



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024**

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

PLEDGE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL: Adams, Fernandes, Johnson, O'Rourke

ABSENT: Arnold, Robertson

OTHERS PRESENT: Assistant City Manager Jaquays, DPW Superintendent Ladd

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES: None

**P&R 08-01-24 MOTION TO EXCUSE PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSIONER ARNOLD AND ROBERTSON**

Motion by O'Rourke, seconded by Adams, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To excuse Parks and Recreation Commissioner Arnold and Robertson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**P&R 08-02-24 APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 10, 2024 PARKS AND RECREATION
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Admas, seconded by Johnson, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the June 10, 2024 Parks and Recreation meeting minutes.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Ruth DuFresne, 300 Eagle Pond – Ms. DuFresne provided an update to the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding the Commerce Township Area Historical Society (CTAHS) Trail Talks. Ms. DuFresne said the CTAHS has been hosting trail talks during the Market Place and has found the talks to be well-received by Market patrons. Ms. DuFresne shared that the CTAHS has started cemetery talks and has received an interest in volunteers looking to do cemetery restoration. Ms. DuFresne said a survey will be conducted. Ms. DuFresne acknowledged that the families own the headstones. Ms. DuFresne thanked the Commission for their support and engagement with the Historical Society.

Chairman O'Rourke thanked Ms. DuFresne for the information and expressed his appreciation for the Historical Society's contributions. Mr. O'Rourke asked how headstones were to be restored.

Ms. DuFresne said the Historical Society will hire a professional to complete the restoration work.

Commissioner Fernandes said she appreciated and thanked Ms. DuFresne for the information and work she has been doing in Walled Lake.

Commissioner Johnson asked who owns the Walled Lake cemetery?

Ms. Jaquays said the City of Walled Lake owns the Walled Lake Cemetery property. Ms. Jaquays said the City sells plots and once the transaction is completed, the purchaser has the rights to use the plot as desired. Ms. Jaquays said the City's Department of Public Works maintains the grounds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION:

1. Market Place Update

Ms. Jaquays said the Market Place has had two festivals this year, and the last festival is scheduled for this Wednesday. Ms. Jaquays shared some of the activities that are expected to happen and recapped the activities that took place in June and July. Ms. Jaquays said City Hall continues to receive interested applicants wanting to participate in the market.

Chairman O'Rourke thanked DPW for their efforts in manicuring the Public Safety Campus grounds.

2. Summer Festival After-Action Report

Ms. Jaquays said Walled Lake's annual summer festival was a successful and well-attended event. Ms. Jaquays said there were no issues from a Public Safety perspective. Ms. Jaquays said in response to the community's feedback, the Market Place hosted a weekend market including vendors from Wednesday, new vendors, and a dog rescue adoption event. Ms. Jaquays said in the evening and afternoon, activities took place along E. Walled Lake Drive including a beer tent hosted by the Walled Lake Civic Fund, food trucks, cornhole tournament, Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, and live music.

Chairman O'Rourke said the Live Hit on Fox News that morning featuring the market and advertising the day's activities was great to see on TV. Mr. O'Rourke suggested additional seating or picnic benches downtown.

Ms. Jaquays thanked the Walled Lake Civic Fund for their contributions to the event and for organizing the firework display in the evening.

Commissioner Adams asked how the City markets these events?

Ms. Jaquays said the City utilizes the Social Media pages to advertise and the marquee sign in front of City Hall.

3. Summer Concerts Update

Ms. Jaquays said the last summer concert scheduled for the 2024 season will be this Wednesday. Ms. Jaquays said the summer concerts have been well-attended and continue to be a popular event during the summer.

Chairman O'Rourke suggested additional ways to advertise and spread awareness for next year.

4. State of the Parks


Commissioner Fernandes said she was interested in developing a list of active and future projects for the City's parks. Ms. Fernandes suggested an inventory of what items could be upgraded.

Mr. O'Rourke asked about the utilization of the beach this summer?

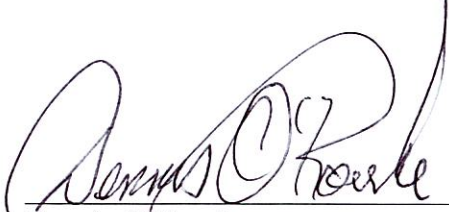
DPW Superintendent Ladd said the beach continues to receive a lot of use and activity during the week and weekends. Mr. Ladd said during heavy rainfalls, DPW maintains the beach and the affected sand areas. Mr. Ladd said with an increase in popularity over the weekends, DPW tends to the beach on Sunday for cleanup.

P&R 08-03-24 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.



Hana Jaquays
Recording Secretary



Dennis O'Rourke
Chairman