

**CITY OF WARREN PARKS, RECREATION AND LANDSCAPE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 22, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Josie Gerardi at 10:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

Members present were Josie Gerardi, Mary Conarro, Mike Suppa, Jackie Angove, and Kris Whitaker and Paula Bogart. Advisory members present included Sherry Johnson. Excused members included Mark Zavinski. Also attending from City Staff were Michael Holtz, City Manager, Joe Reinke, City Arborist and Barb Anderson, Recording Secretary.

AGENDA APPROVAL

A motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Mrs. Bogart, seconded by Mrs. Conarro and passed unanimously by those present.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

- Josh Cotton - Times Observer
- Andy Close – Your Daily Local

MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion to approve the Parks, Recreation and Landscape Commission regular meeting minutes from July 25, 2023, was made with corrections by Mrs. Bogart, seconded by Mrs. Angove and passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

None currently.

JOE REINKE, CITY ARBORIST, REPORT

Mr. Reinke reported the trees are in good condition. He believes the 2023 Bareroot tree grant will be approved for 23 trees. There was some discussion concerning the vegetation growth on the island near the Third Ave bridge. Mr. Reinke stated they are looking to clear it this fall or early spring. Mr. Reinke said a decision needed to be made as to what would be going in the center of the roundabout. After a short discussion it was decided a hemlock will be planted with some easy maintenance material at the base.

MIKE HOLTZ, CITY MANAGER, REPORT

Mr. Holtz stated the ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the Pickle Ball courts. The courts are getting a lot of use. He reported the project at Beaty is complete and looks great and has a water fountain and electric to it. The old pavilion will be removed. Mr. Holtz said all the parks have had new chips put down.

CECILE STELTER, DISTRICT FORESTER, REPORT

Not in attendance.

BYLAWS

Barb reported Kassie is still waiting to hear from Tree City USA following their review of the bylaws. Mr. Holtz stated he will follow up with them.

CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION

The 2023 Civic Beautification Awards will be presented at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 7th at the Art Kelsey Park. Barb will prepare letters to mailed by the end of the week and begin working on the program and certificates.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Conarro reported an incident of a horse being at the farmer's market that had urinated in the parking lot and it went into a drain. There was concern with food items about the horse being that close to the vendors. Mr. Holtz will check with City solicitor Mrs. Stapleford and farmers market board member Jenn Rossey concerning horses at the farmers market.

CAR POOL

The pool is closed for the year and cover has been installed. Larina will provide a report on attendance in the next month or so.

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM

The summer playground program has ended for the year. Mr. Holtz reported it was well attended, with many field trips taken and activities done. He stated about \$10,000 in donations were received for the 2023 program.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am. The next meeting is Tuesday September 26, 2023 at 10:00 at Crescent Park pavilion.

Submitted by,
Barb Anderson