

**LOWELL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017, 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL**

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Perry Beachum and roll was called.

Members Present: Nancy Anderson, Perry Beachum, Greg Canfield, Paula Mierendorf and Susan Pomper (arrived 6:03 p.m.)

Members Absent:

Others Present: Rich LaBombard, Mike Burns, Scott Fosburg, Dave Austin, Mike Hoevenaar, Bob Nichols, Steve Doyle, Peggy Covert and Luanne Wisniewski

IT WAS MOVED BY CANFIELD, and seconded by ANDERSON to excuse the absence of Commissioner Susan Pomper.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

IT WAS MOVED BY MIERENDORF and seconded by CANFIELD to approve the agenda as written.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

IT WAS MOVED BY CANFIELD and seconded by MIERENDORF to approve the minutes for February 21, 2017 as written.

YES: 4. NO: 0. ABSENT: 1. MOTION CARRIED.

4. REVIEW FINANCIAL REPORT

The commissioners questioned whether the payment owed to Lowell Little League for this winter's maintenance at Richards Park's ice rink had been paid. LaBombard will check into this.

By consensus the commissioners approved the financial report.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mike Hoevenaar with Lowell Little League reported their opening day is April 22nd and they are ready to begin practicing as soon as the weather permits.

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Master Plan Update

Dave Austin walked the commissioners through the on line survey that will be available soon. This survey will be available at City Hall, Englehardt Library, on the City website and at Lowell Expo, March 25th.

The commissioners reviewed the first section of the 2010 Master Plan and a few suggestions were made for some changes to the 2017 Master Plan.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **Special Events Permits & Insurance**

Rich LaBombard explained the City has been getting advice on the proper procedure for special events held in the city from Risk Manager, Dustin Draebek. City Hall needs to be notified of any Special Event happening in the City to determine if a permit and proof of Insurance would be required.

b. **Recommendation Regarding Floodplain Composition Cut**

Steve Doyle explained King Milling is planning to build more wheat storage by July to help with the truck congestion during wheat harvest. The Arbor Board has approved the requested composition cut purposed to compensate for wetlands King Milling will be building the new grain bins on.

A motion was made to approve the Floodplain Composition Cut at Stoney Lake.

IT WAS MOVED BY CANFIELD and seconded by POMPER to approve the Floodplain Composition Cut King Milling proposed at Stoney Lakeside Park's lake.

YES: 5. NO: 0. ABSENT: 0. MOTION CARRIED.

c. **Farmers Market Relocated**

The Farmers Market will be moving from the parking lot North of City Hall to the Veterans parking lot to help make it more visible to the public.

d. **Fairground Contract Renewal**

Mike Burns and Rich LaBombard met with Kent County Fair Board for the renewal of their lease. The City Attorney, Dick Wendt is drafting a new contract that will be brought to the Parks & Recreation commissioners for their approval and then to Council.

8. **PARKS UPDATE**

a. **Recreation Park**

No comments were received or discussed on this item.

b. **Stoney Lakeside Park**

Unfortunately more shingles were blown off during the wind storm on the dog park pavilion.

c. **Creekside Park**

Scott Fosburg reported the maintenance to the bathrooms will start as soon as the weather warms up.

d. **Richards Park**

No comments were received or discussed on this item.

e. **Upper Bridge, Moose/Rogers, Scout Park**

Mierendorf had reported to the City that some of the rocks had been pushed around by a truck last week and had to be put back by the Department of Public Works.

f. **Riverwalk Park**

The tree that was selected to be planted in honor of Jim hall was planted.

LaBombard informed the commissioner the new Library deck will start construction in mid-April. Also, the Chess club will be placing a chess board outside of the Library, location to be determined later.

9. **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Canfield invited the Park Commissioners to meet Robert Brown with the Friends of Fred Meijer Rail Trials, 5:30 p.m. before the next Council meeting April 3, 2017. He will be discussing the City's involvement with connecting the Grand River trail from Saranac to the City to the Flat River Valley Trail through Belding and Greenville.

THE MEETING WAS ADJORNED BY BEACHUM AT 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Luanne Wisniewski