

GRAND BLANC PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of June 21, 2007

The regular meeting of the Grand Blanc Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 6:15 pm by Sue Soderstrom at Creasey Bicentennial Park, 1505 E. Grand Blanc Road, Grand Blanc, Michigan.

Commission Present:	Sue Soderstrom	Chairman
	Jet Kilmer	Vice Chairman
	Ted Brundle	Secretary
	Tom Pettit	Treasurer
	Gary Gratsch	Commissioner
	Roger Swaim	Commissioner
	Ginny Knag	Commissioner

Staff Present:	Kae Eidson	Executive Director
	Jamie Weasel	Assistant Director
	Kellie Sergent	Recreation Programmer
	Vickie Michelson	Senior Coordinator
	Andy Taylor	Maintenance Supervisor
	Paula Rainey	Office Manager

Minutes

Motion by J. Kilmer, supported by T. Brundle, that the Minutes of the May 17, 2007, meeting be approved as presented. Yeas-7, Nays-0. Motion approved.

Director's Report

Director Kae Eidson continues to attend regular staff meetings at the City and Township as well as Chamber of Commerce meetings and Kiwanis meetings.

The Director has attended several meetings with the Grand Blanc Chamber of Commerce Festival Planning Committee as well as attending City Council meeting regarding planning for the event. The festival is planned for September 13-16, 2007.

Special event permits have been completed and submitted to the Park and Recreation insurance carrier for the summer concert series, outdoor movie night and prepared a new request for the entertainment and beverage tent which Parks and Recreation plans to operate for the festival.

The Director attended and facilitated Bike Day along with City Police Chief S. Solomon and Mayor Matheny at Indian Hill and Brendel Elementary Schools.

Director Eidson met with the three Master Gardeners who have agreed to work on some of the flower beds at the park and to discuss plans for upgrades.

The Director and Assistant Director J. Weasel continue to meet with the Township building and grounds committee to discuss plans for the entrance at Creasey Bicentennial Park. The Director has prepared an RFP for the electrical work required to install a fountain in the pond at the park entrance.

Opening day ceremonies for Grand Blanc Little League were held prior to games on Saturday, June 2. The Director assisted with the planning and spoke at the event.

Director Eidson and Assist. Director J. Weasel attended a meeting with City and Township representatives at Vidcam to discuss putting together a promotional video for Parks and Recreation.

The Director has prepared an RFP for an audio/visual system for the Senior Center and has met with representatives of companies who specialize in this equipment and installation.

Director Eidson and Senior Coordinator V. Michelson and area Senior Directors continue to meet to discuss various issues concerning the area centers and to attend meetings of the Genesee County Metropolitan Planning Commission regarding the Genesee County Senior Citizen Millage. The Director has prepared and submitted monthly reports to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for Senior Millage funds. She has also been seeking quotes for other equipment for the Senior Center.

Assistant

Director's Report

Assistant Director Jamie Weasel reported that the adult softball leagues are underway. Both the Men's and Co-ed leagues are full. Joe Munoz is once again supervising the leagues.

Summer staff has been hired. Background checks have been done on returning as well as new the staff. Most programs begin the week of June 18.

Jamie has been pricing and purchasing equipment for summer programs and conducting staff first aid and CPR training for summer staff.

The bands have been booked for the seventh summer concert series at Physicians' Park. The concerts will run for four Tuesday evenings in July beginning July 10.

Recreation

Programmer Report

Recreation Programmer Kellie Sergent continues to be involved with Grand Blanc Little League, attending board meetings and overseeing games. The season is running fairly smoothly with only one official rain day to date.

Kellie has been working with Michelle Buffa Randazzo who will be supervising the Summer Playground program again this year. They have been planning theme weeks and other activities and staff training to improve the program.

The new GB Idol, which replaced the annual "Battle of the Bands", seemed to be a success. Tryouts were held June 4th with 14 GBHS students. They sang and were critiqued by GBPR staff. Finals were held at Physicians" Park on June 15, with nine contestants participating. Celebrity judges included John Creasey, Rick Larmor/Mike Wolfe (Chase Bank) and Kellis. The audience had a good time. Next year Kellie may open the contest to Middle School students as well.

Maintenance Supervisor

Maintenance Supervisor Andy Taylor reported that the maintenance staff has seeded the football field area.

The Township DPW installed a new drain culvert for the new pond at the park entrance.

The splash pad is running and very busy with many end of the school year outings and hot weather.

The staff assisted the Master Gardeners with the flower beds near the pavilions.

The bed of the Big County utility vehicle was repaired. Leaks in the Little League building and pavilion were also repaired.

The staff has again been working on the trails. The woodchips have been spread and the Township DPW assisted with moving gravel to the rear of the park.

The maintenance staff assisted with GB Idol and set up for the summer staff meeting.

The staff continues to assist with parking on Saturdays for Little League games and pavilion rentals.

Administration &

Policy No report.

Budget &

Finance No report.

