

MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2022
MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.

APPROVED MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Vice Chairperson Holly Montalbano.

Pledge of Allegiance

- 2) Roll Call:

- a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Bartle, Billotti, Carney, McCoy, Montalbano, Steidemann
- b. MEMBERS ABSENT: Rankin, Varela
- c. OTHERS PRESENT: Marcie Post, Assistant Director

- 3) Minutes of October 4, 2022: Steidemann motioned, Billotti seconded to receive minutes of the meeting of October 4, 2022. Motion passed 6-0.

- 4) Call to Audience: None

- 5) Change to 2023 meeting schedule: Murphy reported that the November 8, 2023 meeting date approved by the Commission at their August meeting conflicts with a standing meeting of the Cable Access Advisory Commission. Murphy suggested that the Commission consider changing their meeting to Wednesday, November 1, 2023. McCoy motioned and Bartle seconded the motion to move the meeting to November 1, 2023. Motion passed 6-0. Murphy will get this new date onto the City Calendar for 2023.

- 6) End of season report for Plymouth Pool: Post shared the end of season statistics for the pool with over 38,000 swimmers which is the biggest year Post has seen. Post said attendance hit the maximum on several days. Swim lessons were strong again this year. With 10,000 more swimmers than last year, revenue was up and so were expenses as higher bather load requires more resources. Cost recovery was at 69% which exceeds the goal of 50%. No rate changes are being recommended at this time.

- 7) End of season reports for adult sports: beach volleyball, softball and kickball: Post shared the end of season statistics for the beach volleyball league with 57 teams and 405 players. Games were all played at Stratford Woods Park. Post shared that she struggled to get referees again this year and this may result in some changes to the program for next year.

Post then reviewed the softball program and the relationship between the City and the Midland Softball Association. The Midland Softball Association (MSA) collects a total fee to play softball and the City then invoices MSA a per player amount for City services. The majority of games were played at Redcoats this season. Softball remains on the decline and some fields weren't programmed this year as a result. Post shared there were 106 teams this summer with 1,661 players. Fall numbers were down with 42 teams and 555 players. Post then reviewed the girls youth softball. Incremental fee increases will be recommended this year for all softball leagues.

Post shared the kickball league statistics with 24 teams this year and 350 players. Games were all played at the Redcoats fields. There were no referees available this year so teams self-officiated which worked okay.

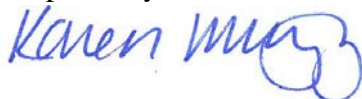
8) Proposed recreation fee changes for 2023: Murphy shared the fee recommendations for 2023 which include the following:

- Increase all softball fees by \$2.00 per player for adult and youth leagues
 - Adult summer league to increase from \$35 to \$37 per player
 - Adult fall league to increase from \$25 to \$27 per player
- Increase the fee for City Forest Chalet rental from \$50 to \$55 per hour
- Increase the fee for the band shell rental from \$80 to \$85 per hour
- Increase all pavilion and unsheltered picnic area rentals by \$5 per rental
- Increase the fee for an additional canopy from \$25 to \$30 per occurrence
- Tournament Fees
 - Add a weekend rate for field rentals as follows:
 - 2-hour rental – Weekday \$50; Weekend \$75
 - 4-hour rental – Weekday \$75; Weekend \$100
 - Full day rental – Weekday \$125; Weekend \$150
 - Daily Complex rental New Redcoats – Weekday increase from \$450 to \$500; Weekend \$550
 - Daily Complex rental Old Redcoats – Weekday \$400; Weekend \$450
 - Daily Complex rental of Optimist – Weekday \$350; Weekend \$400
 - Daily Complex rental of Emerson: Weekday \$250; Weekend \$300
 - Increase ball diamond lights from \$25 to \$30 per hour for tournament use
- Increase all stage rental fees by \$25 per use as follows:
 - Inside City limits for a non-profit rental increase from \$125 to \$150
 - Inside City limits for a for-profit rental increase from \$275 to \$300
 - Within Midland County for a non-profit rental increase from \$200 to \$225
 - Within Midland County for a for-profit rental – Eliminate this option
- Increase rental of bleachers from \$20 to \$30 per section of bleacher
- Increase rental of portable grills from \$10 to \$15 per use
- Increase rental of picnic tables from \$40 to \$50 for up to five tables
- Increase rental of each additional picnic table from \$8 to \$10 per table up to five tables
- Increase rental of event fencing as follows:
 - Increase from \$100 to \$125 for entire trailer
 - Increase from \$20 to \$30 for up to five pieces of fencing
 - Increase cleaning fee if needed from \$30 to \$50
- Swimming Fees
 - Increase Midland Dolphins fee from \$5,000 to \$5,500 for the season

Murphy asked for a motion to move the proposed fees forward to the December public hearing process. Billotti motioned and Carney seconded the motion with the motion passing 6-0.

- 9) Fall recreation program update: Post reported that the Grand Experience trip had 125 travelers and 67 rooms rented. Midland was the largest group at the hotel for this trip. Post shared that the Movie at Stratford was very popular with 65 cars and approximately 195 people. The weather was 65 and beautiful.
- 10) Beautification Awards – Save the Date: Post announced that the Appreciation of Beautification Awards will be held Thursday, November 3 at 7:00 pm in City Council Chambers.
- 11) Project Reports:
- a. **Currie Stadium demolition** – Murphy reported that the City’s Facilities Manager Tyler Abbs will be managing the project and demolition will start after November 10 as the Fire Department will be using the facility one last time for structure collapse certification. Demolition is expected to take 30 days with cleanup to follow. Murphy shared that the City will be salvaging the red gates to repurpose in a historical display to remember the stadium. The City will also salvage a concrete column with historical flood markings dating back to the 1940’s, and the City has already salvaged the aluminum bleachers to repurpose in the parks with uses including renovation of picnic tables.
 - b. **Upper Emerson riverfront** – Murphy shared the plan for the Upper Emerson renovation as a refresher of this Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund project. Murphy walked the site with park designer Pam Blough recently to begin the detailed design process. The Rail Trail bridge is being evaluated and staff are looking at different options for the deck including replacing with a wood deck or converting to a concrete deck. Planning work will continue over the winter with bidding to occur in spring and construction to begin in May/June 2023.
 - c. **Stratford Woods canoe/kayak launch** – Murphy shared the plan for the relocation of the Sanford Lake accessible canoe/kayak launch to Lake Kiwassee in Stratford Woods Park. Murphy reported that this project will be completed using in-house staff from DPW and Parks, and will include installing ADA-compliant concrete walkways along with installation of the canoe/kayak launch. Work may begin this fall depending on the weather and will be completed next spring. This project is funded by a grant from the Access to Recreation Committee at the Midland Area Community Foundation.
- 12) Old Business : None
- 13) New Business: Murphy mentioned that the December meeting is not listed on the City Calendar but will occur as originally scheduled on Tuesday, December 6.
- 14) Adjourn: Motioned by Steidemann, seconded by McCoy to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 6 – 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Karen Murphy
Director of Public Services