

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MAY 11, 2011
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall by Chairman Wolf and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Chairman Earl Wolf, Vice Chair Phillis Chirico, Commissioners Gwen Hulbert, John Pratt, and Carmen Siciliano. Absent: Ryan Sweeder.

Also Present: City Clerk Holly Thompson, Jessica Westmoreland, and other members of the public.

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Siciliano**, to excuse Sweeder. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Approval of Agenda:

Add item 8a. Cost of Memorial Benches, 8g. Jubilee, and 9b. Tree Grant Status.

Motion by **Siciliano**, second by **Chirico**, to approve the agenda as amended. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

5. Audience Participation:

Chairman Wolf called for public comment at this time and there was none.

6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2011:

Motion by **Chirico**, second by **Hulbert**, to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 13, 2011 as amended. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Action Items

7a. Plans for Grand Opening:

Commissioner Hulbert provided a list of ideas for consideration by the Commission.

Chairman Wolf commented that the seeding and re-grading are not complete and the park may not be ready for the grand opening by Memorial Day.

Motion by **Hulbert**, second by **Chirico**, to postpone the grand opening of McCormick to the 4th of July. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7b. Williamston Recreation Advisory Bylaws:

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Siciliano**, to table the Williamston Recreation Advisory bylaws until the next meeting. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8. Discussion Items

8a. Cost of Memorial Benches:

Jessica Westmoreland stated that she has raised over \$1500 for a memorial bench in honor of Judy Church. Ms. Church lived in Williamston her entire life and also owned a business. They are willing to pay the money to order a bench to be placed in McCormick Park.

Motion by **Hulbert**, second by **Pratt**, to accept the contribution from Jessica Westmoreland to purchase a memorial bench for Judy Church. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

Chairman Wolf advised the Commission that he discussed the placement of a memorial plaque on an existing bench as requested in the case of the Taylor Smith memorial and was told any alterations to the bench would void the 25-year warranty.

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Siciliano**, to have the Chairman express to the Council that through direct contact with the bench manufacturer, the warranty would be voided if a plaque is placed on an existing bench. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8b. Report on Grants:

No discussion took place.

8c. Concession Stand:

Commissioner Chirico asked for clarification on the concession stand policy. Don Warren has requested to use the concession stand for the Summer Music Series. He wants to rent the stand and then charge someone else to use it. He also felt the decibel level in conjunction with the use of the bandshell is too low.

The Commission felt that after a few concerts are held, they would know more, and be able to set a different decibel level if needed.

8d. Progress in McCormick Park:

Chairman Wolf received an e-mail from C2AE trying to schedule a progress meeting for the Park project to discuss what is left to do. The contract for bandshell painting is ready to go. He added that someone at the last Council meeting complained about the puddles in McCormick Park.

8e. Sculpture Maintenance:

Chairman Wolf stated that he talked to Howard Dahlstrom regarding the Rotary donating money for the sculpture maintenance and was told the Rotary has been unable to obtain a quorum to make a decision on the matter.

8f. Event Planning Committee- Beautification:

Motion by **Hulbert**, second by **Siciliano**, to ask the City Manager to look into the accounting for the park fees and create a specific code in the budget for use of the park facilities income with a yearly report to the Commission. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8g. Jubilee:

Commissioner Siciliano reported that the chicken bbq may be moved to the east City Hall parking lot this year. The ugly dog contest is being moved to the Dog Days. The car show has been changed to a cruise with new people heading up the event. The young man that came to the Commission a few months ago will be playing country western music at Deer Creek Park during Jubilee.

10. Audience Participation:

Chairman Wolf called for public comment at this time and there was none.

11. Member Comments:

Commissioner Pratt told everyone to have a nice summer.

Commissioner Hulbert stated it is nice to have Chairman Wolf back but applauded Vice Chair Chirico for the job she did in his absence.

Commissioner Chirico stated she would like permission to plant 2 small burning bushes behind the restrooms.

The Commission directed Chirico to contact Engineer DeVries and Miss Dig to get this done.

Commissioner Siciliano commented that his brother is continuing work on his Eagle Scout project for the park.

Chairman Wolf stated that he would like to talk to Commissioner Siciliano's brother and thanked the Commission for excusing his absences.

12. Adjournment:

Chairman Wolf adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

***THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD.**

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Holly M. Thompson, City Clerk

Date Approved: _____