



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2021**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Fernandes, Masi, Johnson, Robertson

ABSENT: O'Rourke, Palmer

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Ackley, Council Member Owsinek, Council Member Woods, Captain Kolke, DPW Team Lead Ladd, Recording Secretary Gross, Confidential Assistant Jaquays

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

P&R 05-01-21 APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 12, 2021, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Fernandes, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY:** To approve the April 12, 2021, Parks and Recreation meeting minutes.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION:

1. Park Walk Through

The commission members agreed to postpone discussion on the park walk through until the next meeting, when chairman O'Rourke will be in attendance.

2. Farmers Market Update

Confidential Assistance Jaquays said the farmers market will be held at our public safety campus from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Wednesday beginning May 19th. Ms. Jaquays said staff has sent out the vendor applications and we have already received several back. Ms. Jaquays said we have some new vendors this year in addition to many returning vendors. Ms. Jaquays said she is looking forward to this season especially with all the infrastructure improvements made at the public safety campus. Ms. Jaquays said the new bridge allows the trail goers easy access to the farmers market. Ms. Jaquays encouraged the commission members to follow the farmers market on Facebook and Instagram. Ms.

Jaquays said these social media platforms allow us to provide updates throughout the season, such as what produce is available and what vendors are in attendance.

3. 2021 Summer Concerts

Recording Secretary Gross said she received the contracts back from all the bands. Ms. Gross said therefore the 2021 flyer is now finalized. Ms. Gross said the flyer was emailed out to the board, was placed on the website and will be in the message board at Mercer Beach. Ms. Gross encouraged to the commission to distribute the flyers.

City Manager Whitt said when the construction at the public safety campus is completed, we can start considering what concerts and activities can be held over there in addition to the farmers market. Mr. Whitt said in addition to this commissions park walk through, the council members did their own walk through as well. Mr. Whitt said it seems everyone agrees that the playground equipment at Marshal Taylor Park and Riley Park are in need of replacement. Mr. Whitt said Mr. Ladd did some research on playground equipment and has a report for the commission tonight.

4. Playground Equipment

DPW Team Lead Ladd said he got ahold of a local vendor and obtained cost estimates to replace two current play structures. Mr. Ladd said one structure is for Marshal Taylor Park called *smart play treetops* and one structure for Riley Park called *smart play beach comber*. Mr. Ladd discussed the cost breakdown for each which included removal of the old equipment, swings, benches, freight, installation, PIP surfacing, and concrete boarders. Mr. Ladd said the DPW could remove the current structures and restore the area themselves, which would be a huge cost savings. Mr. Ladd said the total estimated cost of the treetop play structure concept is \$158,000.00 and the \$146,000.00 for the beach comber.

Commissioner Johnson asked if there are any kind of guarantees or warranties that comes with this equipment or workmanship once it is completed. Mr. Johnson said that is a lot of money and he just wants to make sure it is going to last.

DPW Team Lead Ladd said that is a great question. Mr. Ladd said there are warranties included. Mr. Ladd said he was not exactly sure how many years it is under warranty but that is something that will be considered before signing any kind of contract. Mr. Ladd said they would provide us with an annual checklist and either we could contract them to do the maintenance, or the city can do it.

Commissioner Masi asked the name of the company the equipment is from. Mr. Masi also asked if a picture could be emailed to the commission of both concepts. Mr. Masi said he is interested as to what they look like.

DPW Team Lead Ladd said the company is Superior Play, LLC and they are located in Brighton, Michigan.

Recording Secretary Gross said she would email more information to the commission tomorrow.

Commissioner Fernandes thanked Mr. Ladd for putting the concepts together. Ms. Fernandes said both structures would be a great addition to our city. Ms. Fernandes said she is really excited about this opportunity.

Council Member Owsinek said he concurs with Ms. Fernandes. Mr. Owsinek said he walked through Riley and Marshal Taylor Park and they are both in desperate need of an upgrade. Mr. Owsinek said this would be in conjunction with the Foster Farmhouse improvements at Riley Park and it would be a great addition. Mr. Owsinek said he was glad to see children utilizing the playground equipment at Marshal Taylor Park when he walked through. Mr. Owsinek said he is looking forward to the park improvements to come.

Council Member Woods thanked Mr. Ladd for all that he does for the parks. Mr. Woods said he concurs with his fellow council people. Mr. Woods said there are so many upcoming projects to look forward to such as sidewalk, street and park improvements. Mr. Woods said it is a great sight to see here in Walled Lake.

Mayor Ackley said it has been a long time coming. Mayor Ackley said maintenance has been kept up by the city's DPW but the parks have been neglected as far as improvements. Mayor Ackley said we have worked hard over the last few years to save money and it is time to put it back into the parks for the children. Mayor Ackley thanked Mr. Ladd for all his hard work and for his research on the playground equipment he presented tonight. Mayor Ackley said she received an application for the Parks and Recreation Commission a while ago from Michelle Arnold. Mayor Ackley said she plans on making a recommendation to council to appoint Ms. Arnold to fill the vacancy on this commission at the next council meeting. Mayor Ackley said she invited Ms. Arnold to the meeting tonight and if she would like to introduce herself, please allow her.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Michelle Arnold, 541 E. Walled Lake Dr. – Ms. Arnold said she is a Walled Lake resident. Ms. Arnold said she has three young children, so she visits the Walled Lake Parks often. Ms. Arnold said she is excited to join the team.

P&R 05-02-21 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Miranda Gross
Deputy Clerk

Dennis O'Rourke
Chairman