

CITY OF BURTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2013, 5:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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The meeting was called to order by Chairman Steve Heffner at 5:35 p.m.

Commission Member Toby Bauldry led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heffner, Craig, Bauldry, Hildreth, Spose, Miron and Moore.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Adams and Dunsmore.

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Bigsby, Parks & Recreation Director and M. Kimball, Clerk.

**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING: Discussion and possible recommendations
for the following:**

- 1. Safety Day**
- 2. Trick or Treat Trail**
- 3. Christmas Parade**
- 4. Christmas at Courtland**
- 5. Basketball Tournament**
- 6. Veteran's Honor Run Update**
- 7. Possibility of waiving the residency for Rob Spose until
the end of his term.**

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mrs. Bigsby reported Kelly Lake is still closed due to the e-coli levels. There are people walking and fishing but swimming is not allowed. Kiwanis Club started building the new pavilion last Monday. We received a \$200.00 donation from the Transom Twister Club. They have their event at Kelly Lake at the beginning of August. We received \$350.00 from the Guns and Hoses Event. This money went into the community events line item because that is where we took the money out of. I spoke to Ken Gould regarding Safety Day. He said the firefighters would like to start having Safety Day in the fire stations and have open houses there. We can still put on a Safety Day event if we choose to, however keep in mind we do have the Trick or Treat Trail Event in October. I spoke to Lisa Easterwood from Fleis & Vandenbrink. She is in the process of updating our Five Year Plan to add the Settlement Park. She is hoping to have it done and ready to present it at our October meeting. Then we can take it to the City Council for final approval. We will still be on track for the March deadline through the DNR if we are applying for grants. I have passed out the sponsorship forms for the Trick or Trick Trail and the Christmas Parade application. We do not need any more tombstones or caskets for the Trick or Treat Trail. I suggest if we are going to make anything for this event we should start now.

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COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Mr. Heffner stated Wal-Mart presented Burton Parks & Recreation with a \$500.00 check at their Re-Grand Opening.

Mr. Craig suggested we recognize all sponsors, in some way, for their donations. He said if we cancel our Safety Day event this year and the fire stations have it, we could volunteer to help them out in some way.

Mr. Spose said that he watched the whole Crim race and thought it was well organized. There were participants of all ages. Some were racing on three wheel bikes. They had something for everybody that wanted to compete, whether it is walk, run or otherwise.

Mrs. Miron stated Wal-Mart wants to donate to our Trick or Treat Trail Event. They would like the Mayor to do some public relation work at Wal-Mart since she was out of town for their Re-Grand Opening.

Mr. Heffner asked if it is official that Ms. Adams has stepped down from the Parks and Recreation Commission. If she has we will need to designate another chairperson to work with Ms. Bauldry on the Trick or Treat Trail Event. He asked Mr. Spose to help out with this event and if Ms. Adams stays, we will have three people on the committee.

Ms. Bigsby suggested that we have the meeting regarding the chair people after the Race meeting on September 18.

Mr. Craig said he will try to change the start time of the Veterans Honor Run meeting to 5:30 p.m. and the Chair meeting can be after the race meeting.

Mrs. Bigsby spoke regarding the Christmas Parade. She said she will call Larry Stapleton from Win's Lighting to see if they will be doing the same thing as last year with the Santa suit and the elves. I am hoping for a larger parade this year. I am going to contact the churches to see if they will bring groups out to Christmas Carol. Ms. Dunsmore and Ms. Bauldry said they would help with this and are available to help with Christmas at Courtland; however Ms. Dunsmore will not be available for the Trick or Treat Trail event.

Mr. Heffner would like to move the Christmas Parade to a later time in the day. He said it would look so much nicer in the dark with all the lights and decorations. The businesses along the parade route decorate their storefronts. I would also like to see if we could start the parade lineup on the other side of Bristol Road or extend it further south on Saginaw St. to make the parade longer.

Mrs. Bigsby stated the Burton Police have a concern if we block the main flow of traffic on Bristol Rd. because it is a main road used for emergency routes. This is why last year we started at Natalie (by Rockies) and ended at Morris Rd.

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Mr. Craig said he has received feedback from the businesses around the Bead store that said they didn't know about the Christmas Parade. If they had known, they would have participated or decorated their business.

Ms. Bigsby stated that she had delivered a newspaper article about the Festival of Lights contest that Otisville won and our parade application to each business along the parade route.

Mr. Heffner suggested we buy a trophy and have a contest of our own. We could have someone judge the store fronts and the winner would get the trophy. We need to contact the schools so they can prepare their bands for the parade.

Mr. Craig said he will ask Steve Coates from the DDA if they would like to donate the trophy and if they would like to partner up with us on this event. I will see if the Chamber of Commerce would like to be involved and distribute flyers at the next Chamber network meeting. Mr. Spose will be in charge of the float and I will help.

Mr. Heffner asked Mrs. Miron to Chair the Christmas at Courtland Event with Ms. Bauldry as co-chair.

Mrs. Bigsby stated she spoke with Troy at Courtland. He would like to schedule the Christmas at Courtland event for November 23, 2013.

Mr. Heffner spoke regarding the Basketball Tournament event. He said in the past we put on the Gus Macker basketball tournament. After this event, there was a clause in their contract stating we couldn't do anything basketball related for 18 months. The 18 months are now over. We would like to put together some kind of basketball tournament; however it will not be the Gus Macker because of the cost and fees associated with this event. The Trinity church on Elms and Carpenter has basketball hoops in their parking lot and I wonder if it would be possible to purchase or rent them. We need to come up with a catchy name for this event.

