



Royal Oak

Minutes

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

June 6, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
M/M Senior Center
3500 Marais Avenue, Royal Oak, MI 48073

Present: Melanie Macey
Sue Wells
Hannah Holliday
Ryan Danescu
Perry Abbey

Absent: Sarah Kindinger
Brigitta Burguess
Tony Rennpage

1. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Melanie Macey
Seconded by: Perry Abbey

Motion to approve the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting of May 2, 2024.

3. City Commission Comments

Commissioner Macey reported that the new interim city manager, Mark Wollenweber, is on duty, and noted that the commission is working with a search firm to fill the position with a permanent manager. She reported on the America in Bloom media event at the 13 & Main park.

4. Public Comment

Chris Ott - 1305 Anne Drive - described and advocated for a proposed parking improvement at Lawson Park.

Jordan Zupke - 929 Hilldale - advocated for a skate park and shared letters of support he received for the project.

Tim Pare - 2310 Hawkins Ave proposed a second annual slow roll bicycle ride event for the fall of 2024.

Paul Temerowski - 738 Parent Ave - spoke regarding the proposed parking project at Lawson Park, noting his concern for the safety of children on streets where parked cars make visibility difficult. He supports a dedicated parking area.

Susan Gilbert - 1219 Irving - spoke in support of the proposed Lawson Park parking reiterating the comments of other supporters.

Bill G. - 1223 Irving - reiterated the safety concerns noted by other commenters, described people double parking, parking on the berm, and other concerns. Is supportive of a parking solution.

Mike Thompson - 1210 Irving - spoke positively about the park, noting that its popularity has contributed to the congested parking problem and supports the proposed parking project.

5. Business

5.a Presentation of Proposed Improvement at Patricia Paruch Park

Judy Davids, Community Engagement Specialist presented a proposal for improvements to Patricia Paruch Park using donated funds from the Paruch Family. The proposal consisted of a sandbox and related toys, describing how Patricia was an avid fossil collector and that the proposed improvement would be a good way to honor her.

Member Danescu suggested the addition of a bench, and Director Filipski noted that the capital improvement plan has money for benches.

Moved by: Melanie Macey

Seconded by: Hannah Holliday

The Royal Oak Parks and Recreation Advisory Board approves the recommended improvements at Patricia Paruch Park and recommends presenting the plan to City Commission for further consideration.

Motion Adopted

5.b Discussion of Summer 2024 Meeting Schedule

The board discussed the options for meeting in August and agreed to meet on August 1st.

Moved by: Perry Abbey

Seconded by: Ryan Danescu

The board moves to confirm the August 1, 2024 meeting.

Motion Adopted

5.c Proposed Park and Recreation Capital Improvement Planning Calendar for FY 25-26 Projects

The group discussed the proposed engagement plan for park capital improvement planning as presented by Director Filipski. The group suggested changing the 'public hearing' to October from September and requested that the public form refer to capital improvement 'projects' as 'ideas' instead.

Moved by: Melanie Macey
Seconded by: Hannah Holliday

Motion to approve the proposed park CIP planning process, as proposed, with amended changes that tentatively sets the related 'public hearing' for October, and refers to resident-submitted proposals as 'ideas' instead of projects.

Motion Adopted

5.d Discussion and/or Approval of Proposed Bylaw Revisions

Moved by: Hannah Holliday
Seconded by: Ryan Danescu

Motion to approve the draft bylaws, with revisions to remove reference to the Officer-at-Large position and to present the same to city commission for approval and adoption.

Motion Adopted

5.e Discussion of Parking Alterations at Lawson Park

Director Filipski provided a brief summary of the proposal and facilitated a discussion. Board members discussed the proposal and were supportive.

Moved by: Perry Abbey
Seconded by: Ryan Danescu

Motion in support of further pursuing the addition of parking for Lawson Park along the south side of Parent Ave., contingent upon neighbor support and the identification of a funding source.

Motion Adopted

6. Items Not on the Agenda

6.a Discussion of Location for Additional Play Structure Purchased by Recreation Department

The board discussed location options for installing the previously-purchased but unassigned play structure. Because there is currently no play structure at Gunn Dyer park, the board was supportive of installing it there.

Moved by: Melanie Macey
Seconded by: Hannah Holliday

Motion to approve installation of the previously purchased but unassigned 'Kensington' play structure at Gunn Dyer Park.

Motion Adopted

6.b Grant Subcommittee Report

Member Abbey provided a brief report on the subcommittee's work and discussed Michigan DNR grants.

7. Upcoming Events

Members discussed the upcoming Juneteenth celebration at Centennial Commons.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

9. Next Meeting:

August 1, 2024