

# SOUTH LYON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

## MINUTES May 12, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Chairperson Olando.

Present: Dianne Beagle  
Ed McCloud  
Mike Olando  
Erica Wilson  
Keith McCormick  
Jeff Thompson

Kristen Delaney – City of South Lyon  
David Murphy – Manager, City of South Lyon  
Tedd Wallace – Mayor, City of South Lyon

Absent: None

**Approval of Minutes** - Motion by Wilson, supported by McCloud, to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2010 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Agenda** – Wilson proposed moving item F. Junior League Baseball Field Use up to be the first item on the agenda so that the League representatives could leave after their presentation if they desired. Motion by Wilson, supported by McCloud, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

**Introduction of New Commissioner** – Olando introduced Jeff Thompson as the newest member of the Commission. Thompson was appointed by Mayor Wallace at the May 20, 2010 City Council meeting to replace Rob McConnell who had tendered his resignation the previous week.

**Citizen Comments** - None

### I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Junior League Baseball Field Use - Paul Dolan, Junior League President, and Ralph Dunnigan, League coach, gave a short presentation regarding the current status of the League and its need for additional fields. The League has 96 teams and over 1400 players who come from the South Lyon School District and beyond. Their policy is to accept players regardless of where they live. Fields are at a premium and the League would like to acquire at least 2 additional fields as soon as possible. The ideal situation would be to gain 4 fields. The existing fields at Volunteer Park are sufficient for the older players especially with the high school fields becoming available in June. However, the majority of the baseball/softball teams are comprised of younger players who don't need such large fields. The League would also like to host tournaments but needs additional fields to do so. Mr. Dolan and Mr. Dunnigan stated that the funds that tournaments bring in can be

used for field improvements, maintenance, bathroom facilities, etc. Tournaments also bring many people to town that stay for an entire day or weekend. This would bring increased business to South Lyon restaurants and stores.

The Junior League has been accumulating funds for construction of new fields. They need land upon which to build.

Much discussion followed regarding potential sites within South Lyon parks for the smaller baseball/softball fields.

Mr. Dolan and Mr. Dunnigan will obtain costs pertaining to field construction. The Commission will review the original plans for Volunteer Park which detail 6-8 field sites and obtain estimates for land clearing and grading. The Commission will also investigate the possibility of adding a small field opposite the one in McHattie Park. Mr. Dolan and Mr. Dunnigan will attend the Commission's June meeting with the additional information.

Mr. Dolan also stated that the existing field in McHattie Park has unsafe baselines and would like the Commission's approval to repair them. It would involve removing the grass and weeds that have grown into the baselines, cutting the edges to make them straight and adding gravel to level the ground. The League would provide all labor and materials. Motion by McCloud, supported by Wilson, to allow the Junior League to repair the baselines at the baseball/softball diamond in McHattie Park at its expense. Motion carried unanimously.

## **I. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. South Lyon Park Use Policy** - Commissioners reviewed an updated Park Use Policy, Permit Application and Permit provided by City Clerk Julie Zemke. A few minor changes were suggested regarding the Application and the South Lyon Fee Schedule. Delaney will incorporate the changes and email a revised copy to all Commissioners. ?? Did we officially approve this? Can we do it via email?

**2. Community Movie Projector** – Delaney stated that all of the communities involved had signed the inter-governmental agreement and the equipment and generator had been purchased. Delivery is expected within 2 weeks. A schedule for each community's use is being developed and South Lyon expects to show 3 movies this summer: mid-June, mid-July and mid-August. The location, somewhere in McHattie Park, is being determined.

**3. Volunteer Park and Columbia Park Walk-Throughs** – Commissioners were only able to walk through Volunteer Park. The list of items requiring attention is attached. This list will be provided to the DPW department who should be able to address most of the items.

**4. Commission By-Laws** – This item was tabled until the June meeting.

**5. Eagle Scout Projects** – Beagle will attend a Historical Commission meeting to determine if they have any projects which can be added to the list. Beagle will update the Master List and email a copy to all Commissioners.

**6. McHattie Park Plans** – Commissioners briefly discussed the presentation made to the City Council. A more thorough discussion regarding the next step will be discussed at the June meeting.

## II. NEW BUSINESS

**2. Farming in Volunteer Park** – Wilson had asked for additional details regarding the farming, in particular fertilizer and pesticide applications, proximity to wells and length of the agreement with the City. McLoud met with farmer Ken Hamblin and obtained a written outline of his plans along with a drawing, both of which are attached. McLoud and Mayor Wallace stated that Mr. Hamblin has removed a large amount of trash that had been dumped in the park and has done an extraordinary job of clearing nuisance trees and brush from the site. He was present in the park when someone drove in and attempted to dump trash and he contacted the police who issued a ticket to the dumper. Mr. Hamblin is constructing a larger gate at the entrance off Eight Mile Road and it is hoped that the gate and his continued presence in the park will prevent such unauthorized access and dumping in the future.

Mayor Wallace stated that he had inquired about the fertilizer and was told that it was agricultural grade and weaker than what City residents apply to their lawns. He also stated that Mr. Hamblin does not plan to utilize pesticides unless absolutely necessary. There should be no effect on any wells in the vicinity.

**3. Concerts in the Park** - Delaney stated that the concerts will begin June 4<sup>th</sup> and will be held every Friday throughout June, July and August. All concerts will be held in McHattie Park

**4. Farmers Market** – Delaney stated that the Farmers Market was approved by City Council and will be held each Wednesday beginning in two weeks. The Market will be in the parking lot behind the Veterans Memorial on Pontiac Trail.

## III. Commission Comments - None

**IV. Adjournment** - Motion by McLoud, supported by Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming meetings/events:

- June 9
- July 14
- August 11
- September 6 – Labor Day Bridge Walk
- September 8
- October 13

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Michael Olando, Chairperson

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Dianne Beagle, Secretary

# South Lyon Parks & Recreation Commission

## Volunteer Park Walk-Thru

April 21, 2010

1. Replace missing shingles from west side of picnic shelter roof.
2. Add more trash cans: at south side of picnic shelter  
between parking area and basketball court
3. Add bracing to wooden swing set. It is wobbly when in use.
4. Install additional woodchips underneath wooden swing set.
5. Lower swings a little. Swings are too high for smaller children.
6. Install wooden bollards between drive and paved path along north side of soccer fields to prevent unauthorized vehicles from driving back on path.
7. Seed area near SW corner of north soccer field. Grass is very thin with bare spots.
8. Repair erosion along south side of drive between soccer fields.
9. Install additional player benches along sidelines of both soccer fields.  
(possible Eagle Scout project). Current benches are too small and need repair.
10. Determine who is responsible for maintaining soccer goals, nets, weight bags. Remove and replace rotted Kwik Goal weight bags.
11. Add more gravel to warning tracks on both baseball diamonds. Grade toward outfield grass to eliminate height differential between grass and warning track.
12. Install a gate at paved path between baseball diamonds to prevent unauthorized vehicles from driving through area where players and spectators are. (possible Eagle Scout project)
13. Remove debris (wood, broken soccer mini-goals, plastic, etc.) along NW corner of north baseball diamond. Repair erosion in same area.
14. Reinforce wooden sign depicting walking/biking trail. Sign is splitting on back side.
15. Place signs stating "No Golfing" at both soccer fields and baseball diamonds.