



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019**

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

ROLL CALL: Cheney, Hecht, Loch, Moore, O'Rourke, Palmer

ABSENT: DuBois

OTHERS PRESENT: Recording Secretary Gross, DPW Laborer Dan Ladd

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

P&R 04-01-19 APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 11, 2019, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Cheney, seconded Palmer, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the March 11, 2019 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Update – Spring Egg Hunt

Deputy City Clerk & Recording Secretary Gross said the bounce house, face painting, and magician is booked for the event. Ms. Gross mentioned this year, a magic show will take place after the egg hunt instead of doing the prize baskets. Ms. Gross said the T-shirts have been made and there are extras if anyone on Parks & Rec. would like one. Ms. Gross said the flyers were distributed to the schools on March 20th and the eggs will be dropped off at the Walled Lake Villa on Friday, April 12th to be stuffed with candy. Ms. Gross also mentioned new yard signs have been made for the event and the bunny costume is ready to be picked up tonight. Ms. Gross said the event is on the marquee sign, website, and Twitter.

Commissioner Palmer stated there is never anything about Walled Lake in the Free Press. Mr. Palmer asked if that is something we have to pay for. Mr. Palmer asked if the city could check into that.

Recording Secretary Gross said yes, you do have to pay to get an ad in any newspaper. Ms. Gross said it might be possible to get an ad in the Spinal Column next week.

Commissioner Palmer asked Ms. Gross to call the Free Press, he said they might not charge for the event ad.

Commissioner Hecht mentioned at the last meeting the commission asked that someone start focusing on social media more, possibly one of the interns. Mr. Hecht said the city should look into creating a Facebook and Next-door account. Mr. Hecht asked that the city staff send information regarding the events via e-mail for the board to post on their own social media accounts.

DPW Laborer Dan Ladd mentioned there would be a Boy Scout troop coming to Sims Park the day of the event to help distribute the eggs.

Recording Secretary Gross said she did verify with the Fire Chief that nothing was going on the day of the egg hunt at the fire station in case of inclement weather.

2. Update – Farmers' Market

DPW Laborer Dan Ladd said he started cleaning up the Farmers' Market field.

Recording Secretary Gross said we only have about 4 vendor applications so far. Ms. Gross said the city website, marquee sign and Twitter all say seeking vendors. Ms. Gross said the interns have sent out over 500 e-mails, called numerous people, and have sent out applications to previous vendors through the mail. Ms. Gross mentioned in the past she knows a lot of people turn in their applications last minute so hopefully that is the case because we have the whole field available this year and it would be nice to have more vendors than in the past.

Commissioner Hecht said at the last meeting we asked to see what kind of money is coming in from the Farmer's Market.

Recording secretary Gross said she had the finance director print the revenue and expenditure report for the Farmers' Market for 2016 through 2018. Ms. Gross said the expenditures do not include labor for the DPW workers or the office staff. Ms. Gross said the revenue has decreased significantly over the last year or two. Ms. Gross said the office staff is open to any suggestions on how to recruit more vendors. Ms. Gross said the interns have been working extremely hard on trying to bring back prior vendors and recruit new ones.

Commissioner Hecht asked at what point do we say cancel the Farmers' Market. Mr. Hecht said it is costing the taxpayer's money with the upkeep and labor. Mr. Hecht said it doesn't seem fiscally responsible to keep it going if we aren't breaking even.

DPW Laborer Dan Ladd said the city owns the property so whether there is a Farmers' Market or not the city is still responsible for the upkeep.

Commissioner O'Rourke asked if there was a better day to have it?

Recording Secretary Gross said you have to keep in mind that if you have it on Saturday you would have to pay staff time and a half and if you have it on Sunday you would have to pay double time.

Commissioner Hecht said from everything he has gathered he thinks it might be best to cancel it.

Chairman Moore said we should see how it goes this year and go from there.

Recording Secretary Gross said she will send out an e-mail for the commission to share in regard to needing vendors. Ms. Gross said she will make sure it gets in the newspaper as well.

Commissioner Loch said even with the construction going on last year and only having 8 vendors there were great crowds.

DPW Laborer Dan Ladd said the Farmers' Market brings people to the city, which is a benefit in itself.

Commissioner Hecht suggested somehow tracking how many people attend the Farmers' Market to be able to relay that information and to vendors to attract them.

3. Update – Concerts in the Park

Recording Secretary Gross said she has received all but one contract back from the bands and the one she hasn't received is the Patrick Fitzgibbon Band.

Chairman Moore said he would give the band a call and check in with them.

Recording Secretary Gross mentioned she was asked by a prior beach party vendor if she could sell ice cream at the concerts.

Commissioner Loch said that would be great.

Commissioner O'Rourke said that would be excellent.

Commissioner Hecht said tell her to come to the egg hunt as well.

Chairman Moore said he was going to try and get ahold of Gary's Catering and see if he could send a food truck out free of charge.

Commissioner Hecht said someone should also contact C.A.Y.A. and see if they want to send a food truck out as well.

Commissioner Loch recommended asking the band Laughing Madmen to perform at beach party this year.

Commissioner Hecht mentioned on Saturday he got the postcard with all the events on there and that they look great.

4. Update – Memorial Day Parade

Recording Secretary Gross said 7 applications have been received so far for the Memorial Day parade.

Chairman Moore asked who was going to do the lineup.

Recording Secretary Gross said staff.

Commissioner Hecht said last year we talked about charging parade applicants.

Recording Secretary Gross said it is too late to do it this year but if you want to do that next year you could make a recommendation to council.

Commissioner Hecht said maybe just charge businesses that are not within Walled Lake that use it for advertising. Mr. Hecht asked Ms. Gross to make a note to remind the commission to make a recommendation to charge non-Walled Lake businesses to be in the parade at the beginning of next year.

Commissioner Palmer suggested looking into what other communities charge for people to participate in the parade.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion – Beach Party

Recording Secretary Gross mentioned 3 applications have been turned in already. Ms. Gross said after the DDA meeting tomorrow hopefully we will have a date for the first beach party meeting.

Commissioner Hecht asked that members of the civic fund be invited to the beach party meetings to include them and maybe work together with them. Mr. Hecht said the civic fund does such a good job every year of putting on the firework show. Mr. Hecht said I know in the past the civic fund has mentioned stopping doing the fireworks, so the city needs to be prepared to take that over when they do. Mr. Hecht said his concern is that by the city asking for sponsors they are taking away money from the civic fund. Mr. Hecht said there has got to be another way to go about it like taking on the fireworks.

DISCUSSION

Recording Secretary Gross mentioned the grants for Mercer Beach, Sims Park, and SEMCOG were all submitted by the Deadline of April 1st.

Commissioner Hecht said the spinal column did a great job on the article in regard to the submittal of the grants for Parks & Recreation. Mr. Hecht asked that the commission be provided

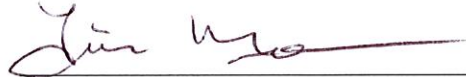
a printout of the budget at each meeting. Mr. Hecht asked that city staff bring back a quote at the next meeting for the purpose of purchasing a message board for the city parks.

P&R 04-03-19 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.



Miranda Gross
Deputy Clerk



Tim Moore
Chairman