



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION  
MONDAY, MAY 08, 2023**

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

**PLEDGE TO FLAG**

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

**ABSENT:** Robertson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Manager Whitt, Assistant City Manager Jaquays, Recording Secretary Gross, DPW Superintendent Ladd, DDA Board Member Jerry Millen

**REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES:**

Chairman O'Rourke requested to add the summer festival under discussion as item number five.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**P&R 05-01-23 APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 13, 2023, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Fernandes, seconded by Masi, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the March 13, 2023, Parks and Recreation meeting minutes.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**DISCUSSION:**

1. Spring Egg Hunt After Action Report

Recording Secretary Gross said that on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> the city hosted an egg stuffing event at 10 am in City Council Chambers. Ms. Gross thanked Mr. Robertson, Mrs. Robertson, Casey R. Ambrose, Caseys of Walled Lake employees, Lori Whitt with the Walled Lake Central Arts Honor Society, and city administration for helping stuff the eggs for the Annual Spring Egg Hunt.

Recording Secretary Gross said the Annual Spring Egg Hunt took place the following Saturday on April 8<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm. Ms. Gross thanked those that assisted and participated in this event. Ms. Gross said the turnout was great. Ms. Gross said the kids really enjoy the free petting zoo, inflatable, magician, and candy.

Commissioner Johnson inquired about getting city shirts to wear at events.

City Manager Whitt told the commission to email their shirt size and we will get each member a polo shirt.

## 2. Farmers Market Opening Day

Assistant City Manager Jaquays said she is happy to report that we had a successful Opening Day of our 19<sup>th</sup> Farmers Market Season last Wednesday. Ms. Jaquays said we had record participation, with 29 vendors and 3 food trucks (The Little Donut Factory, Brava Empanadas, and Blue Kuna Industries). Ms. Jaquays said from 11 am-2 pm, we offered entertainment, including a live performance from local musician Rich Rustad, a story time with the Walled Lake Library, and lawn games. Ms. Jaquays said the library indicated, despite the weather, the story time was well attended. Ms. Jaquays said the lawn games, including Cornhole and Giant Jenga, were accessible throughout the day and were utilized. Ms. Jaquays said State Farm was also offering free cookies from a local bakery for patrons to enjoy. Ms. Jaquays said overall, Opening Day was well attended, and the vendors were in good spirits. Ms. Jaquays said we are steadily receiving new applicants and look forward to expanding the market over time. Ms. Jaquays said the next big event will be our Farmer Market Summer Festival on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> to kick off the first day of summer. Ms. Jaquays thanked Ms. Kaylee Hall for organizing and managing the market again this year. Ms. Jaquays thanked the commission members for their support and said she hopes to see everyone at the market throughout the season.

## 3. Oakland County Grant Submittal

Recording Secretary Gross said she wanted to give the commission an update on the 2023 Oakland County Parks and Recreation Park Improvement and Trailways grant submittal. Ms. Gross said that the grant application was completed and submitted on Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gross said the city requested a 50% match to develop 2 pickleball courts at Riley Park. Ms. Gross said the grant amount requested was \$80,000. Ms. Gross said the DDA passed a resolution on April 11<sup>th</sup> committing up to \$50,000 for the match if the grant is awarded to the city. Ms. Gross thanked those who submitted a letter of support. Ms. Gross said in total, there were 10 letters of support submitted. Ms. Gross said the award announcement will take place on Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gross said she will keep the parks and recreation commission updated.

4. Memorial Day Parade

Recording Secretary Gross said the Memorial Day Parade is on Monday, May 29<sup>th</sup> at 11 am. Ms. Gross said that the staging area will be hosted at 850 Ladd Road and the parade will travel along Maple Road, ending at the public safety campus. Ms. Gross said following the parade will be a short ceremony to honor our fallen heroes. Ms. Gross said so far, the city has received about 24 applications. Ms. Gross said the deadline for applications to be submitted is May 10<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gross said this allows event organizers time to put the lineup together. Ms. Gross asked that the parks and recreation members meet at 850 Ladd Road at 9 am to help prepare for the parade. Ms. Gross said she will send out an email reminder closer to May 29<sup>th</sup>.

5. Summer Festival

Assistant City Manager Jaquays said the city has had a couple of internal meetings in regard to the summer festival. Ms. Jaquays said the event will be on Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Jaquays said the firework show sponsored by the Walled Lake Civic Fund will take place at dusk. Ms. Jaquays said the city will be recruiting food trucks later on in the day to place along E. Walled Lake Dr. before and during the firework show. Ms. Jaquays said there will be a petting zoo, inflatables, and other activities throughout the day in partnership with DDA member Jerry Millen, owner of the Green House.

**P&R 05-02-23            ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

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Miranda Gross  
HR Director/ Deputy City Clerk

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Dennis O'Rourke  
Chairman