Senior

Committee The committee met via e-mail regarding the purchase of a software system called "My Senior Center". There has been discussion ongoing from the County regarding purchase of a software package to better track and validate programming and activity at each center. At one point it was discussed as a potential requirement and an expense to possibly be incurred by the County.

While the County has backed off on the "requirement", they strongly recommend the purchase and use of the program. Senior Coordinator Vickie Michelson and Director Eidson attended presentations at the County by My Senior Center and RecTech. My Senior Center is the preferred program of the two. The consensus of the Committee was to purchase the My Senior Center program for \$12,500.00.

Aaron Doty of the maintenance has been working with the staff at the Senior Center and representatives of My Senior Center to upgrade the building and existing computers for the new software package. He has recommended a wireless system. This would allow for the computers used by members in the lobby to be moved for rentals and other activities. The cost of the wireless connection would add \$250.00 to this project.

Motion by J. Kilmer, Supported by T. Pettit, to purchase the My Senior Center software package for \$12,750.00. Yeas-7, Nays-0. Motion approved.

The Director provided reports for Senior Center expenses for April and May that have been submitted to the Metropolitan Planning Commission. To date all payments of staff, activities and related expenses have been paid from the General Fund. The Director will submit a monthly report in the monthly agenda to transfer funds from the Senior Millage account to the General Fund for expenses incurred.

Motion by J. Kilmer, supported by G. Gratsch, to transfer \$42,914.00. from the Senior Millage account to the General Fund to cover April and May expenses, (\$17,054.00 and \$13,110.00 respectively) and \$12,750.00 for the purchase of My Senior Center software and equipment. Yeas-7, Nays-0. Motion approved.

Area & Facilities

The Area & Facilities Committee met June 8th with T. Pettit, J. Kilmer, G. Knag and Director Eidson in attendance.

The only action item on the agenda was a discussion of a policy regarding planting at parks operated and maintained by the Commission. G. Knag and K. Eidson discussed the need for such a policy and Eidson prepared a policy proposal and presented it to the committee. The committee unanimously voted to present the following policy proposal to the full Commission for approval.

Parkland Planting Policy

In promoting the integrity of existing natural areas in parkland, maintained and operated by GBPR Commission, the department will refrain from planting invasive or potentially invasive species. Staff will research proposed planting with a recognized regional and / or national listing of

invasive species before proposed plating. All planting proposals will require staff approval.

Motion by T. Pettit, supported by J. Kilmer, to adopt the Parkland Planting Policy in order to avoid invasive species being intentionally planted at Creasey Bicentennial Park. Yeas-7. Nays-0. Motion approved.

Eidson updated committee on ongoing projects at Creasey Bicentennial Park.

Front Entrance: Eidson reported that a fountain has been ordered and received, Genesee Electric has completed their work, and now waiting on Consumers Energy to install a meter so the fountain can be installed. Holmes Contracting has completed seeding around pond. Eidson has contacted landscaping companies' for bids, including Haddon Nursery as suggested by Knag.

Splashpad: Eidson reported that tiles were received and installed, though some work is still left for installers, and the filtration system is in limbo. Estimates for an iron filtration system are very high. This may not be a practical solution. The tiles look very nice.

The grant awarded from the Community Foundation was \$7500.00. Director Eidson has talked with B. Tippett of the Community Foundation regarding putting the funds toward playground equipment that could be installed near the splash pad.

Motion by J. Kilmer, supported by T. Pettit, to redirect funds from the Community Foundation Grant to purchase and install a play apparatus near the splash pad, pending approval from the Community Foundation. Yeas-7, Nays-0. Motion approved.

Master Gardeners: Eidson reported that J. Irwin headed up this group of 4-5 who refurbished beds leading to and around pavilion, between the basketball courts, and the Lions small pavilion. Funds from Todd's Services give back to the community program were used for supplies.

Trails: Eidson reported that Township DPW came out to install drainage pipes at the front entrance pond and helped maintenance staff move stones and wood chips back to trails while there.

Seeding: Eidson reported that Zito brought in dirt, level area around splash pad, then hydro-seeded the area. Seeding had moderate success and will need work in the fall. Finding a time for Holmes to re-seed the football fields has been difficult. P&R staff will do so if a date cannot be reached. Where Holmes has seeded around front entrance pond the grass is coming in nicely.

New Business

There is currently nearly \$600,000.00 in the City Millage Account. The Director has met with City representatives regarding transferring most of these funds to Certificates of Deposit to secure these funds and increase interest earnings.

Motion by T. Pettit, supported by J. Kilmer, to leave \$20,000.00 in the present account with Chase and invest the remaining balance in three high yield interest Certificates of Deposits in three separate banks. Yeas-7, Nays-0. Motion approved.

Financial Report

Motion by T. Pettit, supported by T. Brundle, to accept the May financial reports as presented. Yeas-7, Nays-0. Motion approved.

Motion by G. Gratsch, supported by T. Pettit, to adjourn the meeting, as there was no other business to discuss. Yeas-7, Nays-0. Motion approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Brundle, Secretary
TB/pr