

## **City of Wyoming Parks & Recreation Commission**

### **MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF May 14, 2014**

---

Present: Robert Cook, Megan Harley, Eric Hartfield, Ken Hornecker, Oogie Lamar, Ed McGregor, Dave Skinner, Doug Wustman, Rich Pastoor (City Council Liaison)

Absent: Doug Broek, Alex Smart, Aaron Velthouse

Guest: Christine Agema

Staff Present: Rebecca Rynbrandt, Gloria Pelton

- A. Call to order of the Parks and Recreation Commission** – Chairperson Doug Wustman called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- B. Approval of Agenda** – A motion was made by Ken Hornecker to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Oogie Lamar. Motion carried. Changes to the agenda were made to add Spring Carnival to General Updates.
- C. Approval of the Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of the April 9, 2014 Meeting** – A motion was made by Dave Skinner and seconded by Ed McGregor to approve the minutes of the April 9, 2014 meeting. Motion carried.
- D. Public Comment on Agenda Item (limit to 3 minutes) – None**
- E. Alcohol Permits/Beer Tents in Parks Update** – The staff is continuing to do research and have reviewed discussion responses from MRPA. They are also in the process of getting more detail from Kent County about their permit usage contracts. Rebecca was approached by one of the commissioners about whether or not to revisit the issue after the recent carnival incident involving teenagers. Security and the open carry laws are still a concern for Skinner. Rebecca explained the open carry/concealed weapons permit laws. A permit must be pulled with the State of Michigan when applying for the alcohol use permit. A beer tent would be classified as a “bar” which you cannot open carry in a bar. Policy development is leaning towards “no one in tent under 21” which is suggested by the Chief of Police. Bob Cook suggested a drink limit be explored. Beer tents within the park system related to non-profit organization benefits continue to be supported by the commission.
- F. Stepping Stones Program Changes – Discontinuance email** - Rynbrandt reviewed the history of these discussions, the recommendation to City Council and City Councils direction to proceed. Concerns were initially voiced by Ann Elermets of the Area Agency on Aging related to the programs unit cost. The Stepping Stones Program started in 1999. The majority of participation increase has come from outside of Wyoming. We currently have a wait list of 5-8 weeks. AAA is concerned about sustainability of the program due to increasing cost on the City's behalf. Our contractor, Life Therapeutic Solutions, holds a monopoly on this type of service in the area. It was recommended to City Manager/Council that the City transfer the program rights to LTS for \$1. Council approved the recommendation on Monday, May 12. The need to obtain Council's direction was done now, even though the current grant period runs through December because of time constraints with letter of intent, grant writing, presentation to proposal review committee, etc. There is a meeting scheduled

with AAA, COW, and LTS for next week to affirm next steps from the Kent County Senior Millage perspective.

- G. Marquette Park Community Garden Partnership – Metro Health Hospital. UCOM – United Church Outreach Ministry.** UCOM is the largest Food Pantry for north Wyoming. Referencing citizen demand for community gardening within the 5-Year Recreation Master Plan, Rynbrandt has been working with UCOM and Metro Health Hospital to develop a partnership in promoting and growing community gardening. The City will be providing property in Marquette and water, Metro Health is funding the construction while UCOM will manage the garden. The partnership is currently working on policies for the program. The Initial year will be limited to Wyoming residents only and there will probably be a small fee from the participants. Details such as renting a space, communal or individual garden plotting, prioritization of the wait list and cost are still undecided. Ed McGregor said that the Kroc Center charges \$50, Family network is 10 x 6 is \$5, 12 x 20 is \$10.
- H. Capital Projects Update**
- Wyoming Senior Center Community Room Renovations – Flooring Concerns – Rebecca showed the Youtube video of the grand opening. The Open House was a huge success. As construction projects go, there are some concerns with the floor scratching which is being addressed with the architect and the manufacturer. We are working through the process with them toward a positive resolve.
  - Buck Creek Nature Preserve Path Removal – Fall Bidding – Bids received this spring for the removal are very high for the deconstruction of the trail. In hopes of a more favorable bidding environment, we will put it out for bid again in the fall.
- I. General Updates**
- Transportation Grant Award – Additional Funding was approved of \$2000 to be used prior to October 1, 2014.
  - Spring Carnival Incident – The City has hosted the carnival for 18 years without a similar (patron fighting) incident. The police department continues their investigation related to the fight which occurred near the carnival. Security evaluations will occur for next year's carnival. \$20,000 in revenue was raised from the carnival in support of the Greater Wyoming Resource Alliance and the Parks & Recreation Department for future programs.
- J. Commissioner Recruitment** – Christina Agema was in attendance tonight and possibly interested in an open seat on the Parks & Recreation Commission. Rebecca explained the process for obtaining an application and returning it to the City Clerk's office for the Mayor's consideration.
- K. Commissioner Concerns and Suggestions** – None
- L. Public Comment in General (Limit to 3 minutes)** – None
- M. Motion to Adjourn the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting** – Motion to adjourn was made by Ed McGregor and seconded by Megan Harley. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Recorded by \_\_\_\_\_  
Gloria Pelton  
Recording Secretary