



Royal Oak

Minutes

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

October 3, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

M/M Senior Center

3500 Marais Avenue, Royal Oak, MI 48073

Present: Melanie Macey
Brigitta Burguess
Tony Rennpage
Sue Wells
Hannah Holliday
Ryan Danescu
Perry Abbey

Absent: Sarah Kindinger

1. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Moved by: Perry Abbey

Seconded by: Brigitta Burguess

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2024 meeting.

Motion Adopted

3. Public Comment

- Mark Sackett: Mentioned that the current budget includes \$200,000 in for netting project. Wishes to offer a Halloween fest event.
- Pat McGhee: Asked why we aren't having Halloween Fest at Normandy Oaks this year. He is willing to donate \$50 for candy.

4. City Commission Comments

- Commissioner Macey commented on the Unveiling of Elizabeth Hamer Sculpture at Hamer Finch Wilkins Park. A portion of Northwood students were there along with descendants of Hamer Finch Wilkens family. Thank you to staff for organizing that event.

5. Staff Comments

- Aaron Filipski Comments
 - Halloween Fest was not cancelled. It was not planned this year due to staffing challenges.
 - Plan to do invasive treatments at Normandy Oaks. Working on a plan to make sure we are properly notifying the community about the treatment.
 - Commissioner Macey asked about Halloween Fest being suggested by the Leprechauns
 - Filipski said that a Special Event Permit would be required.
- Nicole McEachern Comments
 - Recreation Updates
 - McEachern has met with many key stakeholders this past month including various City Department Heads, recreation facility operators, and several partner organizations.
 - McEachern initiated regular 1-to-1 meetings with Recreation, Parks, Preschool, and Senior Center staff.
 - McEachern set up a voicemail for Recreation Main Line so that staff can return missed customer calls.
 - Work has begun assembling Winter Insight publication.
 - McEachern registered the department for memberships with Michigan Recreation and Park Association (mParks) and National Recreation and Park Association.
 - September 8-10, McEachern attended Leadership Retreat on Mackinac for Michigan Recreation and Park Association. McEachern was inducted on Board of Directors for 4th year in a row.
 - McEachern attended Soup with the Super event at Senior Center. Over 40 seniors in attendance.
 - McEachern visited Preschool and read a book at story time
 - Parks/Facilities Updates
 - Longtime Parks team member, Gary McNab retired after 29 years of service with the city. Staff gathered for his retirement celebration on September 20.
 - More than 100 attended the Elizabeth Hamer monument unveiling at Hamer Finch Wilkens Park.

- 13 Mile and Main Park transformation into Pollinator Park is in progress thanks to America in Bloom grant. Bee spring riders are in place, new sidewalk is poured, and planting is being wrapped up this week.
- McEachern attended two planning meetings for CDBG funded project at Clawson Park. Project is slated for March-June 2025.
- McEachern attended CDBG funded Lockman Park project status meeting. Project should be finished by early November.
- Hudson Park will have contractors on site for a playground repair this week and next.
- Normandy Oaks Splash Pad is closed. Centennial Park Spray Pad is still open and will be closed sometime this month.
- Other current projects on the docket this fall are as follows:
 - New play structure at Senior Center
 - New picnic tables and benches at Senior Center
 - New fitness room at Senior Center

6. Business

6.a Review of Amended Plans for Memorial Park Field #3 Seating Area - RO Leprechauns

Moved by: Melanie Macey

Seconded by: Ryan Danescu

Motion to approve the revised proposal for the installation of a patio seating area using porous pavers, and, pending review and approval of amended agreement language, recommends presenting it to City Commission for further consideration.

Motion Adopted

7. Subcommittee Reports/Comments

- Commissioner Macey asked if a Facilities Subcommittee was needed at this time.
- McEachern said it is not needed at this time.

8. Items Not on the Agenda

- The Board discussed the need to properly notify residents and park visitors about plans for invasive treatments in Normandy Oaks Park.

- Perry Abbey asked if an update on current fiscal year capital projects could be provided at a future meeting.

9. Upcoming Events

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm

Moved by: Hannah Holliday

Seconded by: Tony Rennpage

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion Adopted

11. Next Meeting: November 7, 2024