

# **Park and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting**

**August 17, 2010**

**5:30 pm**

**Pendora Park Fieldhouse**

## **Meeting Summary**

Committee Members Present –O. Smith, R. Epler – 2.

Others Present –S. Katzenmoyer, H. Boyer

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Otis Smith, Chair.

## **Minutes**

Motion was made by Ms. Epler, seconded by Ms. Boyer, to approve the June 16, 2010 minutes as written. Motion carried.

## **Report from Recreation**

Ms. Boyer reported:

- Schlegel Pool has generated the highest revenue in over eight years
- Schlegel Pool will be closing on August 22
- Schlegel Pool staff have performed 31 rescues to date
- The 12 and under tennis team won the USTA Middle States Championship in Princeton NJ
- The tennis-a-thon raised \$3970 and will be matched by Fromuth Tennis
- 350 youth participated in the summer tennis program
- Six parks had playground leaders this summer in addition to Pendora Park which ran from 2-6 pm.
- Two of the six parks were closed during the summer due to Arbor summer youth staff challenges – Baer, Hillside, City Park and Oakbrook remained open
- 160 youth participated in the summer program
- 16 youth participated in Summer Camp raising \$5000 in revenue
- Pavilion rentals have increased with Pendora's pavilions being the most requested
- Building rentals have decreased due to increased costs and no availability of tables and chairs

Mr. DeGroot arrived at this time.

Ms. Boyer explained that the Arbor summer youth who did not finish out the summer had no experience working with youth. She noted her hope that she would be more involved in the hiring process in the future.

Mr. Smith noted his hope that the program timing could be better suited to the City's playground program. Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that the youth must finish school and attend a one week training program run by Arbor before beginning their assignments. Ms. Boyer noted that it is unknown if this program will be available next summer but it was the only way to run the summer program this year.

## **10 Year Park and Open Space Plan**

Mr. Smith reviewed the survey results to date. He noted that many youth are unaware of the City's programs and that the top reason for not attending the programs is that they are not informed.

Ms. Katzenmoyer stated that the Committee had planned to hold its next public meeting in September. The Committee scheduled the meeting for Wednesday, September 22 at 6 pm at Keffer Park.

Mr. Smith questioned if more advertising could be done. Ms. Katzenmoyer explained that the meetings are advertised in the Reading Eagle, with other media, on the City's website, and that she sends invitations to groups with vested interest in the City's recreation programs and facilities.

Surveys will be distributed to the remaining schools in October with the final results compiled by the end of the year.

## **Old Business**

- Skateboard Park

No report

- Recreation Commission

Mr. Smith stated that the City and School District have authorized the study for a Recreation Commission. He noted his hope that the study would begin in September. He explained that the City has retained the former Recreation Commission used in the past but that it has been defunct. Mr. DeGroote explained that it disbanded when Olivet grant funding ended and Ms. Jamula became Superintendent of the School District. Mr. Smith noted that this may be used as a template moving forward.

Ms. Epler questioned if a plan was in place. Mr. Smith explained that the study must be completed first.

## **New Business**

- Egelman's Ballfield Lease

Mr. Smith reported that the Council Public Works Committee is currently reviewing this lease. He stated that all leases will be reviewed and that this is the first of many.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted

*Shelly Katzenmoyer*, Deputy City Clerk

Issues for follow up:

- Volleyball
- Dog Parks – Pendorra, Angelica, City Park
- Jogging trails
- Skateboard Park
- Checkerboard tables
- Adult exercise/yoga
- Hockey – roller/deck
- Mural program