

CITY OF BURTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 10, 2012, 5:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS
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The Meeting is called to order by Chairman Steve Heffner at 5:30 p.m.

Commission Member Jeanette Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Adams and Dunsmore.

OTHERS PRESENT: B. Bigsby, Parks & Recreation Director; K. Gould, Asst. Fire Chief and J. Adams, City Clerk

PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

- 1) Safety Day updates 10-13-12
- 2) Trick or Treat Trail update 10-27-12
- 3) Fall Road Race
- 4) Atherton Settlement Park
- 5) Christmas Parade 12-15-12

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

John Walker, 10902 Walker St., Grand Blanc spoke in reference to DNR. They were unable to get the Wolverine here to be displayed at City Hall or Atherton High School. He spoke of the possibility to hold a joint meeting between someone from the Parks & Recreation Commission and Atherton School District to discuss getting the Wolverine here in 2013. He stated that Ms. Miron has some good ideas of where the Wolverine can be displayed. He spoke to the DNR who stated it was in the Upper Peninsula Porcupine Mountains, coming south, and everything is booked up to the end of November. There has to be a formal application on letterhead from either the City of Burton or Atherton School District to Dpt. of Natural Resources in order for us to get the Wolverine here. This would be a great asset to Burton and he would like to see it come here.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Mr. Gould, 1164 Forest Avenue, spoke regarding Safety Day. He is on the Safety Day Committee and they need more smoke detectors. Wal-Mart was supposed to get them 205 smoke detectors with the Grant that he got from Wal-Mart and they only have 94 with no means of getting the rest. Mrs. Bigsby has been trying to locate more smoke detectors. Mr. Spose stated that he would call Lowes. Mr. Gould said that Wal-Mart would be blocking off the area Friday night that he has designated for Safety Day and the tent would be set up Saturday morning. Everything else seems to be falling into place other than the smoke detectors, but if we cannot get enough we may be able to give out certificates for these. Smoke detectors will be installed for the senior citizens and the handicapped. Volunteers may include community service workers, National Honor Society and students from the schools for extra credit. Mr. Spose stated that Nehring's Market has donated 80 hot dogs for the event.

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COMMISSION DISCUSSION:

Mr. Heffner spoke in reference to the Fall Road Race. Mr. Craig and Ms. Miron are the Chairmen of the Fall Road Race. Ms. Miron spoke about possibly having the race around the same time as the Trick or Treat Trail next year. She spoke to John at Bubba's and Steve at Bentley Florist about possibly having this all on the same day, and have the race go around the area of Courtland Mall, Kelly Lake and Bubba's. There will be a meeting at McDonalds on the 18th at 5:30 p.m. to talk more about possibly coordinating the races in the area and the dates.

Mr. Heffner spoke in reference to Atherton Settlement Park. He said benches will be put in on Thursday or Friday.

Mr. Spose mentioned that Mary Crawford passed away. He said that Mary was a member of Parks and Recreation and did a very nice job. He suggested maybe sending flowers. Mr. Heffner said that Mary was a wonderful lady. He suggested possibly putting a bench in her name and said that she used to feed the geese at Kelly Lake. The benches are going in at the Atherton Settlement Park and also the Library Park. He said that Vaughn Smith applied for a grant through the Sage Program and they were awarded a bike rack for Kelly Lake.

Mr. Heffner asked if we knew anything about when the gravel will go in at Atherton Road Settlement Park. Mrs. Bigsby said that she needs to go over to the park with Liz Moss from DPW and Ms. Miron to measure the driveway. Mr. Spose asked if we have a supplier for the gravel. Mrs. Bigsby said she needs to go over to Zito's to ask about donating the gravel. Mr. Spose suggested checking with Country Oaks Landscape. Mr. Heffner said that Country Oaks may be able to supply the materials. He said that Country Oaks buys their crushed concrete where Zito's makes it.

Mrs. Bigsby spoke in reference to the Christmas Parade on December 15th. She said that she originally got the idea of having a Christmas Parade from watching the American Pickers show, where they mentioned having a Redneck Christmas Parade. Mrs. Bigsby stated that they would be going down Saginaw St. and Mayor Zelenko would like the line up to be between Hemphill and Bristol on the side streets so that traffic is not blocked on the south side of Bristol Rd. In the past they had a problem with blocking the west side of Saginaw because if there was an emergency there would be no way to get out. This would be a safety hazard because there is not an exit to Maple Rd. or Bristol Rd. This has been discussed with the DDA who has an interest in helping with the Parade. She would like to get volunteers to help and possibly get churches involved with Christmas caroling together or individually. Mrs. Bigsby has a complete list of all the churches in the area and will be sending a parade form to them. She also hopes the bands and choirs will participate from the area schools.

Ms. Miron talked to Troy at Courtland Mall and he mentioned that they will be having Santa Claus come to the Mall the Saturday after Thanksgiving and we may be able to have the same Santa Claus participate in the parade. Troy would be interested in helping out.

