

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2015**



The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM, October 6, 2015. Members present were Dennis Crandall, Jackie Angove, Judy Wilson, and Mike Suppa. Todd Ristau, Kirk Johnson, and Mark Zavinski were absent. Also attending was Mary Ann Nau, City Administrator; Mike Holtz, DPW Director; Jessica Roudybush, Secretary.

VISITORS

There were no visitors.

MINUTES

Upon a motion and second to accept the minutes of the August 4, 2015 regular meeting, the minutes were unanimously approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter to the Betts Foundation – Letter was sent to the chairman of the Betts Foundation and addressed concerns over park use fees. The letter outlined revenues and expenditures related to the upkeep and maintenance of the City parks. The letter had been previously distributed to the Commission.

There were no comments from the Commission regarding the letter.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

No report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

No report.

STAFF REPORTS

2015 Summer Playground Program – Ms. Nau presented an end of season report for the playground program.

Mr. Holtz asked if the requirements for volunteers had been eased. Ms. Nau stated that they have had some relief but not much.

There is to be a discussion at a future meeting regarding recommended changes to the SOP for the Program (topics to include limiting vacation days for seasonal staff. The Commission also discussed revenues and expenditures related to the playground program.

2015 Warren Municipal Pool – Ms. Nau presented an overview of pool operations for the 2015 season (Cathy Peterson from the YMCA was not present at the meeting as expected).

Mr. Holtz stated that he had received all positive feedback from the public regarding the renovations at the pool. Ms. Peterson had suggested changing the hours of operation for the 2016 season. More information will be needed from the YMCA regarding attendance and times of entry, and resident vs. non-resident attendance. Mr. Suppa states that evening hours are better for working parents. Ms. Wilson said she has had comments from working mothers that more evening hours would be nice. There was a suggestion that evening hours only be offered later in the summer when the weather is warmer in the evenings.

Ms. Nau brought up the issue of selling individual passes for a younger age group as there is no price bracket for an individual pass for children/youth. Ms. Nau outlined the current season pass options.

There will be a breakout discussion scheduled for a later date to discuss hours, passes, fees, etc.

2015 Greenways & Trails Summit – Ms. Nau provided an overview of the summit. The event in Warren had the highest attendance of all of the Summits to date and was a great success. Ms. Nau said Warren is missing a Trails committee to spearhead development of trails in the area.

NEW BUSINESS

2016 Capital Improvement Plan –

Mr. Holtz said that Defrees Playground is the priority for next year. There is not much else allowed for in the budget. The fitness equipment and rubber trails at that location are holding up well.

It was noted that Crescent is still not ADA compliant. Ms. Nau said that DCNR has offered to help create accessibility aisles at Betts Park. Mr. Holtz said that they would have to be blacktopped, no other material would be durable enough.

There is still playground equipment at Mulberry but it is run down and needs to be updated.

Ms. Nau asked the Commission to send suggestions for improvements to Mr. Holtz.

The concession stand at Betts Park will be bid out for the 2016 season.

A question was raised regarding the floating dock project. The project is currently stalled due to ADA concerns (the dock must be accessible).

2016 Fee Schedule - Ms. Nau asked for a breakout session to discuss fees for the coming year. Mr. Crandall asked for volunteers for the subcommittee. Mr. Suppa volunteered and Mr. Crandall will check with Mr. Zavinski.

Bird Stone Monument – Mr. Crandall stated that he would hate to see the monument go but it makes no difference to him if it does. Mr. Holtz does not believe the monument is “fixable” and suggested displaying only the signature pieces from the monument. There has been no response from the Seneca Nation regarding the repair or removal of the monument.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

Next month's meeting will be Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at 4:35 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Crandall declared the meeting adjourned.