

Fraser Parks & Recreation Commission
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
November 12th, 2019, 7 PM
Fraser Municipal Building

A regular meeting of the Fraser Parks and Recreation Commission was conducted on the above date at the Fraser Municipal Building, located at 33000 Garfield Road, Fraser, and County of Macomb, Michigan.

Present: Chairperson Laura Lesich, Vice Chairperson Cheryl LaCasse; Secretary Renee Paoletti, Commissioners Sherry Stein, and Nancy Berube.

Also Present: Christina Woods, Recreation Director, DPW Superintendent Nick Schafer, Parks and Rec staff member Jennifer Mellar.

Absent: Commissioner Dave Bogdan

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairperson Laura Lesich called meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda for November 12 2019

Commissioner Stein moved to approve agenda, seconded by Commissioner LaCasse, motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes from October 1st 2019

Motion made to approve minutes made by Commissioner Stein, seconded by Commissioner Paoletti, motion carried.

5. Fraser Parks and Recreation and Senior Center Gratitudes

Director Woods wishes to thank Fraser Tim Hortons for their donation of day old baked goods, Renee for doing the minutes despite the fact that there was no audio for the last meeting. We have a lot to thank for the Fall Festival, but that will be done later. Rachel Augusti, our Junk Drawer Science teacher, who submitted a grant for robots, and got it, and submitted another grant for other tools for the program. She is doing this all as a volunteer. Rose Claus, who is working on two little libraries for Pompo Park. A bunch of people who donated for the Seniors Christmas Party, either for gifts or tickets for the seniors. So far, we have collected \$813 in donations. Vania Apps, Gudrun Goetz, Pam Pitt, Rose Claus and the rest of the Naughty Knitters, Dana Freers, Kim Kennedy, Amanda Rolens and Laura Lesich. Karen Silverthorn, who is making the decorations for the Christmas Party. Meadow Lodge, Oakmont and Dr. Stephen Cain who have all donated for the seniors this past month. Dana Freers, who donated \$100 towards Junk Drawer Science supplies. Director Woods would like to thank the volunteer Flag Football coaches Josh Foster, Scott Thompson and Joe Felicia, Fraser Public Schools for letting us use their Football field. Pam Pitt for her work on Webbs Wedge. For the park cleanup, thanks to Vania Apps, Renee Paoletti, Cheryl LaCasse and family, Dana Freers, Councilman Mike Lesich and Laura Lesich, Councilman David Winowicki and Debby Winowicki and Rich Haberman.

6. Report on Parks

A. Discussion and recommended action plan for updating parks.

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Nick Schafer got some quotes together for the park improvement project. A presentation was given outlining the improvements, by park, with pricing. The equipment will vary by park. All of the current equipment in the parks we are improving is now obsolete, and does not conform to standards that are in place today, and they would have to be removed and replaced. There was much discussion for where to focus, and where to ease back. There was a motion made by Commissioner Stein to make a recommendation to City Council at the December meeting, with quotes for signs and the hard wired locks. Commissioner LaCasse seconded, and the motion carried.

B. Recap on Park Cleanup

It was cold and wet. We had 9 people. Maybe we should keep it to the spring only, and have two dates.

C. Recap on MPARKS Virtual 5K

We raised \$211.78. We may look into using the money for distance markers for McKinley Park. Next year we should start promoting it earlier and we may get a bigger response.

D. Discussion on Farmers Market Dog Park Project

The Farmers Market is interested in possible opening a Dog Park. They have already put dog waste stations in several of the parks. They had a survey exploring the interest of the residents. Several questions were brought up and answered. Keep in mind, this is in the beginning stages. No decision has been made as to when and where this will be. There will need to be fundraising to get it started.

7. Other Business

A. Resignation of Commissioner Mills

After reaching out to Commissioner Mills last month, she provided her resignation. So, that opens another seat, which will run until December 31st 2021. We will need to open applications for 30 days. Commissioner Lesich motioned to open applications to fill the seat to replace Melissa Mills, taking applications to January 7th, seconded by Commissioner Paoletti. Motion passes.

