

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



The meeting was called to order by Mike Suppa. Members present were Jackie Angove, Kirk Johnson, Mark Zavinski, 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

Mr. Zavinski made a motion to accept the June 2, 2020 minutes as presented. The motion, seconded by Ms. Whitaker, was approved by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Brain Ferry, 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 the approval from DCNR to move the \$75,000 from Beaty Park to Crescent Park Project.

Lacy Park – The rebuild of the Park is moving along and should be completed by end of September, the ribbon cutting ceremony will be planned for middle of October. The thought of having school kids at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was discussed. It was also reported that the Rotary Club has raised additional funds for the Lacy Project. Ms. Whitaker will also be working with Adam Meneo to get a complete donor's list.

Beaty Park – The City received the approval from DCNR to move the \$75,000 from Beaty Park to Crescent Park. The work at Beaty has been completed. Mr. Holtz said that City Staff would investigate installing a new pavilion closer to the playground next year.

Crescent Park – Mr. Holtz stated that the Healing Garden Project will be bid out in the fall and will include lighting along the trail. Much of this work will now be completed by the City's DPW forces.

Mulberry Playground – Mr. Holtz stated that Joe Reinke installed new stone for drainage for the swing sets. City Crews also worked on trimming the fences and placed a picnic table at the playground. Ms. Whitaker stated she sees kids and families at the park every day now.

NEW BUSINESS

Statues of Children – Ms. Wilson suggested all seven (7) Children Statues should be kept together in one place and not spread out throughout the City, along with the history of each statue and the sculptor. She thought Crescent Park would be a perfect place.

Hotel/Convention Center – Mrs. Freenock mentioned that City Council will be looking at the sub-division of Breeze Point Landing for the construction of a potential new hotel. Breeze Point in many ways is a logical choice because:

1. The Land is currently Tax Exempt and would then become Taxable
2. Park is underutilized
3. Renovations to the restroom and pavilion will need to be done soon, much of the concrete now has tripping hazards
4. Breeze Point was originally constructed in 2000 with state grant monies and the obligation is now expired.

Mr. Suppa asked if there would be a Convention Center as part of this construction to which Mrs. Freenock informed the Commission that that is not part of the design. The current plan is for a 58-room hotel with a small meeting room. The hotel would be a three to four story building. The Breeze Point Gazebo would be lost but the current walkway would remain.

The access from Liberty Street to Breeze Point will not go away however, the access from Liberty to Clark St will be changed. Mrs. Freenock was not sure what impact the hotel will have on the existing condominiums.

Mr. Holtz informed the Commission that the City received a grant to have an engineer perform an assessment of the City's Parking Garage.

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. Whitaker.

NEXT MEETING

Special Meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2020 at 4:30pm to discuss the ribbon cutting at Lacy Park.

Minutes prepared by Larina Zimmerman