

SOUTH LYON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES

Wednesday September 9, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Chairperson Olando.

Present: Dianne Beagle
Robert McConnell
Lori Mosier
Michael Olando
Erica Wilson

Kristen Delaney - City of South Lyon

Absent: Scott Black

Approval of Minutes - Motion by Wilson, supported by McConnell, to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2009 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda - Beagle proposed the addition of agenda item Park Usage Requests. McConnell proposed the addition of agenda item Drinking Fountain at Paul Baker Park. Motion by McConnell, supported by Wilson, to approve the agenda as amended for the September 9, 2009 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments – None.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. **Outdoor Movie Equipment Update** - Delaney stated that the communities involved are still working on the inter-local agreement regarding the purchase and use of the equipment. Farmington will be holding a meeting to discuss joining the group. If they decline, the remaining communities have agreed to continue with each paying more toward the purchase price.
2. **Labor Day Bridge Walk** - Commissioners were in agreement that the Walk was a success. Over 140 people registered online and another 35 registered that morning. The total number of people who actually walked was lower, perhaps due to the cloudy weather and sprinkles early that morning. There were a few suggestions for next year's Walk:
 - a. Re-mark the route. Additional arrows had been painted along the route by someone else, which proved to be confusing.
 - b. Attach a map of the route along with an information sheet to the email sent out to previous walkers.

- c. While the Walk is free, many people inquired about how to donate to the Commission. Investigate how to collect and accumulate donations made to the Parks and Recreation Commission for its use in improving the City parks.
 - d. Contact the South Lyon Herald about a follow-up article on the Walk. Include the number of people who participated and note that photos of walkers may be viewed and purchased at Greg Sadler's website. Sadler stated that all proceeds from photo purchases will be donated to Active Faith.
- 3. McHattie Park** - Wilson inquired about a port-a-john that remained in the park even though the restroom building was open. The restroom building was intended to eliminate the need for port-a-johns during warm weather. Wilson also stated that the parking lot was desperately in need of pothole repair and restriping. Delaney will follow-up on both items with the DPW.

(On the day following this meeting, Delaney communicated to all Commissioners that the reason given for the port-a-john being in the park was that several parents had complained to the City that the restroom building was too far of a walk from the baseball diamond for their children.)

There was discussion regarding park entrance improvements, specifically the walk-in entrance along the bike path off Pontiac Trail. Commissioners would like to add features to attract attention to that entrance and highlight the park sign. The discussion will continue at the next Commission meeting.

- 4. Eagle Scout Projects** - The tentative plans to improve the McHattie walk-in entrance have eliminated the need for the Eagle Scout project to repair and landscape the gazebo. Beagle had contacted the Historical Commission to inquire about other potential Eagle Scout projects they might have within McHattie Park. Several ideas were presented and have been added to the master list of projects that this Commission had stated it would compile and maintain. Any Eagle Scout in need of project ideas may contact the Commission secretary for a copy of this list. (List is attached)
- 5. Park Usage Requests** - Additional information regarding the Muddy Shoe Run held at Volunteer Park was provided by Wilson. The run's organizers had contacted and received approval from the City Clerk. They had also asked for the DPW to cut brush along the trail, which the Clerk agreed to. However, when this did not occur, the organizers cut the brush themselves. Commissioners were concerned that none of this information regarding the run's use of the park had been communicated to any of them.

Delaney had researched how several other communities controlled their park usage. Lyon Township utilizes an informal park reservation system and charges a \$35 per day park use fee.

Novi has a park reservation form and charges \$125 for residents and \$150 for non-residents per day.

Hamburg charges a nominal fee per person for teams and/or groups that use their parks. They also require groups to complete and sign both a release of liability form and an indemnification agreement.

Commissioners set a goal of having a park reservation request system, usage agreement and fee schedule in place by spring of 2010.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Drinking Fountain at Paul Baker Park** - McConnell received requests from several residents for a drinking fountain in Paul Baker Park. The park is a stopping-off place for persons using the trail and would be a good location for a drinking fountain.

Delaney will research how the drinking fountain in McHattie Park was purchased and installed. Beagle will obtain additional information on drinking fountain models and suppliers

III. Commission Comments - None.

- IV. Adjournment** – Motion by Wilson, supported by McConnell, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming meetings: October 14
 November 11
 December 9
 January 13

Submitted by:

Michael Olando, Chairperson

Dianne Beagle, Secretary