

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
February 4, 2020**



The meeting was called to order by Chair Mike Suppa. Members present were Mike Suppa, Jackie Angove, Kirk Johnson, Kris Whitaker and Mark Zavinski. Also attending from City Staff were Nancy Freenock, City Manager, Terry Williams, Director of Codes, Permits and Recreation Services, Mike Holtz, DPW Director and Ellen Nelson Recording Secretary.

MINUTES

Ms. Whitaker made a motion to accept the December 3, 2019 minutes as presented. The motion, seconded by Mr. Zavinski, was approved by unanimous vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Jackie Angove nominated Mike Suppa for Chair. Kirk Johnson seconded the motion that passed by unanimous vote. Kris Whitaker nominated Judi Wilson as Vice-Chair. Mark Zavinski seconded the motion that passed by unanimous vote. Ms. Nelson had previously contacted Ms. Wilson and received her permission to be nominated as Vice-Chair and that she would be happy to accept if approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Kate Cataldo, Times Observer reporter
Megan Butina, City Playground Supervisor

REPORT OF OFFICERS

Mike Suppa attended the City Council meeting regarding Crescent Park and spoke on behalf of the Parks & Rec Commission. Ms. Williams said he did an excellent job and his comments made a difference. She thanked him for attending the meeting.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

PLAYGROUND PROGRAM – Ms. Megan Butina addressed the Commission on behalf of the City Playground Program. She has been with the program for 3 years. Her first year as a staff leader at Lacy Park and the last 2 years as the Program Co-Ordinator. She has noticed over her 3 years that the number of kids at the parks has grown each year and the attendance numbers are more consistent. Not only do the kids come to the parks, but they continue to return each day.

Ms. Butina remarked that the Playground Program gives many kids opportunities that they would not otherwise experience, and it has an overall good impact on those who attend. Ms. Freenock asked about the benefit of the free lunches provided by the school district. Ms. Butina replied that the free lunch program was utilized a lot.

Mr. Suppa asked that if she would make any changes to the program if she had no restrictions. Mr. Butina stated that she would not take away anything. She encounters kids during her teaching day that have been at the playgrounds and they are excited to talk with her about the activities. Ms. Williams asked if she would add a park if that was an option. Mr. Holtz answered the question, stating that if construction begins in 2020 at Lacy Park, the playground program would shift to Defrees Park on Fourth Avenue.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Holtz gave the committee an update on work to be done in the City Parks.

Crescent Park – This will be revised and rebid for 2021. The lights will be bid as an alternate.

Lacy Park – Getting closer. Planning to start work in April. Ms. Freenock added that Adam, with the Rotary Club, has helped secure \$165,000 in funding with the stipulation that work must be done in 2020.

Beaty Park – The City has purchased a modular playground unit to be installed by Game Time this spring. It will replace the treated wood playground equipment that was moved from South Street school. We have also received a recreational grant for 2021. Plans are to improve the pavilion.

Kiosks – Editing for the kiosks is done. Delivery should be in 10-12 weeks for a spring installation.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS

None

ADJOURNMENT

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

NEXT MEETING

April 7, 2020 at 4:35 PM.

Minutes prepared by Ellen Nelson