



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022**

Confidential Assistant Ms. Hana Jaquays welcomed everyone to the regularly scheduled June Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting. Ms. Jaquays introduced, Deputy Police Chief Kolke, Council Member Woods, DPW Superintendent Dan Ladd, HR Administrator/ Deputy City Clerk Gross, and Merge Live.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL: Arnold, Fernandes, Masi, Johnson, O'Rourke

ABSENT: Palmer, Robertson

OTHERS PRESENT: City Manager Whitt, Deputy Police Chief Kolke, Council Member Woods, DPW Superintendent Ladd, Recording Secretary Gross, Confidential Assistant Jaquays

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

P&R 6-01-22 APPROVAL OF THE MAY 9, 2022, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Fernandes, seconded by Johnson, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:** To approve the May 9, 2022, Parks and Recreation meeting minutes.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION:

1. Riley Park Playground Equipment Upgrade Presentation

Recording secretary Gross said she put together a PowerPoint for the Parks & Recreation Commission on the Riley Park Playground Equipment. Ms. Gross said the PowerPoint consists of before and after pictures of the play structure and benches. Ms. Gross said the old equipment was in poor condition and needed to be replaced. Ms. Gross said the

pictures really tell that story. Ms. Gross said as you can see, the new equipment has really enhanced the park. Ms. Gross encouraged everyone to go check out the new structure, if they haven't already.

Confidential Assistant Jaquays said while her and the City Manager were out checking on current city projects last week, they stopped at Riley Park. Ms. Jaquays said they witnessed a preschool gathering taking place. Ms. Jaquays said they were approached by multiple parents providing positive feedback on the new play structure.

City Manager Whitt said it is good to see the community utilize the new play structure at Riley Park.

DPW Superintendent Ladd said that the concrete was poured today for the sidewalk at Riley Park. Mr. Ladd also said the grass is beginning to grow in around the park nicely.

2. Memorial Day Parade After Action Report

Chairman O'Rourke thanked city staff and all the volunteers that helped with both the spring egg hunt and the Memorial Day Parade. Mr. O'Rourke said that both events were well put together and well attended.

Commissioner Masi said he agrees with Mr. O'Rourke. Mr. Masi said the spring egg hunt and Memorial Day Parade were well organized and turnout was great.

City Manager Whitt thanked Ms. Gross for organizing the parade. Mr. Whitt said she threw a great parade with the help of Ms. Jaquays.

Recording secretary Gross thanked those members from Parks & Recreation that showed up to help with the Memorial Day Parade. Ms. Gross thanked Ms. Stuart and Ms. Jaquays for assisting with the early morning set up. Ms. Gross thanked DPW Superintendent Ladd and his crew for the long hours they put in days before and day of. Ms. Gross thanks Marielle Lue for being the Grand Marshal and the Fox 2 News coverage. Ms. Gross thanked Council Member Woods for allowing the city to use his brand-new Ford Bronco and allowing DDA member Millen to drive it.

Confidential Assistant Jaquays said that DDA member Millen put together a short clip that captured some of the highlights from the Memorial Day Parade. Ms. Jaquays said she would like to show it tonight.

Recording Secretary Gross said the new staging area worked well. Ms. Gross said there was much more space for the applicants. Ms. Gross said turn out seemed to be better than in past years, as far as applicants and viewers. Ms. Gross said everything went smoothly including the ceremony after the parade. Ms. Gross said the weather cooperated and she heard a lot of positive feedback.

3. Summer Concerts Update

Recording secretary Gross said she wanted to remind everyone that the first summer concert is Wednesday, June 22nd. Ms. Gross said the city has partnered with State Farm and they will be providing free Kona Ice from 6:30 – 8:30 P.M. Ms. Gross said the summer concerts are being advertised on the city’s website and social media. Ms. Gross said there are flyers at city hall, at the library, and at a few local businesses. Ms. Gross said there are a few yard signs out at the major intersections and banners on the welcome signs. Ms. Gross said there are two concerts in June, three in July, and two in August. Ms. Gross said as a reminder the concerts are held at Hiram Sims Park and are from 7-9 P.M.

4. Farmers Market Update

Ms. Jaquays said we are headed into week 7 of the farmer’s market. Ms. Jaquays said we have had anywhere between 10 and 15 vendors, so for this season. Ms. Jaquays thanked the intern Kaylee Hall for her assistance with the market this year. Ms. Jaquays said she is a major asset to the city. Ms. Jaquays thanked DPW Superintendent Ladd and his crew for improving and maintaining the field where the market is hosted. Ms. Jaquays said on June 22nd there will be a small festival hosted with the farmer’s market. Ms. Jaquays said there will be the usual vendors, entertainment and a food truck. Ms. Jaquays said this event is to help kick off the summer season. Ms. Jaquays said she sent out a survey to the vendors, seeking feedback. Ms. Jaquays said that several vendors are interested in adjusting the current timeframe of the market. Ms. Jaquays said after reviewing the feedback it seems as though people would like a little bit of a later start time. Ms. Jaquays said the first hour or so is generally slower compared to the rest of the day. Ms. Jaquays said the vendors are looking to switch the time from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. or 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. Ms. Jaquays said she will keep the Parks & Recreation Commission Members updated.

Recording secretary Gross thanked Ms. Jaquays for all the time and effort she puts into the farmer’s market. Ms. Gross said there is a lot of behind the scenes work that people aren’t aware of and Ms. Jaquays does a fantastic job.

5. 2022 Summer Festival

Confidential Assistant Jaquays said the city is planning on having the summer festival this year, however the event will look a little different than it has in the past. Ms. Jaquays said the event will be on Saturday, June 25th. Ms. Jaquays said phase II of the construction at the beach will not be completed by then. Ms. Jaquays said the city will safely and temporarily open it. Ms. Jaquays said she is hoping to recruit some food trucks, a few other vendors, and some activities to take place later in the day. Ms. Jaquays said DDA member Millen will be hosting a car show downtown and the Tiki Bar restaurant will have entertainment and drinks being served in their parking lot. Ms. Jaquays said the streets will be closed for the public’s safety. Ms. Jaquays said the event will conclude with the annual firework show put on by the Walled Lake Civic Fund at dusk.

P&R 6-02-22 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Miranda Gross
HR Administrator/ Deputy City Clerk

Dennis O'Rourke
Chairman