

CITY OF BURTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 8, 2012, 5:30 P.M., Council Chambers
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The Parks and Recreation Meeting was called to order by Chair Steven Heffner at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Craig led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heffner, Craig, Bauldry, Dunsmore, Groulx and Miron.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Hildreth and Adams.

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Bigsby, Parks and Recreation Director and L. Young, Clerk's Office.

Brad Johnson, 1358 Norton St., spoke in reference to the new website. Discussion was held regarding a hyperlink to the various schools' websites throughout the City. He said there could be a separate email list for the Parks and Recreation Commission. He said if there are any additional features the Commission would like included in the website, they need to either call him or go through the Public Access Chairman, Danny Wells. He stated he started a service group called the Jaycees, which is for young professionals.

Lisa Easterwood of Fleis and Vandenbrink said the Genesee County Planning Commission approved the 5 –Year Park and Recreation plan and they will be providing them with a copy of the final plan to have on record. The Planner from Genesee County asked her to update the population numbers to reflect the Long Range Transportation Plan. She updated the Housing overview to have more accurate numbers. She spoke in reference to the new plan of Kelly Lake Park and explained the schedule for the Action Program.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Mr. Groulx asked why they should wait until 2014 to apply for grants.

Mrs. Easterwood said the grants are only good for so long, usually a year.

Mr. Heffner said the match dollars would have to be approved by the City Council.

Mr. Craig said they are going to have to look into fund raising.

Mrs. Easterwood said the Action Program is merely a guide, but she didn't want to do too much too soon.

Mr. Heffner said it is going to be tough to get the Council to agree to the \$75,000 match for the \$300,000 grant.

Mr. Craig said that is as much as a Police Officer.

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Mr. Heffner said Parks and Recreation is just as important as Police Officers.

Mrs. Miron said she would like it added that Atherton School was the first in Burton established in 1836 and the third oldest in the State.

Mrs. Easterwood said they will submit the application for the DNR Trust Fund Grant and will hear back from them in August. They will let us know the score and give us an opportunity to provide additional information to raise the score.

Mr. Craig asked what happens if they fail to lose the grant.

Mrs. Easterwood replied they could apply the following year. She referenced the map of Kelly Lake and explained the three most important things that people wanted at Kelly Lake were more walking trails, better maintenance, and improved bathrooms.

Mr. Craig said when they hold events at Kelly Lake either side of the drive is used for parking.

Mr. Heffner said he is working on getting new parking by the sledding hill.

Mr. Groulx asked if they could expand the existing parking.

Mrs. Bigsby said they could move the Trick or Treat trail to Courtland Center parking lot.

Mr. Craig said they did it there the second year and it wasn't the same.

Mrs. Easterwood spoke in reference to the potential costs of the projects. She said the boardwalk and overlook would cost \$228,000, which would include a match of \$57,000 and \$171,000 from the grant. Just the overlook would cost \$200,000 with a match of \$50,000, which is only seven thousand less than having the boardwalk as well. The nature trail alone would cost \$139,000 with a match of \$35,000. A bike rack, exercise station, drinking fountain, signage and benches would cost \$448,000 with a \$148,000 match. She mentioned the bathroom issue at Kelly Lake and recommended security cameras to help deter vandalism.

Mr. Heffner asked Mrs. Easterwood for a price quote for concrete bathrooms that would be connected to a septic and have running water. He said he is pretty sure he could get the concrete and blocks donated.

Mrs. Miron said Lowe's is waiting to help on a project. She said it would be better to do the boardwalk with the overlook first.

Mrs. Easterwood said they must go to Council on February 20, 2012 to approve the plan and on March 5, 2012 to approve the grant application. She said they need letters of support and donations from local service groups and businesses.

Mrs. Bigsby said she received a call from a resident who was interested in using a parcel of City owned property for a community garden. She said this would be a great way to use City owned

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properties and not have to mow them. She said she would speak to Judge Latchana about using his community service people to maintain the gardens. She would like it designed by master gardeners to guarantee the best yield. They would need plants and seeds donated. She stated a conference on Community Beautification was going to be held at the University Center at University of Michigan-Flint.

Mr. Groulx said they should appoint a captain to each lot.

Mrs. Miron said they should consider a Farmer's Market to get rid of the vegetables.

Mrs. Bigsby said the logistics of the project would have to be worked out. She said they could use the National Honors Societies within the schools, as well as the Scouts.

Mrs. Miron said they should put a bench at Thread Creek.

Mr. Heffner said they need a float committee for the Memorial Day parade. They have a trailer available and props from last year.

Mrs. Bigsby said they should get a banner with a list of all the activities that Parks and Recreation will be hosting throughout the year.

Mr. Heffner said the cost for 3D glasses for the firework display is going to be \$400 to \$700 dollars for two thousand pairs.

Mrs. Bigsby said they have \$15,000 in the Parks and Recreation Commission for community events and they have only spent \$500.

Mr. Heffner said the car show and concert is the Saturday before Memorial Day.

Mr. Craig said they should plan for \$1,000 for Memorial Day.

Mrs. Bigsby said she wants to get a one-page ad with all of the activities. She also asked for \$600 for the Easter Egg Hunt event.

Mr. Groulx said a good fundraising opportunity would be to organize a Casino Bus trip.

Mrs. Bauldry asked about fundraising at the Poker Room.

Mr. Craig said they would have to partner with a non-profit organization.

Mr. Heffner said a man from the Eagle's Club approached them, willing to be a partner.

Mr. Craig requested an updated budget for the Parks and Recreation Commission.

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COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR ACTION:

Moved by Miron and seconded by Dunsmore to approve the following motion:

1. The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends by resolution that the City Council approve the 2012 5-Year Parks and Recreation Plan.

Motion carried 6-0.

Moved by Craig and seconded by Groulx to approve the following motion:

2. Approve and authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission to allocate \$600.00 for the Easter Egg Hunt event.

Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Craig and seconded by Bauldry to approve the following motion:

3. Approve and authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission to allocate \$2,000 toward the Memorial Day activities, including 3D glasses for fireworks and the Car Show concert.

Motion carried 5-0.

Moved by Craig and seconded by Miron to approve the following motion:

4. Approve and authorize the Parks and Recreation Commission's request of \$1,000 for the Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshall sponsorship with the assumption the \$25.00 float entrance fee will be waived.

Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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