

MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2023
MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.

APPROVED MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairperson Neil Rankin.

Pledge of Allegiance

- 2) Roll Call:

- a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Bartle, Billotti, Carney, McCoy, Rankin, Sovereign, Steidemann
- b. MEMBERS ABSENT: Montalbano, Varela
- c. OTHERS PRESENT: Karen Murphy, Director of Public Services; Marcie Post, Assistant Director of Public Services

- 3) Minutes of August 2, 2023: Steidemann motioned, Carney seconded to receive minutes of the meeting of August 2, 2023. Motion passed 7-0.

- 4) Call to Audience: Carol Arnosky, 2518 Brookwood Drive, spoke about her positive experiences at Plymouth Pool this summer as a lap swimmer.

- 5) Introduction of recreation fee review calendar: Murphy shared the recreation fee review schedule. The schedule is designed to give the Commission an opportunity to review staff recommendations on fee changes and to accept public input on any proposed changes before the Commission proposes the changes to the City Council for consideration. The proposed schedule includes:

- a. September Commission meeting – Commission to review the recreation fee schedule
- b. October Commission meeting – Commission to review the recreation fee philosophy
- c. November Commission meeting – Staff to propose revised fees for the Commission to consider
- d. December Commission meeting – Commission to hold a public hearing to receive input on proposed fees
- e. Mid-December Joint meeting – Invite City Council to meet with the Commission to discuss the proposed fees
- f. December/January – First and second reading of proposed ordinance at City Council

- 6) Proposed change to meeting calendar for 2024: Murphy proposed to change the standing date for Commissions meetings starting in 2024 from the first Tuesday of the month to the first Wednesday of the month. This will provide a consistent day of the month for all meetings, regardless of election months, which will be easier for the public to remember. Murphy asked for a motion of support to change the meetings to the first Wednesday of the month starting with calendar year 2024 with meeting dates as follows:

Wednesday, February 7	Wednesday, September 4
Wednesday, March 6	Wednesday, October 2
Wednesday, May 1	Wednesday, November 6
Wednesday, June 5	Wednesday, December 4
Wednesday, August 7	

McCoy motioned, Billotti seconded the motion to move Commission meeting nights to the first Wednesday of the month starting in calendar year 2024 and the motion passed 7 - 0.

- 7) Adoption of FY 2023/24 Work Plan: Murphy shared the updated work plan with the discussion topics that the Commission reviewed at the August meeting. Murphy asked for a motion of support to accept the work plan as presented. Steidemann motioned, Sovereign seconded the motion and the motion passed 7 - 0.
- 8) Recreation Update: Post provided an update on the following programs:
- Pooches at the Pool to be held September 9 with 106 sessions registered for to date.
 - Fall Miracle Field league kicks off September 9 with 40 athletes for four weeks of play on Saturday mornings.
 - Adult kickball starts Sunday, September 10 with 24 teams registered and over 300 players. The season lasts six weeks with double headers played every Sunday.
 - Monsters on the Mound is a new adaptive movie night and Trunk or Treat for Miracle Field athletes to be held on September 23.
 - The Grand Experience at Mackinac Island happens September 24-27 with 76 rooms sold, 150 travelers and three motor bus coaches reserved
 - Neighboring Week Scavenger Hunt will happen September 25-October 8 via the Eventzee app
 - Movie Night at Stratford Woods Park will be October 21 showing “Invasion of the Body Snatchers” and food trucks will be on site
- 9) Project Reports
- a. **Grove Park Restroom groundbreaking event**: Murphy shared that the groundbreaking for the restroom at Grove will happen Thursday, September 7 at the park.
 - b. **Central Park Band Shell Accessibility**: Murphy reported that City Council accepted the grant funding and approved a contract for the project at their August 14 meeting. The project will start in September with a completion goal by the end of November.
 - c. **Stratford Accessible Canoe/Kayak Launch**: Murphy shared pictures of the accessible launch which has been installed at Stratford. Murphy reported people began using the launch right away and parks staff did a video clip for social media to promote the launch.
 - d. **Blessed Sacrament Playground**: Murphy reported that City Council accepted the proposal to donate the playground property and accept up to \$200,000 for new play equipment. Murphy stated the new equipment will be installed using in-house parks staff. Design work and property transfer will occur this fall with playground installation in the spring.

- e. **City Forest Flow Trails and Skills Park:** Murphy reported that City Council accepted the proposal for two flow trails and a skills park from the Central Michigan Mountain Bike Association. CMMBA will start fundraising for the \$150-200K installation, hire the contractor and manage the project with Parks staff oversight.

10) Old Business:

- a. Murphy shared that the Parks Rules update was approved by City Council.

11) New Business: None

- 12) Adjourn: Motioned by Carney, seconded by Bartle to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 7- 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Murphy
Director of Public Services