B. Interviews for 3 Recreation Commission seats, term ending 12/31/22

Director Woods reached out to the applicant who has not served on the commission before. She got no answer and the voice mailbox was full. Sarah Kelley provided a letter stating that she would be out of town today, but is interested in a commission seat. There was a discussion about delaying the interviews until December, but it was decided that the one applicant knew the interviews were tonight and did not provide an excuse for missing it. Sarah Kelly submitted an application and a letter, and has served on the commission previously. We decided to interview the two present applicants, and using Sarah Kelley's letter as an interview and vote the three seats tonight. The other applicant can

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interview for Melissa Mills' seat in January. Motion made by Commissioner Berube and seconded by Commissioner LaCasse. Motion passed. Interviews of Renee Paoletti and Sherry Stein commenced.

C. Motion and recommendation for 3 Recreation Commission seats, term ending December 31, 2022.

Motion made by Commissioner Berube and seconded by Commissioner Paoletti to recommend Sara Kelley for a Recreation Commission seat, term ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried. Commissioner Paoletti motioned and Commissioner LaCasse seconded to recommend Sherry Stein for a Recreation Commission seat, term ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried. Motion made by Commissioner LaCasse and seconded by Commissioner Berube to recommend Renee Paoletti for a Recreation Commission seat, term ending December 31, 2022. Motion carried.

8. Volunteer Group Reports

A. Updates on McKinley Barrier Free Park

We have a lot of things going on. First up is our Holiday Raffle going on until December 12. They are \$5 each, and we are only selling 400. The prize is a \$250 Meijer card and a \$250 Amazon card. One winner. Drawing will be December 12 at Rams Horn at 8:00 pm. As far as grants go, we did receive a \$10,000 grant from DTE. We are waiting to hear about the design and accessibility grant from CFSEM which is the Ralph Wilson Foundation. We should hear in January, and it would be for \$50,000. We are still waiting on the Harrick Foundation, and we should hear by the end of December. The target for that grant is \$200,000, which would put us where we need to be to finish the park, which would include an outdoor exercise area and climbers. The Walk and Roll last month was a huge success! We had hot dogs, popcorn, henna, a fossil find, and other stuff. This was a free event, and we would like to thank our sponsors, Fraser Rams Horn, Elite Pest Management, Aaron and Cheryl LaCasse, Jazzercise Fraser, Healthmark, Creative Cookies by Sarah, the Naughty Knitters, County Commissioner Harold Haugh, Mark Jessup, Goodman Venegas Insurance, Vania Apps, Freers Freers and Freers, TNA Plumbing, Hanover Grove, Melissa Mills, and Councilman Mike Lesich and Laura Lesich. Global Giving is coming up. We have raised \$10,000 with Global Giving, and that will start the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, Giving Tuesday. We are coming up with brochures for sponsoring equipment at McKinley. Our next project is the Sensory Garden. We were hoping to have the cement poured in November, but the weather may hold us up. Our Blue Jean Ball is coming up. Tickets are available for \$45 and it will be February 8th at Vintage House, doors open at 6:30. There will be raffle baskets, a silent auction, 50/50, etc. There are sponsorships available. See Sherry Stein or Cheryl LaCasse for details. Next meeting is November 19th at 6:30 at the Hanover Grove community center.

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B. Updates on Fraser Fresh Farmers Market

They did the surveys regarding a dog park. Next meeting will be December 9th at 6:30. At the Fall Fest, they launched their line of dog ties and bow ties and scarves. They will be added to their web site.

C. Updates on #FixtheFort Group

There are no updates at this time.

