

Minutes

Parks, Recreation and Senior Services Advisory Board
Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 7:00p.m.
Leo Mahany/Harold Menninger Senior Community Center
3500 Marais Ave
Royal Oak, MI 48067

1. Meeting called to order @7:00PM
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes;
 - Becca made motion;
 - Commissioner Macey 2nd
 - passed unanimously
3. City Commission Report
 - ARPA Presentation at the last Commission Meeting
 - ARPA Plan was approved to move forward to next stage
 - \$.5 Million was approved for Senior Center improvements
 - Purchase lap-tops to use on site or check out
 - Improvements to make bathrooms ADA compliant
 - Floors updated
 - Create a coffee bar
 - Kitchen upgrades
 - Upgrades to VFW Park
 - Add bio-swales
 - Add plants to Campbell side and some on other side
 - Still not 100% approved and Parks team is preparing proposals to submit for consideration
 - \$1.5 million approved for Community Center; looking to partner with YMCA; details and funding is still being worked on
4. Public Comment
 - Tim Perry -
 - looking to create Bicycle Day Royal Oak
 - Has created routes for 3/6/11/14 mile routes
 - Routes will only cross 12 & 13 mile road
 - Will have no street closings or barriers
 - Route will be marked by colored flour
 - Would like to have selfie stations along route
 - Free family event
 - Tim would like to be appointed as the Route Coordinator
 - Mike Ripinski
 - Support Chamber of Commerce event in Centennial Commons
 - Chamber has had a long-standing relationship with Board
 - Janice Wegman

- Advocated for a stand-alone Senior Advisory Board
- 5. Business
 - National Junior Art Honor Society Art Garden proposal
 - Art Park Committee presented proposal to add a 15' art garden on the Royal Oak Middle School property
 - The committee members will be creating the art and selecting the plants
 - Will be using native plants that also good for pollinators (i.e. Lavender, Daisies, Milkweed and Forget-me-nots)
 - Have received funding from multiple sources (i.e. Frenz & Sons, Woodward Corners, Hollywood Market, parents, etc.)
 - Art is being created from recycled materials
 - Parks and Rec committed to providing compost, mulch and signage
 - Recommended group reach out to:
 - Nature society
 - Art Commission
 - Bee group
 - Chamber of Commerce offered space at Royal Oak in Bloom
 - Farmer's market
 - Senior Center Garden Group
 - Advised if once they have reached out to groups if there is funding or additional needs to come back to Advisory Board for consideration
 - Senior Center Report
 - ARPA Upgrades
 - Two trips planned (1) Turkeyville and (2) Casino
 - March 14, 2023 having a Elvis impersonator
 - Recently added a 2nd ROSES Aid to provide coverage for all week
 - With latest addition Senior Center is fully staffed
 - Smoke damage from fire was minimal and only needed to clean air ducts
 - ARPA funds covered most of large items on wish list
 - Staff Report
 - ARPA Funds -
 - working on plans for hard court surface updates
 - using the Master Plan to help prioritize projects to submit for use of these funds
 - Golf course would be more than the funds available
 - Arboretum
 - Received a \$250K donation/grant from the Erb Family Foundation
 - Will be working with McKenna to create renderings for upgrades to park
 - Money will be used to cover:
 - Complete Michigan Native plant collection
 - Signage
 - Connecting to Tenhave park
 - Creating a space for hosting educational programming

- Storage shed
 - Invasive species treatment
 - Accessibility = benches and path
 - Asked if there is ways to make signage accessible visually and audibly
 - Dedication will be held during Arbor Day celebration April 27, 2023 at 10:00AM
 - Recycling in Park
 - As directed by City Commission looking to add recycling bins to park
 - May look to add refillable water stations at some parks that are already equipped with plumbing - promote recycling and clean things
 - Adding new \$1,800 cans to downtown area
 - Working with the EAB to add signage to help with education about recycling
 - Michael asked about Ice Rink
 - Have not received a final report
 - Need to consider cost of time and resources to lay down sod and time till use again
 - Centennial Commons - Summer Concert Series
 - Shelly Kemp presented two events that will be hosted in the park this summer
 - Summer Concert Series
 - Starting on 7/6-8/17 with a rain date of 8/24
 - Family friendly event with no cost to the city
 - Each week will be a different theme
 - Will be bringing in porta-johns with sinks along with a roof to go over platform area
 - DDA supported with sponsorships from Henry Ford and Coreweill
 - Royal Oak Live
 - 6/24-6/25 from 1:30-8:00 PM
 - Working with Alexander Zonjic to curate jazz/funk/r&b performers
 - Will have artists booths and food trucks on Troy & 3rd
 - Will not be pulling alcohol permits to promote local businesses in social district
 - Both events will be posted on Chamber website and social media with all details
6. Items Not on the agenda
 - Michael
 - attended the Royal Oak Historical event/fundraiser for the Hamner Finch park
 - approximately 70-80 people in attendance
 - very interesting and
 - April 12, 2023 city is hosting a Robert's Rule training at City Hall

- Hannah - nothing
 - Commissioner Macey
 - Asked for an update on the Bees
 - Aaron spoke to the Bees in the D group and has a better understanding of practices
 - Will be keeping hive in Normandy OaksO
 - Open to adding more hives and working with Amanda
 - Katie Macey sophomore project
 - Took on adding milkweed gardens to VFW park
 - Working with Aaron to create plan
 - Will be the template for creating a pathway through the city
 - Metro Detroit Youth Club will be taking on as a project to help with maintenance
 - Joe
 - Bike Day
 - Previously organized Northwood Slow Roll
 - Has been working with Tim on how to bring Royal Oak Bike Day to fruition
 - Asked to create a sub-group to work on planning with Tim
 - Motion by ???; second by ??? = passed unanimously
 - Sarah & Joe to work with Tim and then bring back formal recommendation to board in April or May
 - Sarah
 - Batting cages - when is the contract complete? Answer: in the next year or two; one of the spaces being looked at for a community center
 - Dog Park - in the application rules it has an unmonitored email address - Aaron to update to DPS@romi.gov
 - Becca
 - Hamner Finch Park - is there a way to make the park more appealing while fundraising for the sculpture
 - Potential candidate for ARPA proposals to create walking path and add trees
 - Sue - nothing
7. Upcoming events
- Arbor Day Celebration on April 27, 2023
 - Park clean up - last weekend of April
8. Adjournment
- Motion by Becca; second by Joe and passed unanimously

