

CITY OF SWARTZ CREEK
Park and Recreation Advisory Board
Wednesday, October 7, 2020
Abrams Park Pavilion #2 (by the ballfield/restrooms) – 5:30 P.M.
Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER:
2. ROLL CALL: James Barclay, Connie Olger, Jentery Farmer, Samantha Fountain, Mark Gonyea, George, Hicks, Rae Lynn Hicks, Steve Long, Trudy Plumb.
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES :
5. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:
6. COMMUNICATIONS TO BOARD:
 - A. September 2, 2020 Minutes
 - B. Staff Letter
 - C.
7. REPORTS:
 - A. DPW Director
 - B. City Manager
 - C.
8. BUSINESS:
 - A. Disc Golf Course
 - B. Pickle Ball Idea
 - C. Crapo Structure Donation
 - D. Forestry
 - E.
9. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC:
10. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:
11. ADJOURNMENT:

CITY OF SWARTZ CREEK
SWARTZ CREEK, MICHIGAN
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING AT BICENTENNIAL PARK (HOLLAND DRIVE)
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Chairperson Barclay.

Members Present: James Barclay, Jentery Farmer, Samantha Fountain, George Hicks, Rae Lynn Hicks, Steve Long (5:33).

Members Absent: Mark Gonyea, Connie Olger, & Trudy Plumb.

Staff Present: Andy Harris & Adam Zettel.

Others Present: Lania Rocha, Nate Henry, Mr. & Mrs. Spillane, and & Bill Miller.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Hicks to approve the agenda of September 2, 2020, support by Farmer. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Farmer to approve minutes of August 5, 2020 support by Hicks. Motion carried by voice consent.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD:

- A. August 5, 2020 Minutes
- B. Staff Letter
- C. Pickle Ball Email

REPORTS:

- A. DPW Director: Mr. Harris gave some insights into the previous attempts to paint the graffiti that appears in the rear of the park building at Abrams.
- B. City Manager: Mr. Zettel had nothing new to add to park operations.

BUSINESS:

- A. Disc Golf: It was reported that the parking lot and two drives are installed with aggregate. The eastern berm is building built up and some grading is occurring onsite. Woodside has donated 3 or 4 culverts that can function as drain crossings.

Motion by Hicks to designate the Bristol Road property as the Otterburn Disc Golf Park, support by Fountain. Motion carried by voice consent.

- B. Pickle Ball: A resident requested that pickle ball courts be overlayed onto the Elms Park tennis courts. Some members thought this might already be done. Adam is to follow up on what the circumstances are and how they can be approved.

- C. Crapo Structure: The park board also considered the donation of a mid-20th century Crapo Farm structure for one of the parks or other public spaces. This structure is about 20' x 32' and is currently located on a Bristol Road farm (9345 Bristol Road; relocated in the 1970s from the original farm on Hill Road). The owners are willing to let it be relocated. As a machine shop style structure, it almost perfectly matches the style and function of a park pavilion, complete with open sides.

We will try to get some expert advice regarding the potential relocation of this structure and the related costs. The disc golf course is the ideal site, being in need of such a pavilion. There is some desire by those in the Swartz Creek Historical Society to place this at Abrams Park, being land originally within the Crapo holdings. This will be an agenda item for some time while we collect data and deliberate options.

- D. Graffiti: The issue of graffiti on the back side of the Abrams restrooms was discussed. This has been an ongoing issue for years. The current stance of the park board is to enable this as a public canvas, with the understanding that doing so has limited graffiti to that surface (a practice observed for public features in many communities).

Motion by Farmer to permit the back side of the Abrams Park restrooms to be painted upon by the public, barring obscene words and images, as well as the painting of other surfaces, support by Barclay. Motion carried by voice consent

MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC: Mr. Long indicated that a neighbor had a set of issues. The first was the need for shade trees by the dog park. The second is that the bushes at the north entrance to Elms need to be trimmed.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. Farmer noted the use of road salt at Elms as being very useful.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 6, 5:30 p.m. at Abrams Park Pavilion #2.

Connie Olger, Secretary



Adam Zettel, AICP

City Manager

azettel@cityofswartzcreek.org

Date: September 30, 2020

To: Park Commissioners
From: Adam Zettel, AICP
RE: October 7, 2020 Park Board Meeting

Hello everyone,

We will be meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 in the #2 pavilion at Abrams Park (by the ballfield/restrooms). Folks will be expected to have masks and maintain social distancing. They will also be expected to ensure they, as well as those in their household, are not experiencing COVID symptoms. This will probably be our last outdoor meeting. Moving forward, we should be able to meet in the council chambers.

Disc golf is still in the works. The water main contractor is staging in the area and has installed drives and an aggregate surface parking area. We should be able to get three or four storm culverts for drain crossings as well. We expect to be able to work with the disc golf pros and contractor to incrementally clear and grade course areas.

Our plans was to help get the fundraiser rolling so we can look to purchase baskets and pads. However, time continues to slip by. We are inclined to make the purchase of baskets directly with the intention of installing them for use in 2021. However, the area will likely still be used for staging and in the works for grading (Thanks Glaeser Dawes) for much of the 2021 construction season. So, we have a decision to make in regards to attempting to co-locate some disc golf activities in 2021 or waiting until the grading and staging is complete. We intend to go over these options at the meeting.

We also reviewed the pickle ball inquiry. It does appear that the courts at Elms ARE marked for this sport. The big issue we continue to face is the condition of the courts at both parks. We shall need to plan and fund restoration at Elms and restoration or reuse at Abrams. This is a growing issue as the courts deteriorate.

The donation of the Crapo farm structure is on hold. While I did find a contractor that is willing to take a look at it to ascertain the ability and cost of relocation, it appears the owners have hit a snag. Issues within the family may make the structure unavailable for donation. Mr. Spillane did not divulge much, but it appears there is a split in the family regarding the value or purpose of the structure. As such, we have not even been able to inspect it yet. We hope to get answers soon.

Andy and I have been working with a local arborist on tackling the ongoing forestry issues in the parks. This includes the removal and replacement of trees generally, as well as the ongoing maintenance of trees for their health and function. We hope to be investing some resouces in

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direct services and educational services for our staff that will better position the city's parks and grounds moving forward. We will go over the plan at the meeting.

Lastly, I have been working with the leadership at the Baptist church on Miller on a volunteer project. There may be a desire for that group to take on the staining of the playscape at Elms. This is something we can cooperate on as city staff, the park board, and other groups to get this facility back in tip-top shape in 2021.

Contact me with additional future agenda items, questions, or comments.

Sincerely,



Adam H. Zettel, AICP
City Manager
City of Swartz Creek
azettel@cityofswartzcreek.org