

# SOUTH LYON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

## MINUTES September 14, 2011

Meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Vice Chairperson Wilson.

Present: Dianne Beagle  
Keith McCormick  
Ed McLoud  
Jeff Thompson  
Erica Wilson

Kristen Delaney – City of South Lyon

Lance Shipman – Superior Play & City Resident  
Marty Gaut – South Lyon Volleyball League

Absent: Mike Olando

**Approval of Agenda** – Item B Chief Collins and Police Presence in McHattie Park was removed from the agenda. Motion by Thompson, supported by McLoud, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes** – Motion by Thompson, supported by McLoud, to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2011 Commission meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

**Citizen Comments** – Lance Shipman stated that he was in attendance as both an interested City resident and as a representative of Superior Play, in case the Commission had any questions about park equipment or ideas that he could assist with.

Marty Gaut stated that as the coordinator of the sand volleyball league, he had the following items for discussion:

- The courts need additional sand. It has been eight years since new sand was applied and ideally it should be applied every three years. Mr. Gaut stated that #2 mason sand is what is typically used and the area to be covered is approximately 200' x 80'. He also stated that mid-May would be the best time for the sand addition. Commissioners and Delaney will research what has been done in the past and request that the sand be purchased and applied next May.

- Mr. Gaut also requested that a tilling schedule be considered and adopted by the City. He stated that tilling is especially necessary after heavy rains.

- Mr. Gaut stated that mosquitoes in the volleyball court area were terrible and requested that the City treat the area with insecticide. Commissioners stated that the City does not treat any of the parks for insects and has only treated a portion of McHattie Park for the movie nights since families sit on the grass.

- The Volunteer Park soccer fields are in need of repair. Mr. Gaut stated that there are multiple holes and bare spots on both fields that require attention. He has been holding grass volleyball tournaments on the large field and noticed several very low

spots that hold water. There are also drainage problems in the parking lots and along the entrance road which should be addressed. Wilson requested that he take pictures of the areas and problems in question and provide them to the Commission as they were not noticed during the Commission's annual walk-through in the spring. Mr. Gaut agreed to send the pictures via email to all Commissioners.

- Mr. Gaut has received feedback from volleyball tournament participants who come from other cities that the entrance to Volunteer Park is extremely difficult to see. It still appears hidden even though the sign was repainted and brush was removed this spring. He asked if something could be done to make the entrance more visible. Wilson stated that this might be a good Eagle Scout project. Beagle will add it to the master list and follow up with any interested scouts.

- Mr. Gaut stated that there is a large dip followed by a large bump along the north side where the Volunteer Park entrance drive meets Dixboro Road. Vehicles bottom out when turning right to exit the park. Commissioners stated that since Dixboro Road is a county road, there is nothing the City can do to repair it. Delaney will ask that DPW workers examine the area and fill any holes that are on the park road.

## **I. OLD BUSINES**

**1. Junior League Baseball Field Update** – No updates from the Junior League. Beagle stated that a gentleman who participated in the Labor Day Bridge Walk said he helped manage a charitable foundation which might help fund the ball diamond in McHattie Park. She forwarded his contact information to the Junior League. The DPW had requested that the new fencing to be installed on both fields be set in concrete pads to reduce the amount of weed whipping and mowing required. Commissioners agreed that ease of maintenance should be a consideration in the field construction but felt that concrete along the fence lines would pose a safety hazard. Mr. Shipman stated that most fields are constructed with the infield mix installed along the fence lines also. This inhibits grass and weed growth, which reduces maintenance, without the danger of concrete. Commissioners agreed that this will be a good compromise.

**2. Signage at McHattie and Volunteer Parks** – Delaney stated that the City Clerk is proceeding with the signage updates. The Parks & Recreation Commission logo will not appear on the signs.

**3. Eagle Scout Project Update** – No updates. Commissioners inquired about the status of the wooden bridge railing replacement project. Beagle will contact Danny Burchart for an update and to offer assistance from the Commission.

**4. Labor Day Bridge Walk** – In spite of the dreary weather, the walk was a success. Approximately 75 people participated and many provided positive feedback. Alternating the starting loop was appreciated by many returning walkers. However, incorporating the bridge crossing into the first loop, regardless of which one it is, will be a priority in the routing from now on. Apples, in place of the granola bars, were a big hit this year. Although the walk is offered as a free event, the Commission collected \$196.55 in donations to be put toward the new ball field in McHattie Park.

## II. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. None

## III. Commission Comments – None

**IV. Adjournment** – Motion by Thompson, supported by McCormick, to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming meetings/events:      October 12  
   November 9  
   December 3 – Jingle Bell Walk  
   December 14

Submitted by:

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Michael Olando, Chairperson

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Dianne Beagle, Secretary