downed trees –
    - a. A. No, that is an operational staff decision based on roadway, fire, hazard, right of way. Overall we try to leave trees for natural. Follow-up would it make sense to add to the ACT or the Master Plan? As part of the forest preserve we are not allowed to do anything for downed trees
  - 6. PRAB would like to see PW final version so we can make our recommendation – Lola
  - 7. Looking to add to next agenda of the next meeting on February 18, 2015 and status of dam and restoration.
  - d. Report Card review –
    - i. No comments and the group would like to discuss during the meetings.
    - ii. Last meeting we started going through report card page by page
  - e. Next Steps – requested PRAB members make and forward their comments to Ken prior to the next meeting in order to expedite the review process.
6. New Business
- a. Contribution groups participating in city activities and getting
  - b. Everyone needs to bring their lake park master plan with the report card and their comments for next month.
7. Old Business - none
8. Adjournment – 9:12