

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
June 7, 2016**



The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM, June 7, 2016. Members present were Dennis Crandall, Todd Ristau, Jackie Angove and Mark Zavinski. Kirk Johnson, Judi Wilson and Mike Suppa were absent. Also attending: Mary Ann Nau, David Hildebrand, Nancy Freenock, Mike Holtz and Ellen Nelson.

VISITORS

Cathy Peterson, YMCA and Rachel Beach, City Playground Supervisor.

MINUTES

Upon a motion by Jackie Angove and a second by Mark Zavinski to accept the minutes of the April 5, 2016 regular meeting, the minutes were unanimously approved with corrections. Mark Eberle will be corrected to Mark Eberl in the April minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Randy Baughman was unable to attend the meeting as planned since he has moved to Erie. He was going to speak on the relocation of the Santa House. Park at south Liberty to be rehabilitated as part of Liberty Streetscape project. Mr. Holtz stated that they are planning to save the bench. A pavilion with a concrete floor will be installed as well as 3 to 4 trees and a new sidewalk. There will not be a restroom in the structure. Ms. Freenock said there is to be a planting bed dedicated to Dr. Ewey. Will recreate a plaque. Mr. Holtz had an idea to name the Santa Park Kelsey Park in honor of Art Kelsey, a former DPW employee. Ms. Nau suggested holding a special meeting in July to discuss the park name. Sample of what is proposed needs to go to council for approval. Ms. Nau is not in favor of moving the Santa House to Lacy Park. Randy Baughman had requested that if it does not go to Lacy Park it should be given back to the school. The new pavilion can be used by Santa. Todd Ristau and Jackie Angove agreed that they did not want Santa House moved to Lacy.

Cathy Peterson – Warren City Pool. Training for lifeguards was held last week. Pool hours are Monday-Thursday noon – 6:30 pm. Friday-Sunday noon – 5:00 pm. They have a lot of pool parties booked for July. Events – BEI comes twice a week. 2 groups come from the Jamestown YMCA. Healthy Kids day is July 18. Movie night July 22. August 20 is doggie day at 6pm. Participants will get a reduced fee if they make a donation to Paws Along the River. Starting June 27, playground days will be every Monday. Cathy took flyers to local hotels except Super 8. Advertisements have been sent to the radio station, TV/Cable station, placed on Facebook. Website has been update with new information and forms.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

No report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Healing Garden – Judi Wilson was not available to attend the meeting.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

David Hildebrand & Mike Holtz – Healing Garden

- Healing Garden to be placed by Warren Cancer Center off Hickory Bridge. They are applying for a grant to obtain lights for the trail, Crescent Park restroom improvements, extension of trail by Bonnell Field. The trail is now 1,500' long; looking to extend an additional 600'-700'. Mr. Crandall asked who would maintain the garden. Mr. Holtz responded "DPW".
- Mr. Hildebrand met with Warren General personnel. They wrote a letter recommending the improvements. Application to be submitted by June 30, 2016

David Hildebrand – Lacy Park

- An application for a grant was submitted mid-April. Information was accepted. DCNR requested additional information.
- Three (3) DCNR grant applications have been submitted: Betts, Lacy & Trail Overlook. If successful, go to Mulberry.
- Bocce court will be removed from Lacy due to lack of use. Will be replaced with shuffleboard.

Mike Holtz – Betts Park

- City received grant and contract. Sent to state to be reviewed. Working on 7-8 requested adjustments so may not be this year.

Mike Holtz – Defrees Park

- Fence is up. Check for funding has arrived. Swing set and 4 other pieces need to be ordered. Mr. Crandall asked if we monitor how the fitness park is being utilized.

Mary Ann Nau – Park/Playground Program

- Looking into getting census to see where kids are in relation to the City parks. If kids are walking from West End of town to Crescent Park, we may need a walkway.
- We have seven (7) new park leaders this year. Lunch training is scheduled for today. Orientation will held next week. CPR training is scheduled for June 14.
- Megan Wilcox from 4-H will provide various interactive programs.
- Field Trips are planned to Chapman Dam (with a ranger led program), Warren County Fair and Putt Putt golf.
- Thirty five (35) letters were sent to local business owners requesting donations for the playground program. \$1,850.00 in donations have been received to date.
- There will be no demonstration from American Ramp Company. They were over booked for this year and had no openings.
- The Trash to Treasure Flea Market is scheduled for July 16 and August 20. We are planning the area in Midtown Parking Lot for 28 vendors to set up.

OLD BUSINESS

Mary Ann Nau - Dog Park.

- Mary Ann had a slideshow with information from the visit she made last month to the Lakewood, NY dog park with Karen Kolos, Humane Society director. No tax dollars will be used for the Dog Park. The plan is to fund it strictly with donations.
- A doggy swim day will be held at the City pool on August 20 as a fundraiser for the dog park.
- Leadership Warren members will be asked to help. Mary Ann asked if any Parks & Rec members would be interested in serving on a committee for the Dog Park. Letters will be sent asking for folks to serve on the committee.
- Mr. Zavinski where Ms. Nau wanted the dog park to be constructed. Point Park needs clearing – too many bugs. Morck Park is too small and insufficient parking.

NEW BUSINESS

Mary Ann Nau – Park Policy

- Zika Virus – Ms. Nau provided handouts regarding Zika Virus
- Transgender – Ms. Nau provided information.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Crandall asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Zavinski made the motion and it was seconded by Mr. Ristau. Mr. Crandall declared the meeting adjourned.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

Next meeting will be Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 4:35 PM.