

LOWELL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2007, AT 8:30 A.M.

Present: Beachum, Hoats and Pfaller.

Absent: Green and Pomper.

Also Present: Betty Morlock, Scott Fosburg, Jim Hodges, Mike Meppelink, Matt Smith, Tom Richards and James Hinton.

1. Hoats moved, Pfaller supported to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2007 meeting as submitted. Motion carried.
2. Recreation Plan Update and Wege Foundation Property Feasibility Study. Pfaller stated after reviewing the draft recreation plan update he contacted Dave Austin of Williams and Works regarding some errors he found on City parks. The next Recreation Plan Update/Wege Foundation Property meeting will be on Thursday, December 20, 2007 at the Lowell Area School Board Room.
3. Agreements with Lowell Youth Football and Lowell Little League (YMCA, Kent County Youth Fair and Lowell Xtreme Softball have signed). Mike Meppelink introduced the new Lowell Youth Football President, Matt Smith. Their concerns are who controls the use of Burch field as well as who should deal with things being left on the field and truck parking on the field.

The Commissioners stated the City should with the assistance of Youth Football controls the use of the field. The KCYF agreement stated Burch field is to be used only as an athletic event field only. The new fencing should help with trucks being parked on the field, but if there is a problem, the Lowell Police should be called immediately.

It was noted that Lowell Little League will be signing their agreement soon.

4. Dog Park. Beachum read a letter he received from Jeff Eckstrom regarding the Dog Park. Hoats commented on how nice it was to work with Jeff Eckstrom on this project.
5. RV Park. Jim Hall noted the trails will go through the proposed RV Park area.
6. Recreation Park. No comments were received.
7. Stoney Lakeside Park. Fosburg reported that more trash can are being built for the park.
8. Creekside Park. No comments were received.
9. Skateboard Park. No comments were received.
10. Richards Park. Richards reported Light and Power allocated \$975 for a study on the issue of raising the electric lines at Richards Park. The study stated to raise the lines would be approximately \$65,000 and to put the lines under ground would be approximately \$157,000,

which would not eliminate the poles the Spring Street side of the park. Hoats stated it would be counter productive to leave some of the poles.

Fosburg reported on the vandalism of the ice skating rink. The Commissioners discussed various ways to get the neighborhood involved in policing the area.

The Commission also discussed the replacement trees at Richards Park and the consensus was to have Fosburg and DesJarden go the Arbor Board for suggestions.

11. Upper Bridge Park. Hall stated this area could be used for a boat launch, the crewing team or possible a Boy Scout Cabin in the future. The City should keep this property.
12. Other Business. Fosburg was directed by the Commission to look into removing the pay phones from Creekside and Stoney Lakeside Parks and have emergency only phones installed.

Pfaller thanked Mike Meppelink for all he has done for the Commission on behalf of Lowell Youth Football and Burch field.

The next scheduled meeting is Saturday, January 19, 2008 at 8:30 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty R. Morlock