

Fraser Parks & Recreation Commission
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
May 12, 2020, 7 PM
Virtual Meeting VIA Zoom

A regular meeting of the Fraser Parks and Recreation Commission was conducted on the above date VIA Zoom due to stay at home orders surrounding COVID 19.

Present: Chairperson Cheryl LaCasse, Vice Chairperson Sherry Stein, Secretary Renee Paoletti; Commissioners David Bogdan, Sarah Kelley, Dana Sutherland

Also Present: Recreation and Senior Director Christina Woods, DPW Interim Director Nick Schaeffer

Absent: Commissioner Nancy Berube

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chairperson Cheryl LaCasse called meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Agenda for May 12th, 2020.

The agenda was approved unanimously

4. Approval of Minutes from March 3rd, 2020.

The minutes were unavailable at this time.

5. Fraser Parks and Recreation and Senior Center Gratitudes

Thank you to Julie Torres and Pomeroy Living for organizing and delivering 60 goods bags to seniors in Fraser. Thank you to Sherry Stein and Rams Horn for delivering 85 meals to seniors. Thank you to Curt Gibson, van driver who has gone above and beyond. Thank you to Rachel Agusti for making and giving away some STEM kits to kids.

6. Report on Parks

A. Progress on Parks Plan

The commission supported the two playground project bids, presented by Michigan Recreational Construction, Inc and Great Lakes Recreation Company (see Interim Director Nick Schaefer's Memo of March 3, 2020) gave preference to the project presented by Michigan Recreational Construction Inc., but leaves it to council for the final decision.

Pompo and Somerset Playground Upgrades

Michigan Recreational Construction - \$198,272.00

Great lakes Recreation Company - \$149,121.50

Motion made by Secretary Paoletti, seconded by Commissioner Sutherland to present both playground projects to City Council and formally recommend the project by Michigan Recreational Construction, with final decision at City Council's preference.

Motion carried unanimously

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The commission also discussed pathways at Pompo and Somerset. They recommend concrete due to durability, but reserve the final decision for council.

Michigan Recreational Construction Concrete Costs

Pompo - \$74,550

Somerset - \$49,080

Total= \$123,630

Motion made by Vice Chair Stein, seconded by Commissioner Bogdan to recommend concrete pathways for Pompo and Somerset Parks

Motion carried unanimously

The commission also discussed signage at the parks. They recommend that all parks be updated with unified signage. This will put a 72" sign at Meadows, Blanke, Boris, McKinley and Reindel; two 72" signs at Steffens Park; and Harrington and Pompo parks will each have two signs, a 72" sign and a 48" sign.

Michigan Recreational Construction Sign Costs

Ten 72" signs and two 48" signs - \$72,350

Motion made by Vice Chair Stein, seconded by Commissioner Kelly to recommend updates for all park signage.

Motion carried unanimously

7. Overview Report from Parks and Recreation Director

The Director stated that due to COVID 19 the Recreation and Senior Departments were shut down, with the only exception being van services for essential trips only. All of the staff have been laid off except the director and a part time van driver. There will be no field or pavilion rentals this year, and any events have been canceled. We will re-evaluate in the Fall for a re-opening date. The commission recommended that we continue meetings. The commission also discussed the status and if we should go forward with events like the carnival and farmers market. These will be up to city council to decide.

8. Volunteer Group Reports

A. Updates on McKinley Barrier Free Park

The group was updated on Fraser First updates. The Climber is on order and will be installed. The totem poles, music instruments and sensory garden will be installed when feasible. Thank you to Mr. Campbell for playing the bagpipes in McKinley Park on Wednesdays and Sundays.

B. Updates on Fraser Fresh Farmers Market

The market's future is unknown at this time and will be determined by COVID 19's progress.

C. Updates on #FixTheFort group

There are no updates at this time.

9. Other Business

10. Citizen Participation

Laura Lesich inquired about music in the park and opening up pavilions and services when it becomes safe to do so. She recommended outdoor hand washing stations.

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11. Commission members with concerns

Sutherland – Requests more communications regarding the status of the Recreation. Director Woods stated there will be another newsletter and that emails can be sent out.

Bogdan – Hopes everyone continues to be safe and continues to share ideas to get through this time.

Paoletti – It is great to see everyone

Kelley – Has no concerns

Stein – Hopes everyone stays safe

LaCasse – Good to see everybody. Hopes we continue the meetings because cities who keep thinking on their feet during this pandemic will bounce back quicker.

Cheryl also thanks Sara Kelley for her work on the front lines as an RN.

12. Adjournment

Motion from Commissioner Bogdan, Seconded by Commissioner Stein to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl LaCasse
Chairperson
Parks & Recreation Commission

Sherry Stein
Vice Chairperson
Parks & Recreation Commission

Renee Paoletti
Secretary
Parks & Recreation Commission

Christina Woods
Director Parks & Recreation

Virtual