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Mr. Heffner talked about putting a committee together for the Christmas Parade. He stated that he would head the event if needed. Mr. Spose said that he could chair the event. Mr. Heffner was in agreement and offered to be part of the support group. Mrs. Moore and Ms. Miron offered their help.

Mr. Heffner asked for a motion for the Parks & Recreation Commission to support the Wolverine being housed at Courtland Center Mall.

Ms. Miron stated that she talked to Troy at the Courtland Center Mall and he would be happy to house the Wolverine at the Mall. He feels this would be a safe place for the Wolverine. There were no wild wolverines in the State of Michigan for 200 years; they have them in zoos but not wild. This one was tracked from 2004 until it died in 2010. Mr. Ford, a science teacher, watched the Wolverine, took pictures and documented everything up until the wolverine died. DNR got the Wolverine out of the creek when it passed away and had it stuffed and mounted. It is now in a museum on a traveling mount and is in high demand. There was also a book written about the Wolverine. The Atherton School mascot is the Wolverine along with the State of Michigan and also U of M Flint. The Wolverine has never been to Genesee County before. Ms. Miron said that we will be on a waiting list and we are hoping that we have the Wolverine here in the Spring. Ms. Miron feels this would bring people from all over Genesee County. Mr. Walker said that we may get some support from the U of M Flint. He stated that Mel from Public Relations will be talking to the Chancellor and it is a very good possibility, since this would be a neutral point, that the U of M will come in with some financial support or media support.

Ms. Miron stated that Troy from Courtland has given Parks & Recreation a cart at the mall. We can put all Parks and Recreation activity information on this cart for the public. Ms. Miron offered to chair this cart and says she has a picture of it. She says that it is a 4x3 cart that we could decorate. She feels this would be more convenient for the public since the Courtland Mall is open later than City Hall.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR ACTION:

Mr. Heffner moved and Mr. Spose seconded the following motion:

Approve to bring the Wolverine to Burton, through the Parks & Recreation Commission, to be housed at the Courtland Center Mall.

Motion carried 7-0.

Ms. Miron stated she would like to chair the Parks & Recreation cart at the Courtland Mall and she would like to get some vinyl signs made for the cart that say Burton Parks & Recreation Commission. She says we could also use these signs at other events.

Mr. Spose asked if we still have the Parks and Recreation rolling information cart. Mr. Heffner confirmed we still have this in the pole barn.

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Mr. Spose said we need to set up a building schedule for what we are going to use as peripherals to make and tomorrow we will know more from Brian at Lowes about what they will donate.

Lowe's will do a sponsorship for ten pizzas and may try to give us decorations at cost.

Ms. Miron stated that Walgreen's promised to donate decorations. Dave from Party City said he would give us a 30% off discount and Halloween City may be able to donate decorations that the Parks & Recreation Commission can use every year.

Mr. Spose said that we need to get a lock for our shed inside the DPW barn so that we can categorize, catalog and put everything away appropriately. Each event should have its own board for checking in and checking out items. Nothing should be taken out without proper authorization and some type of paper trail. Mr. Spose said that he would like to set up the next meeting for Trick or Treat Trail next week and that, when we get everything for the events coming up, his home can be used as the shop to build everything. He can have building parties at his home for whoever would like to help and he would bring the lumber. Mr. Spose stated that he would like to have the next meeting at 5:00 p.m. on the 17th at Sharkey's. Mr. Heffner stated that the biggest expenses will be the bounce house, food and pumpkins.

Mrs. Bigsby stated she is planning on picking up pumpkins on Friday the 26th. She has a pickup truck with a trailer and they will be getting 600 pumpkins. We currently have 16 sponsors and thanks to them we have over \$1,600.00 worth in items that have been donated. She has ordered 60 dozen cookies and 60 dozen donuts from Jablonski's. Sunday she will be getting the ad ready the sponsor's names. You can either be a sponsor or get your name put in the ad, or you can pass out candy at Kelly Lake. If you just pass out candy, you can have your name or business name displayed in your own area. If you are a sponsor your name will be in the ad and on the Thank You Banner. Mrs. Bigsby talked to the Principal at Genesee Christian Academy on Genesee Rd. and he said that we could use their parking lot that day. We could shut the gates at Kelly Lake and have everyone come in that way and have all the events on one side. It may be safer to have all the parking at Christian Academy.

Mr. Spose asked for a copy of the existing Burton View when they started the sponsorship so he could show it to people. Mrs. Bigsby said that she would give him a copy of the article. Mr. Spose asked for a list of committed people, business's etc., who would be setting up on the trail, to be given at the next meeting. He said this will help with the logistics as far as setting everything up. He also asked for a light to be put up on the bathroom for the pickup and drop-off of people on the hayride. Mrs. Bigsby said she ordered two bounce houses. She suggested getting stick lights from Home Depot or Lowes that could be put on the wagon and the light would shine on the stairs.

Mr. Spose stated he does electrical work. He can help with putting in a light around the bathroom area. There was a problem last year with insufficient lighting and we also need fluorescent stickers on the stairs that people use to get on the hayride for safety.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

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