

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
August 7, 2018**



The regular meeting of the City of Warren Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order by Judi Wilson. Members present were Judi Wilson, Jackie Angove, Kris Whitaker and Kirk Johnson. Also attending from the City Staff were Terry Williams, Director of Codes, Permits & Recreation Services and David Hildebrand, Planning & Zoning.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jackie Angove made a motion to accept the June 21, 2018 minutes as presented. The motion, seconded by Kris Whitaker, was approved by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Josh Cotton, Times Observer reporter
Dani Mostachetti, YMCA Swim Director

REPORT OF OFFICERS

No report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Municipal Pool – Dani Mostachetti. Attendance at the C.A.R. pool has been fairly good this year. The weather has been mainly hot and dry which encourages use of the pool. The week of August 6 – 11 is Warren County Fair Week and the pool will be open limited hours during this week. The pool will close for the season on August 18 with the Annual Doggie Dip to be held on August 19. The cost of that event is \$5 per dog family. The second movie night was July 14. They showed the Emoji Movie and had approximately 80 people in attendance. The Luau Party was on July 28 and had 80-90 people in attendance. Attendance to the Luau was up from last year. People enjoyed the entertainment provided by EJ the DJ.

The lifeguards like the new lifeguard chairs that have arrived and are now in use. The vending machines have been working fine.

Summer Playground Program – Terry Williams. The program is going very well this year. Megan Butina is doing an excellent job running the program and has been bringing in a number of nice activities and guest speakers, including the Audubon Society, Books for Kidstown, Gary Lester and his kazoos, and the Garden Club. A full report will be presented at the October meeting.

Historical Walking Tour – Terry Williams. Michelle Gray from the Warren County Historical Society and Dave Winans continue to work on the photos and text for each kiosk. David Hildebrand continues to work with the local foundations for funding for the kiosks.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

Crescent Park – David Hildebrand. Update on Healing Garden project. City staff and members of the Garden Club and Street Landscape Committee have been working with R.W. Larson landscape architect Dave Sobina on plans for the garden area that need to be submitted to the state for approval. The plants themselves are not part of the grant and will need to have a separate source of funding, probably from local foundations. The sub-committee is working to select plantings that will be attractive, but also low maintenance. Construction on the project is expected to begin in 2019.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Memorial Bench. The family of Nick Elinsky has requested a memorial bench in honor of him be placed in the western end of Betts Park. The family will pay for the bench and work with DPW on the style of the bench and the exact location it will be placed. They will also pay for annuals or perennials to be placed around the bench if staff feels they be appropriate.

Kris Whitaker made a motion to approve the placement of a memorial bench for Nicholas Joseph Elinsky 1992 – 2016 at Betts Park. Jackie Angove seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Renaming of the Municipal Pool. Terry Williams read to the committee an excerpt from Warren City Council meeting minutes in May 2007 regarding the official name of the Municipal Pool. Council at that time voted to change the name from C.A.R. (Conewango Allegheny River) Pool to the Warren Municipal Pool, as they felt C.A.R. Pool may be a misleading name. People from out of town may have not realized it was referring to a public swimming pool. However, Dani and the marketing team for the pool feel that the public continues to refer to the pool as the C.A.R. Pool and advertising materials should use that name. City staff feels that we should be consistent in what we call the pool. The Parks and Recreation Commission was asked for their opinions and a recommendation to council. Kirk Johnson made the comment that if the public is referring to the pool as the C.A.R. Pool, then the committee should recommend to City Council that the name be officially changed back to Conewango Allegheny River (C.A.R.) Pool.

Kirk Johnson made the official motion to recommend the name change to City Council and for as much advertising as possible to include the full name of the pool, so the public is aware what the acronym stands for. Kris Whitaker seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

Kris Whitaker thanked DPW for the quick response to a request to cut back some overgrown weeds and bushes at Mulberry Park. The problem was addressed within two days of the phone call to DPW Director Mike Holtz. The Whitakers also appreciated DPW's help in cleaning up some broken glass left by vandals. Good job, DPW!

Judi Wilson complimented the Allegheny Community Center for cleaning up the riverfront area behind the senior center so nicely. They cleaned up a lot of litter and brush and placed some nice benches in the area. Everyone is welcome to stop by to see it and enjoy the view of the river. Judi wants everyone to be aware of the nice work that is being done on this unofficial park area.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Jackie Angove made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 pm.

NEXT MEETING

October 2 at 4:35 PM.