

SOUTH LYON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MINUTES Wednesday July 8, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Chairperson Orlando.

Present: Dianne Beagle
Scott Black
Robert McConnell
Michael Orlando
Erica Wilson

Kristen Delaney - City of South Lyon

Absent: Lori Mosier

Approval of Minutes - Motion by Wilson, supported by McConnell, to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2009 meeting. Motion carried unanimously. There were not enough members to constitute a quorum at the June 10, 2009 meeting therefore there were no minutes from that meeting.

Approval of Agenda - McConnell proposed the addition of item K. Spring Meeting Schedule and Wilson proposed the addition of item A. 1. McHattie Park Follow-up. Motion by Wilson, supported by McConnell, to approve the agenda as amended for the July 8, 2009 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments – None.

I. OLD BUSINESS

- 1. McHattie Park Walk Through** – Wilson stated that McConnell's suggestion to install a 'graffiti rock' in McHattie Park was a good idea. The hope is that the persons who are defacing the play equipment with markers would be redirected to the rock. Commissioners will research other parks in the area that have such rocks to determine what would be needed to install and maintain one in McHattie Park.

Delaney, City Manager Murphy and DPW Supervisor Renwick will be meeting with insurance agents Friday to discuss, among other items:

- Removal of the flat section of fencing atop the backstop
- Matching grants to install video cameras in the park to deter/catch vandals
- Insurance requirements for groups that use the parks for one-time events, such as softball tournaments

Restroom vandalism is becoming frequent and severe. Wires to lights and emergency exit devices have been stripped. Toilet paper rolls have been removed because vandals set them on fire. The restroom building may need to be closed for a while to halt the destruction.

2. **Eagle Scout Project** – The Boy Scout who had inquired about possible projects has chosen to repair and landscape the gazebo near Wendy's. He will create a written proposal and present it to the Commission at the August meeting.
3. **Park Sign Locations** – The Commission has pictorial park signs ready for installation: 6 – 36" diameter 4 – 24" diameter 4 – 12" diameter. They are designed to direct residents and visitors to the City parks. Potential locations were discussed and Orlando will meet with Delaney and Renwick to stake locations at which DPW workers will install the signs this summer.
4. **Outdoor Movie Equipment Update** – Delaney stated that an agreement is being drafted that will specify how the equipment will be shared, stored and maintained by the 6 communities that are collaborating on this purchase. It's possible that South Lyon could show an outdoor movie in the fall.
5. **Volunteer Park Clean-Up Day** – Beagle contacted the Boy Scout leader who stated that the troop does not need any more large, community service projects. Delaney stated that the resident who suggested this has not pursued it any further. Due to lack of interest and no need for a large-scale clean-up at Volunteer Park, the Commission will not sponsor one.
6. **Labor Day Bridge Walk** – There was much discussion regarding the press release, flyers, distribution of promotional information and the t-shirts that will be given out. The following tasks will be completed prior to the next meeting:
 - Delaney – Complete press release and flyer, make copies of flyer
 - Add press release to the City's Facebook page
 - Display information on the City's cable TV channel
 - Obtain quotes on t-shirt purchase and silk screening
 - Beagle – Distribute press release to all surrounding community newspapers, Detroit Free Press and News
 - Orlando – Contact Greg Sadler about photographing the Walk
 - Contact Busch's regarding donations of water and granola bars
7. **Ron & Mike Morelli Walk** – Orlando stated that over 300 people participated in this walk and 98% of them left their email addresses so they may be contacted regarding additional walks. Bridge Walk flyers will be emailed to all of these addresses. Orlando suggested that the Commission might want to sponsor additional walks throughout the year to promote our parks and family fitness.

II. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Park Usage Requests** – Delaney stated that she had received three requests for use of City parks:
 - J. Keith requested use of McHattie Park for a 'holiday event' on December 5th and 6th.
 - SLARA requested use of Volunteer Park on Saturdays from September 12 through October 17 between 8:30am – 1:30pm for the Kiddie Kickers soccer program.
 - T. Repovz requested use of Volunteer Park on either August 1st or 8th for an all-day softball tournament.

Motion by Wilson, supported by McConnell, to approve these requests contingent upon receiving more details regarding the 'holiday event' and proof of insurance for the softball tournament. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioners determined there is a need for a consistent procedure for reservation of the City parks as well as a form on which pertinent information regarding the request would be submitted. Delaney will research forms used by other communities and bring a draft form for review to the August meeting.

- 2. McHattie Park Development Meeting** – Orlando, Black and Delaney had a meeting with Manager Murphy and Mayor Doyle regarding future development plans for the park. They discussed contracting for a master plan for the park, promoting plans to the public, soliciting ideas and fundraising assistance from community groups and what could be done now to make the park more visible and inviting to residents and visitors. Black suggested that the area on the west side of Pontiac Trail, behind the Wendy's parking lot, could be improved and made more attractive to show that it's an entrance to the park. He stated that the gazebo and park sign could be moved, additional plants could be added to screen the parking lot and visibility into the park could be enhanced. Wilson stated that this would render the Eagle Scout project discussed earlier moot. Commissioners agreed to utilize the September meeting as a brainstorming session on what to do with this corner of the park. Commissioners will bring ideas, photos, and additional research material to the meeting.
- 3. Spring Meeting Schedule** – McConnell proposed that the Commission add meeting dates in April, May and June to accommodate the annual park walk-throughs. There are usually events such as inclement weather, darkness and special agenda items that arise and prevent the walk-throughs from occurring after regular Commission meetings. An extra meeting or two could be devoted entirely to the walk-throughs. Motion by Wilson, supported by McConnell, to add an extra meeting to the months of April, May and June, as needed, for park walk-throughs. Motion carried unanimously.

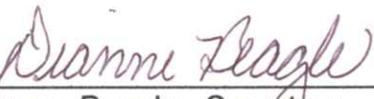
III. Commission Comments – None.

IV. Adjournment – Motion by McConnell, supported by Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Upcoming meetings: August 12
 September 7 – Labor Day Bridge Walk
 September 9
 October 14
 November 11

Submitted by: 

Michael Olando, Chairperson



Dianne Beagle, Secretary