CITY OF BURTON
PARKS AND RECREATION MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 21, 2011, 5:30PM, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
www.burtonmi.gov

The Parks and Recreation Meeting was called to order by Heffner at 5:35 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heffner, Craig, Adams, Bauldry, Bigsby, Miron, Groulx
MEMBERS ABSENT: Dunsmore
OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Zelenko, L. Young, Clerk's Office

Lisa Easterwood, of Fleis & Vandenbrink, said the survey is available online until December 30, 2011 and added there were about one hundred responses to the survey, presently. Kelly Lake Park was the most visited park, as well as For Mar and school playgrounds. Walking rated number one and bicycling rated number two on favorite activities. The number one reason for people not getting involved in recreational activities was because they did not have sidewalks or pathways near their homes. People would like to see better maintenance and more beautification, as well as a play scape at Kelly Lake. The public would like better maintenance and more beautification of the parks at Fire Stations 1 and 2. Pathways and green-ways rated the highest among the amenities people would like to see at a new facility. Nature and walking trails rated the highest of what trails people would like to see. The establishment of more pocket parks, as well as kids walking safely to school were high on the list of what the residents want. She stressed that the survey showed the public's number one concern is safety. Ms. Easterwood presented the Public Workshop results. She said the property behind VG's had the highest priority ranking among the City owned properties. The Parkwood school property was ranked number two, with property on Atherton Rd. by Thread Creek ranked third. Ms. Easterwood went on to explain that the project will require preliminary engineering.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

Mary Down, 3467 E. Scottwood Ave. said she is planning on planting a Children's garden at the library, as she is a Master Gardener and received money from a doctor for the project. She stated the garden will be twenty by twenty and will include small benches and flowers for the children to enjoy.

Jim Shustock, 1346 Howe Rd. said that he would like to see a small amphitheater for kids on the Webb property next to the Library. He also said goose feces is a problem at Kelly Lake.

Sadonna Myers, 1495 Alberta Ave., said Ms. Down plants fragrant flowers that are interesting and appealing to children. She also stated Walker Farms donated rocks for the garden.

Joey Graves, 5170 Clarkston MI 48348, introduced himself as the new pastor at the New Testament church. He said that he would like to offer the Church property to the City to use. He said they have basketball courts, and a 1.16-mile trail they plan to cover in wood chips.

Vaughn Smith, 1311 Clairwood Dr., said he walked the trail on Kelly Lake with a GPS and it was almost one mile exactly. He added it has rustic walkways, changes in elevation and would be conducive to workstations and signs that explain how to use them. He also mention the

inadequacies of the bike paths through Burton and added that the Library could use a bike rack.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Mr. Craig asked how much preliminary engineering will cost and if it is possible to find match money.

Ms. Easterwood replied the cost is dependent upon the scope of the project, but could run anywhere between $10,000-$15,000. She added a match depends on the type of grant that is sought, as each grant has specific opportunities, stipulations and requirements. She explained that the Board would have to choose a property to be able to draft a plan, and developing or enhancing trails would be difficult due to time constraints with the March 1st deadline to submit a concept plan for the grant application.

Ms. Bauldry agreed that they should not choose a path because of time limitations.

Ms. Easterwood said it would be best to save the trails project for the following year when there is more time to plan.

Mr. Craig mentioned the small trail at Kelly Lake and said that might be a good path to improve.

Ms. Easterwood said the survey results showed people want more paths at Kelly Lake.

Mr. Groulx mentioned an outdoor ice-skating rink as a possible project for winter recreation. He also said they may be able to connect to Davison's trail by Bentley Schools.

Mr. Heffner said that it would be the most inexpensive trail to do.

Ms. Easterwood said trail in Davison is up to Davison to get funding, but the City of Burton could collaborate with them to get it completed or put the idea in their head.

Ms. Bigsby stated a park was left out of the survey.

Mr. Heffner stated that Library Park was left out.

Ms. Bauldry said the Commission should have a copy of the Library Garden plan.

Mr. Groulx said it would be good to make it ADA accessible.

Ms. Easterwood explained many grants are awarded to communities that promote nature and education projects. She told the Commission they need to pick a specific property before she can develop a plan. She said the property behind VG's was rated number one in the Public Workshop.

Mr. Heffner said Disc golf would be good for the property behind VG's. He also stated they could make it a memorial park for Burton Police officers that have died in the line of duty.

Ms. Bigsby said sand volleyball is popular in the summer and could be a possible amenity.

Ms. Easterwood stated the goals of the plan, which are improve existing parks, improve programming, improve marketing of parks, and planning paths and sidewalks. She stated they would discuss amenities for the park and feedback for administrative structure at the meeting on January 4, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

ly