

SOUTH LYON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES May 8, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm by Chairperson Olando.

Present: Dianne Beagle
Keith McCormick
Ed McLoud
Mike Olando
Erica Wilson

Debbie Nogle – City of South Lyon
Bryan Spaller – South Lyon Junior League

Absent: Jeff Thompson
Amy Allen – South Lyon Area Recreation Authority

Approval of Agenda – Beagle proposed the addition of item F. Commissioner Terms, moving Volunteer Park Walk Through to item G. Motion by Wilson, supported by McCormick, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – Motion by McCormick, supported by Wilson, to approve the minutes from the April 10, 2013 Commission meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments – None

SLARA Update – None

I. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Eagle Scout Projects Update** – Beagle stated that another scout from Troop 38 would like a project he could complete sometime this summer. The last project on the Commission's list is the improvement of the entrance from the parking lot into the play area of McHattie Park. Commissioners will propose this project to the scout and also attempt to identify other potential projects in both McHattie and Volunteer Parks.
- 2. Grant Research** – No updates.
- 3. Recreation Center Committee Representation** – McLoud stated that he attended the committee meeting on April 20th. The committee is evaluating sites and discussing costs and funding sources. A millage is under consideration also. McLoud will attend the next meeting on May 20th.

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. South Lyon Junior League Proposals – Bryan Spaller provided an update on the League’s funding this season and potential field updates they would like to propose for Volunteer Park. They have retained the increased registration fees and expect to raise around \$28,000 each year as a result. The League has several smaller projects they would like to complete this year and any remaining funds will be held for future field improvements and construction. This year, the league would like to do the following:

- Purchase larger bleacher sections for the two fields at McHattie Park
- Move the old bleachers to Volunteer Park and anchor them to prevent theft
- Construct a picnic shelter between and to the west of the two backstops at the Volunteer Park ball fields. The size and shape of the shelter would be determined by the location of the park’s western boundary.
- Repair the irrigation lines and improve the drainage along the west side of both fields at Volunteer Park

The League would also like to add an irrigation system to the fields at McHattie Park. Commissioners stated that this project would need to be coordinated with the City DPW department. Several estimates would be needed before any planning can occur.

2. Commissioner Terms – City Clerk Lisa Deaton has been contacting members of all of the City’s commissions and boards who have terms either expired or ending this year to inquire if they would like to remain in their positions. Orlando’s term expired this past March. He stated he would like to continue as a Commissioner for another 3-year term. All other Commissioners stated that they will continue on when their terms expire.

3. Volunteer Park Nature Trails – Much discussion took place regarding an organized group whose purpose is to restore and maintain the hiking trail that wound through the undeveloped section of Volunteer Park. They are angry that the farming activity has plowed under a good portion of the trail. It appears the group has not seen the Parks Master Plan nor have they contacted any Parks & Recreation Commissioners or attended any Commission meetings. Some of the information put forth on the group’s Facebook page is erroneous. The group, headed by Mr. George Fomin, plans to present a resolution demanding the reconstruction and maintenance of the trails at the upcoming City Council meeting. Commissioners would like to publicly respond to this group and invite them to a Commission meeting. Beagle will draft a statement consolidating everyone’s thoughts, and McLoud will read it at the Council meeting.

III. Commission Comments – None

IV. Adjournment – Motion by Wilson, supported by McLoud, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. Commissioners will move to Volunteer Park for the annual walk through. Motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming meetings/events: June 12
 July 10
 August 14
 September 2 - Labor Day Bridge Walk
 September 11

Submitted by: _____
 Michael Olando, Chairperson

Dianne Beagle, Secretary