

CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING

April 3, 2018



The meeting was called to order by Denny Crandall. Members present were Denny Crandall, Mark Zavinski, Judi Wilson and Kris Whitaker. Also attending from the City Staff were Terry Williams, Director of Codes, Permits & Recreation Services, Mike Holtz, DPW Director, David Hildebrand, Planning & Zoning & Ellen Nelson, Secretary.

MINUTES

Kris Whitaker made a motion to accept the February 6, 2018 minutes as presented. The motion, seconded by Judi Wilson, was approved by unanimous vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

With no nominations for officers, Denny Crandall volunteered to remain as the Chair of the Committee. Mike Suppa volunteered to be Vice-Chair. Mr. Crandall asked for a vote to accept the officers as presented. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Josh Cotton, Times Observer reporter
Phil Gilbert, City Council member
Steve Stewart, River Landing
Mary Hagan, River Landing

REPORT OF OFFICERS

No report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Municipal Pool – Terry Williams. DPW is on schedule. Plan to do more advertising to sell passes. Planning more movie nights and other events at the pool. Looking into advertising on a street banner.

Summer Playground Program – Terry Williams. Megan Butina is returning as our Playground Supervisor. Jessica Byler will be posting ads for playground leaders. We have 4 leaders returning so need to hire 3 more. Job application is on the web site.

Historical Walking Tour – Mike Holtz. The committee is finalized where the kiosks will be placed in each of the City parks. Information to go on the kiosks is being put together. Blair has donated \$3,000.00 toward the costs. David Hildebrand is looking for more grant money.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

Crescent Park – Mike Holtz. Received contract. Initial call was made to the state regarding grant money. Application is due by Labor Day. Bid will be awarded January 1. Work to begin in the spring of 2019. The Healing Garden is not included in the grant. Local talent from the Master Gardeners, Warren Garden Club and Street Landscape Committee will be used to design and create the gardens. Phil Gilbert stated that the jail is working on a Master Gardeners program. These inmates could help with planting. Kris Whitaker said that a Master Gardener program just finished and would not be offered again until 2020. Mike Holtz said that next year, after the work is started, the 5 statues currently in storage and at Breezepoint Landing will be added to the area.

OLD BUSINESS

General Joseph Warren Park. Judi Wilson stated that the plaque for the statue is all set and will be installed in about a month by Sturdevant Signs.

NEW BUSINESS

River Landing. Steve Stewart presented information on event they would like to hold at the amphitheater in Soldiers & Sailors Park as a fundraiser for the River Landing project. It will be held on a Saturday with bands playing in the amphitheater. Terry Williams stated that this would need to go through the Special Events process. Steve added that it will be through WCCBI. Judi Wilson stated that she is in favor of the event. Mark Zavinski stated that it was a wonderful idea.

Amending City Ordinance re: smoking in parks. Commission voted to amend current ordinance to include vaping and other nicotine delivery devices to items not allowed in the pavilions.

Soldiers & Sailors Park. Calls have been received to reserve the amphitheater at Soldiers & Sailors Park. This is not currently in the City fee schedule so we cannot charge for the use. It was decided to allow events to take place here and look into adding to fee schedule.

Breezpoint Landing Pavilion. The fee schedule includes this pavilion. Researching minutes from Council meetings it appears the intent was to limit use to Economic Developmental Events. Council will be asked to clarify their intent. Several requests have been received to hold weddings in the pavilion.

Birdwatch Tower. Saturday, April 28 the tower will be dedicated during a ceremony celebrating Warren being named Tree City for 30 years. A brochure on birds found in this area was prepared and will be available at the Tower.

MISCELLANEOUS

Lacy Park improvements. Grant application was just submitted. If it is approved it will be 2020.

Alcohol use in City parks. There was discussion regarding the fact that alcohol is only permitted at Betts Park. May look into allowing it at other parks during pavilion rentals and special events. Will need to research why it was limited to Betts Park.

ADJOURNMENT

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

NEXT MEETING

June 5, 2018 at 4:35 PM. (later postponed to June 21, 2018)