

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
June 2, 2020**



The meeting was called to order by Nancy Freenock. Members present were Jackie Angove and Mark Zavinski (in Council Chambers), Kris Whitaker and Judi Wilson (via Zoom). Also attending from City Staff were Nancy Freenock, City Manager, Mike Holtz, DPW Director, David Hildebrand, Planner/Developer Administrator and Larina Zimmerman Recording Secretary.

MINUTES

Ms. Whitaker made a motion to accept the February 4, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion, seconded by Mr. Zavinski, was approved by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Josh Cotton, Times Observer reporter

REPORT OF OFFICERS

None.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

None.

CITY STAFF REPORTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hildebrand informed the committee that the City received three separate DCNR grants which the City had to match: \$165,000 for Crescent Park; \$265,000 for Lacy Park and \$75,000 for Beaty Park. Mr. Holtz gave the committee an update on work to be done in the City Parks.

Lacy Park – Council awarded bids at last meeting, there is a pre-job meeting scheduled for June 3, 2020. The project is in good shape and going as planned, playground equipment is ordered, and project should be done by end of summer. Ms. Freenock added that they are working on a Grand Opening for the park around Labor Day, there were several contributors to rebuilding of Lacy Park and City is looking into a plaque. Ms. Whitaker volunteered to work on the committee for the Grand Opening. Ms. Freenock stated that she would like to include Adam from the original Lacy team and Mr. Holtz on the committee.

Beaty Park – City applied for the Game Time Grant along with a DCNR Grant, both were awarded. The modular playground unit was installed and the seeded using in-house DPW Employees which saved the City a considerable amount of money. The City is looking into moving the other \$75,000 Grant to Crescent Park to help get that project up and going.

Crescent Park – Mr. Holtz stated that this project has stalled at the moment, he is looking into repackaging and trying rebidding the project and also trying to save the lights. There will be some more discussions with Council regarding this project. We should know more in the next 30-60 days.

NEW BUSINESS

Mulberry Playground – Mrs. Whitaker stated there is an issue of high grass, old equipment, standing water under swing set, chips spongy, insects, rodents, and other wildlife problems were discussed. She stated problem started when WAEC was built. Mr. Holtz mentioned that a couple years ago City Staff with the Engineer looked at this issue. At that time it was thought it may cost in the range of \$200,000 that would include approximately two thousand tons of dirt to fix the problem. There are safety issues that need to be addressed in order to make a safer place for the kids to play. It was also suggested that since Mulberry Playground is getting more use could picnic tables be placed at the playground. Mr. Holtz said staff will take another look at the entire issue and report back to the committee.

Mrs. Whitaker asked about what happened with the City selling parcels on the hill side. Mike said that one small parcel was sold on the Frank Street side approximately three years ago.

Mrs. Whitaker also said water is encroaching into her back yard and in Zemanski's on Mulberry.

Playground program & CAR Pool - cancelled for the season due to COVID-19. There was not enough time to train life guards this year and the inability to meet the State regulations for social distancing and disinfecting/cleaning guidelines, also Lacy Park is closed this summer and was one of the parks used in the playground program.

MISCELLANEOUS

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, Mr. Zavinski made the motion to adjourn meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Angove.

NEXT MEETING

TBD – Ms. Wilson suggested we check the last week of July and determine if the August meeting should be held. Mike could e-mail status update on parks in the meantime.

Minutes prepared by Larina Zimmerman