Mr. Spose suggested borrowing one of the churches basketball hoops to measure, replicate and make our own. He said I been asked by people why we don't hold the Gus Macker anymore. I explained to them that it costs so much to hold this event and we can't raise money for charities if we have to pay exorbitant fees.

Mr. Craig stated I have seen on Facebook that there have been many cancellations and cities are dropping out of the Gus Macker because of the fees. You need some other attraction, other than the basketball tournament to bring people in. I think if we get six to eight basketball hoops we could fill out a pretty good bracket. You aren't going to get as many teams but you won't have to pay thousands of dollars in costs either. If we had 40 teams we would make twice, maybe three times the money we made with 100 teams.

Mrs. Bigsby said Mr. Craig and I still have a list of all the registrants from the Gus Macker. I will look in the database to see if the list includes contact information.

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Mr. Heffner thinks the town of Vernon will be having their basketball tournament Memorial Day weekend next year. We could contact them and cross promote. We could have our event a couple of weeks after theirs. Mr. Craig and Mr. Hildreth will chair the Basketball Tournament with Mr. Spose on the committee.

Mr. Spose suggested we sell our own concessions and sell Park & Recreation t-shirts and sweatpants, etc.

Mrs. Bigsby stated we need to set up the committee and start planning the Memorial Day activities for next year. I would like to put an ad in the Burton View to try to form a larger committee of 25 to 30 people. The whole day is a lot of work. We need to get people in the parade, sponsors, judges, volunteers, etc.

Mr. Craig said I spoke to Cheryl Slater, from Elga Credit Union, when they had their Pack the Truck event. She was telling me how important it is to have municipal government, Chamber of Commerce and the schools working together. I can ask if anyone would like to help with this event at the Chamber meeting next month. This is a network meeting so we could reach people beyond just our Burton Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Craig spoke regarding the Veterans Honor Run Update. He said we have different levels of sponsorship. The one star sponsor, up to \$2000.00 for shirts and medals, will be Elga Credit Union. The \$500.00 sponsor for the placing metals is Physical Therapy Wellness Center. The challenge coins sponsor is Goodwill, and the dog tag sponsor is IMA Brookwood. Mrs. Miron has someone that will donate fruit. I will ask Pepsi if they can donate water. Tom Salvador from Davison VFW called me and said that he can round up volunteers and will contact the recruiting organization for volunteers. We need groups to run the watering stations at the Fire Department, Kelly Lake and possibly one on Lapeer. We will have stationary signs at Lapeer and Munson intersection but will also need volunteers to hold up directional signs. As the runners come out of Kelly Lake onto Lapeer, the 11K runners will go straight onto Munson and the 5K runners will go left onto Lapeer. There will be different color bibs for 11K and 5K runners and the directional signs will match each color bib. Now that we have the race route mapped out we need to set up a meeting with the Burton Police Department to discuss the roads that will have to be blocked off for the race.

Mr. Heffner suggested using the Fire Department people instead of the Police Department for this. He thinks there charges may be less expensive.

Mrs. Bigsby said I will ask Mayor Zelenko if using the Fire Department is a possibility. I have 15 registrations here and over \$700.00 from online signup.

Mr. Spose said before the Crim race they painted a line through the parade route. People walk and run the route for up to two months prior to the race. This brings a lot of enthusiasm and awareness before the event. Would it be possible to do this for the Veteran's Honor Run event?

Mr. Craig asked Mrs. Bigsby if she could find out if it is possible to have DPW draw the lines for the race route and what the cost would be.

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Mr. Heffner said we could rent a spray paint machine on wheels and do this ourselves, it is not that expensive. We could use a color that is associated with the race.

Mrs. Bigsby stated the controller; Ginger Burke said that we have \$2,232.00 in the race line item right now, plus the \$96.00 that was deposited today.

Mr. Craig stated our goal is to have the cost of the race paid for by the sponsorships. Out of the \$25.00 early registration fee, \$5.00 goes to Bubba's for their meal and \$5.00 for a processing fee. I think approximately \$15.00 to \$16.00 of the \$25.00 registration fee will be profit. I will ask Brian at Gordon's Food Service to donate jugs of water and cups.

Mrs. Bigsby said Bubba's needs a variance for the runners to go over the Gilkey Creek. She is still checking on this. The creek runs behind Bubba's toward the E. Court Street dead end. They will need a bridge over the creek for the runners to cross. The owner of Bubba's is an excavator. He said he will put the big concrete blocks on the bridge to keep people from driving through there, when there is nothing going on.

Mr. Craig spoke regarding the residency change of Mr. Spose. He said Mr. Spose is still involved and a very crucial part of the community. He would like to ask the Burton City Council if they will waive the residency requirement.

COMMISSION DISCUSSION ACTION:

Mr. Heffner added Item #7 to the Agenda.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR ACTION:

Bauldry moved and Spose seconded the following motion:

To cancel the October 2013 Safety Day Event.
Motion carried 7-0.

Craig moved and Bauldry seconded the following motion:

To recommend waiving Mr. Spose residency requirement to Burton City Council until the end of term, July 2015.
Motion carried 6-0 with Mr.Spose not voting.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

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