

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2023

Heather Carmona, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at 851 South Eton.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Heather Carmona
Susan Collins
Kyle Goulding
Pam Graham
Ross Kaplan
Anne Lipp
John Rusche

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Zachary Miketa, Seaholm High School
Matthew Windsor, Seaholm High School

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ellie Noble

ADMINISTRATION:

Melissa Fairbairn, Assistant City Manager
Scott Zielinski, Director of Public Services
Carrie A. Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator
Nicholas Dupuis, Planning Director
Leah Blizinski, City Planner

GUESTS:

Jack Burns, Cindy Rose, Steve Sweeney, David Young

It was moved by Lipp, seconded by Kaplan, to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, December 6, 2022, regular meeting as submitted.

Ayes,

Heather Carmona, Susan Collins, Kyle Goulding, Pam Graham, Ross Kaplan, Anne Lipp, and John Rusche

Nays, Absent,

None
Ellie Noble

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

No comments

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

**Agenda item #1: Nomination of 2023 Parks and Recreation Board
Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson**

Rusche nominated Carmona as Chairperson; Carmona accepted the nomination.

Ayes,	Heather Carmona, Susan Collins, Kyle Goulding, Pam Graham, Ross Kaplan, Anne Lipp, and John Rusche
Nays,	None
Absent,	Ellie Noble

Collins nominated Graham as Vice-Chairperson; Graham accepted the nomination.

Ayes,	Heather Carmona, Susan Collins, Kyle Goulding, Pam Graham, Ross Kaplan, Anne Lipp, and John Rusche
Nays,	None
Absent,	Ellie Noble

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #1: MI Spark Grants Application

PM Laird reviewed the City's application for a \$1M grant; award notifications are expected in late January for this first round. A second round will open in the spring, with an award notification expected in the summer of 2023. Awards could be made in amounts less than requested.

PM Laird emphasized the support of City Staff to assisting the consultant in the completion of the application in a timely manner as well as specific mentions of the Birmingham Bloomfield Community Coalition (BBCC), Birmingham NEXT, and The Birmingham Museum's letters of support.

Graham inquired about the concept plan.

PM Laird indicated that feedback is still being gathered and the consultant will be asked to modify the concept plan. There may be additional fees for the second draft.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #2: Play Is Essential Grant Application

PM Laird reviewed the City's application for a \$2K grant to enhance inclusivity and accessibility at Adam's Park with the addition of a stationary cyler and seat backs on the seesaw.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #3: Long Range Planning- Saturday, January 21, 2023, 8:30 AM Municipal Building

Carmona encouraged Board members to attend the upcoming meeting. DPS is tentatively scheduled at 9 am and will cover the following topics: Parks and Recreation Bond Update, Ice Arena Year in Review, Golf Report, and DPS Green Improvements / EV update.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #4: Article/E-mail Received

1. 'It's Been Awkward.' Pickleball Is Pitting Neighbor Against Neighbor in Noise-Conscious Communities, November 30, 2022

Carmona shared with the Parks and Recreation Board the Wall Street Journal article.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

2. McHattie Park, South Lyon Swing, email received from John Rusche

Carmona shared with the Parks and Recreation Board Rusche's email. The swing was not included in the Play is Essential Grant.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Lipp mentioned the holiday show at the Ice Sports Arena went well.

Sweeney had a question about how the City sets priorities.

DPS Director Zielinski described a variety of situations from citizen / community requests to City Staff requests, and Fairbairn added that health / safety / welfare items are considered priority items.

DPS Director Zielinski said that recommendation emails and conversations are always welcome with himself and PM Laird.

CP Blizinski emphasized the importance of engaging with the Master Plan that is fed by a variety of plans, including strategic, long range, and capital.

Rusche brought up previous resident pickleball parking issues, and DPS Director Zielinski explained that the concerns fall within Multimodal Board purview and Public Safety would be involved as necessary.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

NEW BUSINESS:

Carmona publicly recognized the gem we have in Jacky Brito, City Golf Manager, and thanked Roger Steed, well-known resident and epic golfer, for highlighting Jacky's contributions in his blog.

Carmona introduced Nick Dupuis, City Planning Director, who has been with the City for five (5) years. He recognized that parks and open space has been important to the City's urban planning and master plan since 1927. He introduced a newer member of his team, Leah Blizinski, City Planner, to help connect the dots in the 2040 Master Plan, which includes a volume of park initiatives. CP Blizinski will be attending all future Parks and Recreation Board Meetings, leveraging her sustainability focus and prior experience with the Huron Clinton Metroparks to add to the conversation with supportive new ideas.

Carmona asked the Planners about Master Plan next steps, especially as it relates to the upcoming Five (5) Year Park Plan, and Dupuis outlined the organic process.

Graham inquired about the ability to change course based on the 2040 Master Plan, especially as it related to bonds.

PD Dupuis said that "grandfathering" comes into play and there are control measures in place for accepted allocations. Depending on the change, it may or may not be possible.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

Carmona stated the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2023, at 6:30 pm, at 851 South Eton.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm
Stacy Vail, Clerical