

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
JULY 14, 2010
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:19 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall by Chairman Earl Wolf and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Chairman Earl Wolf, Vice Chair Phillis Chirico, Commissioners Gwen Hulbert, and John Pratt.
Absent: Ryan Sweeder & Larry Wittrup.

Also Present: City Manager Tim Allard, City Clerk Holly Thompson, and RCRA Representatives Robin Yarmak, and Kurt Zaleski.

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Chirico**, to excuse Wittrup and Sweeder. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

4. Approval of Agenda:

Add item 8g. Position of Commission on Charging Bandshell Use Fees.

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

5. Audience Participation:

RCRA Representative Kurt Zeleski explained to the Parks Commission that the Schools are no longer contributing to the RCRA program. They asked for assistance from the City to support their programs.

Mr. Zeleski was advised to speak with the City Manager regarding the situation to find out if it is possible that the City could help the RCRA.

6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Regular Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2010:

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Hulbert**, to approve the regular meeting minutes of May 20, 2010 as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Action Items

7a. Water Bench-Girl Scouts:

Motion by **Pratt**, second by **Chirico**, to table this until the next meeting and direct the City Manager to look into this further to make a recommendation. ~~Yes: Sweeder, Wittrup, Chirico, Wolf, Hulbert. No: None.~~ **Motion passed by voice vote.**

8. Discussion Items

8a. Deer Creek Park Trees:

There was a proposal to take out two trees at the Deer Creek Park entrance to make room for a gate but the trees have never been replaced as promised by Carl McIntosh. The City Clerk will research the minutes to find out more information.

8b. C2AE Progress Report on McCormick Park Project and Current Status:

A preliminary schedule was distributed and the progress report was reviewed by the Commission.

Manager Allard updated the Parks Commission on the wood sculptures. Director McPhail is working with one of the sculptors to get the sealing finished and the cracks fixed. The sculptures are supposed to be cut down and moved temporarily to storage until the cement pads are finished for permanent placement.

Manager Allard also reported that the Williamston Area Beautification Committee is discussing taking on the river walk as a new project. He stated that he felt that there may be more worthwhile projects for the Committee to consider if the City can get a grant for the boardwalk for 100% funding. The Committee will be meeting at City Hall at 6pm, Thursday, July 15th.

Manager Allard reported that the DDA is considering paying a portion of the High/Putnam Street parking lot to take advantage of the grant funds available.

Bill Schneider of Wildtype was contacted; he is working with Rusti Owens at C2AE regarding the plantings along the river.

Manager Allard noted that Betty Eigenhauer is concerned with the wild carrots/queen anne's lace along the river. The Commission took it under advisement.

Member Hulbert stated that Kiwanis met and discussed that they are not able to pay Laux Construction for the sand volleyball courts. They want to do two courts and will be looking for a better price for both of them.

8c. Skate Board Park:

The group that wants to pursue this project was not present to address this idea. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Property Committee will be meeting with the school to discuss the property swap. The school has indicated that they may not want Memorial Park.

Dawn Marie Joseph is coming forward to take a leadership role in constructing a skate park in Williamston. Some research has been done and provided to Ms. Joseph to help with the project. Manager Allard has encouraged Ms. Joseph to meet with the Parks Commission to discuss locations.

Manager Allard will provide an e-mail updating the Commission.

8d. McCormick Park Water Activities:

Manager Allard reported that he has been hearing from children regarding the lack of water activities in the park. The Commission expressed interest in the prospect.

8e. City Progress/Plans for Easement Rights along Red Cedar River for Riverwalk:

Discussed above.

8f. Garden Club Tree Donation:

The Garden Club would like to donate money for another tree for McCormick Park in memory of one of their members. Chairman Wolf stated that he hopes the City Treasurer is keeping track of these donations.

8g. Position of Commission of Charging Bandshell Fees:

Member Chirico stated that many times people are getting permission to use the bandshell but are not paying the fee. The Commission believes there should be accounting specifically for the bandshell fees.

10. Audience Participation:

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

11. Member Comments:

Commissioner Pratt hopes everyone has a nice summer.

Commissioner Hulbert commented that she is glad the construction has started in the park.

Commissioner Chirico commented that she is glad the construction has started in the park and hopes the nonsense on Council ends.

Chairman Wolf is looking for pictures of the park construction ten years ago. He also passed out posters to all the members of ten things children should be able to do.

12. Adjournment:

Meeting Adjourned at 9:39 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: _____