9. Overview Report from Parks and Recreation Director.

They are continuing preparations for Director Woods' upcoming maternity leave. Jennifer will be covering the Recreation Commission meetings. Director Woods will be bringing up to council at the next meeting the hiring of a full time senior coordinator. It was put in the budget, but there has been a moratorium on hiring. The dates have been tentatively scheduled for Recreation Commission meetings for 2020. There are several elections factored in. Commissioner Lesich moved to approve the dates, and Commissioner Berube seconded. Motion carried.

10. Report on Senior Business

Senior programs are going well. The Senior Christmas Party already has over 65 people signed up. Pickleball is doing well, experiencing growing pains. We have a Veterans Appreciation Lunch tomorrow, a free event. Also, a painting party, and some light weight programs are planned. And Julie is looking into a larger bus program that we can maybe merge with other communities.

11. Report on Recreation Business

Flag Football is ending tomorrow. We may need to revisit the timing of the program. We are teaming up with Roseville/Eastpointe for basketball. We may have to cancel the Kid's Christmas Party, there is only one child signed up so far. She has a meeting with Roseville/Eastpointe about possibly coordinating a Unique Sports Mash Up program. We are offering a new kid/parent gym program in January, specifically for toddlers and parents. Not specific sports, but games and drills and getting them started with sports. Applications open for Christmas decorating contest. People need to nominate houses. We will be doing letters to Santa after Thanksgiving.

12. Report on Special Events

A. Recap on Fall Festival 2019

First, Director Woods would like to thank everyone involved. The POC Firefighters served over 1200 hot dogs! Fraser Public Safety had their vehicles and were doing child ID kits. A lot of the City departments were present. FFBC provided popcorn and face painting, and ran out of popcorn. Farmers Market had pumpkin bowling. The Chili cookoff, 1st place was Mayor Carnegie, 2nd was Laura Lesich and 3rd went to Michelle Casey. Fraser Lions provided the hayride. FHS HOSA had CPR display. Thanks to the rec crew, Julie, Brad, Casey and Ryan, for making everything run smooth.

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B. Recap of Halloween events

The Lions Club event had a great turnout, with around 400 people. The Lions gave so much for this event, candy, food, decorations and volunteers. The Walk and Roll was a great event Parks and Rec did the Donut on a String, which was a hit. The Trunk or Treat was another great event, which had a great turnout despite the weather, over 500 kids. The Glow bike parade was once again rained out.

C. Upcoming Christmas in Fraser

We are pretty much all set. We are going to start pushing a campaign to let people know to bring PJs and books for Dominic. Dominic and the Historical Commission will be at the event. 2019 pins have been ordered. We will have the symbolic tree like last year. The sign up genius is up, for those who want to volunteer. We would like to see Christmas lights up again, although it may be too late for this year. What is the cost for this?

13. Citizen Participation

None

14. Commission members with concerns

Commissioner Stein would like to thank Lee from Rams Horn he is always generous with letting us use his lot for the Trunk or Treat, and Gudrun Goetz for helping organize it. Come see me for raffle tickets. Commissioner would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Commissioner Paoletti is looking forward to being a commissioner for another three years, and wishes all a Happy Thanksgiving. Commissioner LaCasse would like to congratulate Sherry, Renee and Sarah for being recommended to council for commission seats. She feels this was a very positive meeting, and Happy Thanksgiving. Commissioner Lesich thanks the commission for having these lengthy discussions and Christina and Nick for working on this park improvement program. Thanks Jennifer for stepping up and we look forward to working with you. Everyone get decorating for Christmas!

15. Adjournment

Commissioner Lesich moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Stein. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

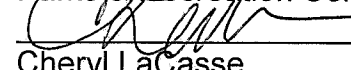
Respectfully Submitted,



Laura Lesich

Chairperson

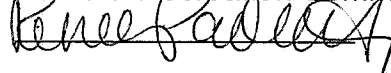
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Cheryl LaCasse

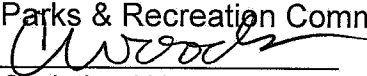
Vice Chair

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Renee Paoletti
Secretary
Parks & Recreation Commission


Christina Woods
Director Parks & Recreation