

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

Thursday, June 18, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.

NOVI CIVIC CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with Commissioner Jewell presiding.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARK, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES STUDENT

REPRESENTATIVE: Katherine Wei

Director Muck introduced Katherine Wei who is a Junior at Novi High School active in Debate, Forensics, French and Internet Club. She has been a frequent volunteer of our programs.

ROLL CALL: Jewell (Present), Bauss (Absent-Excused), Ferrell (Absent), Pratt (Absent-Excused), Staab (Present), Torimoto (Present), Wingfield (Present), Student Representative Thakore (Present), Student Representative Wei (Present).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was moved that the agenda be approved as written by Commissioner Staab and seconded by Commissioner Wingfield.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Approval of the April 16, 2015 minutes, no May meeting

It was moved that the minutes for April be approved as written by Commissioner Wingfield and seconded by Commissioner Torimoto.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Walkable Novi – Commissioners Torimoto and Bauss

Commissioner Torimoto reported the Walkable Novi meeting was held just before the Commission Meeting. Prioritization by category for sidewalk repair was discussed. Priorities can be viewed on the Walkable Novi website.

Director Muck added the Committee is looking at pedestrian and bicycle accidents occurring between June 2014 and June 2015, approved sidewalk and bike spaces in private developments, there will be an engineering division update. The City has a Walking Club and there is a walking challenge for employees. There have been meetings for a regional trail collaboration with Northville and Maybury State Park.

B. Novi Parks Foundation - Commissioners Staab and Ferrell

Commissioner Staab reported that "Pour on the Shore" is on July 31st at Pavilion Shore Park and gave details on the event stating it is the major fund raiser for the Park Foundation.

Director Muck stated they are still in discussion about Villa Barr property and locations for the sculptures and space for programming on the property. Pour on the Shore has a limit of 300 tickets with 120 already sold. ITC, Eberspacher and Vibe Credit Union were mentioned as sponsors or donors.

STAFF REPORTS:

A. Administration Division – Director Jeff Muck

1. Motor City Mountain Biking Association Presentation – Recreation Supervisor Wendy Duvall

Director Muck and Supervisor Duvall introduced Loren Konkus and David Cox of the Motor City Mountain Biking Association. Mr. Konkus stated he is the Chairperson and Mr. Cox is the Director on the Board and they are the Trail Coordinators for Lakeshore Park. Mr. Konkus gave a history of Lakeshore Park and gave an overview of the 750 volunteer hours a year by their organization. They also use membership dollars and fundraising for Capital Improvements at Lakeshore Park and examples were given. They also do social outreach programs like classes and rides. Mr. Cox stated every Tuesday evening they host a Novi night group ride which has been going on for the past 12 years year round. He gave examples of some of their other rides and programs. They also supported our Bike Rodeo event. He gave an overview of the rides done on the Lakeshore Park trails during the year. Mr. Konkus stated they will work with Novi Parks on five new projects. 1) Updating emergency maps and markers on the trails 2) Replacing a bridge to accommodate a motorized vehicle for emergency extractions 3) A toddler single track for younger children 4) Expanding the Pump Track by adding skill features 5) Adding Trailhead storage facility.

Commissioner Wingfield asked how big their organization is and how Lakeshore compares to the other parks they are involved with.

Mr. Konkus and Mr. Cox replied there are about 500 members. They gave details and comparisons of some of the other parks where there is biking. Most of their events are held at Lakeshore Park because of the facilities there.

Commissioner Staab asked if they applied for grants.

Mr. Konkus replied they do and told of several grants they have received.

Director Muck recognized Supervisor Duvall for her work, the MCMBA and contributions to the park and trails.

2. Proclamation to City Council announcing July as Parks & Recreation Month

Director Muck stated July is nationally recognized as Parks and Recreation Month. The Proclamation will be the first item on the City Council Agenda. Director Muck read a condensed version of the proclamation and invited Commission and staff to attend the meeting.

3. Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grants

Director Muck stated we are in the final stages of acquisition for the property on Twelve Mile next to the Andelina Ridge Subdivision with hope for finalization this fall. The property at Nine Mile and Garfield is being considered as a trailhead for the ITC Corridor Trail is still being initially scored by the DNR. He explained the remaining parts of the process. The Grant Committee will meet this fall to discuss possible grants for next year.

4. Power Park Playground

Director Muck stated this is the first inclusive playground in Novi Parks and is exceeding expectations and getting heavy use. He thanked those who contributed to the playground.

B. Recreation Division – Deputy Director Tracie Ringle

1. Farmer’s Market – wine tasting/sales

Deputy Director Ringle gave information the Farmer’s Market. She detailed the process in getting approval to have wine tastings and sales at the Farmer’s Market which will start this Saturday. She thanked Wendy Duvall and RoseAna Twitchell for their hard work in achieving this.

2. Novi Parks Rx

Deputy Director Ringle stated this is the second year for this partnership with St. John’s Providence Hospital which promotes a healthy active lifestyle. She outlined the way the program works and how it connects to social media. It is a sponsorship where for each photo taken we receive a contribution from Providence for programming. Participants are chosen each week and receive bike helmets provided to us through Providence.

3. Programs & Facilities

Deputy Director Ringle gave updates on Sizzling Summer Arts Series, Camp Power Play, Art Fundamentals Camp, Township Hall refurbishing, a private facility rental Softball Tournament, Dog Park Memberships, The Great Campout at Lakeshore Park and new signs in the parks.

C. Older Adults – Older Adult Services Manager Karen Kapchonick

1. Meadowbrook Commons

Manager Kapchonick talked about the new gazebo and the dedication on May 21st and thanked the Novi Rotarians and the Novi Parks Foundation.

2. Memorial Day Parade follow up

Manager Kapchonick thanked the residents, scouts and especially the Veterans who came out for the event. She gave details of the event.

3. Programs & Services

Manager Kapchonick stated Carol Hall is the volunteer of the month and told of her experience and help. Manager Kapchonick gave details on the Confident Caregivers Program and the Diabetes Class. Details were given about Boomer University held at Oakpointe Church. There were fifty-six participants in the Bucket List Program. The Star Spangled Splendor Luncheon is on Thursday, July 2nd.

MATTERS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION: None

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Wingfield thanked Mr. Cox and Mr. Konkus for their presentation. He talked about participating in the 55 and older Softball League. He asked about an item on last month’s agenda regarding Commissioners terms. Director Muck stated it was a reminder that some of Commissioners’ terms are up and Student Representative Kodali was to be recognized at his last meeting.

Commissioner Staab thanked Mr. Cox and Mr. Konkus for their presentation, proposal and volunteer hours on the trails at Lakeshore Park. He reminded everyone about "Pour on the Shore".

Commissioner Torimoto thanked Mr. Cox and Mr. Konkus for what their Association has been doing at Lakeshore Park. There was a great opportunity for kids to bike in the Memorial Day Parade. He just finished coaching spring soccer and recognizes that the Thunder program is expanding. He is participating in the Adult Tennis League.

Student Representative Thakore stated she has enjoyed being a Student Representative and is looking forward to continuing being involved with the Commission.

Student Representative Wei stated she is looking forward to working with the Commission.

Commissioner Jewell welcomed Student Representative Wei and thanked Mr. Cox and Mr. Konkus for their presentation. He also thanked Supervisor Duvall and the staff for all of their hard work.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Wingfield and seconded by Commissioner Torimoto.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Jewell at 7:59 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: _____

Jerry Jewell, Chairperson

Charles Staab, Vice Chairperson