

APPROVED MINUTES

Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Commission

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

City Hall Chambers

6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE/DECLARATION OF QUORUM

- A. Commission Members Present: Batcheller, LaLonde, Little, Mitchell
- B. Commission Members Absent: Hamel, Sponseller
- C. Parks and Recreation Staff: Biscorner, Walker

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES & COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Changes/Approval of Agenda – motion by Mitchell, second by LaLonde to approve the agenda as present. All ayes.
- B. Approval of Minutes – motion by Batcheller, second by Mitchell to approve the minutes from Tuesday, February 28, 2023. All Ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Al Montoye, Mt. Pleasant resident since 1976, spoke on behalf of the Mt. Pleasant Pickleball Club. He talked about how the sport has grown in popularity as well as interest their club. The club desires wind slats in the fence (north & south sides), similar to MPHS, and they can contribute approx. \$2,500. (estimated cost for two fences \$3,500 - \$3,800).

Also, the club also would like to reserve the courts for league play on Thursdays for 1-1.5 hrs. and host an amateur tournament in the future.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- A. Parks/Recreation: – Director Biscorner reported on the following:
 - M-20 Bridge replacement, contractor selected. Projected slated to start 2nd quarter of 2024.
 - Mill Pond Park remaining east dam – working with consultant to determine if it is worth saving. Will have more detail at next meeting.
 - Community Garden @ Horizon Park, staff is working on this project for completion by Memorial Day weekend. Lotto system will be used for 15 spaces.
 - Farmer's market opened at Island Park on 5/4, celebrating 50-years, very busy first week.
 - Soccer and t-ball are half way through the season, getting back to pre-Covid numbers.
 - Adult softball will run on Tuesdays and CMU IM Fields with 6 teams and sand volleyball on Thursdays at Island Park with 12 teams.
 - Horizon Park Softball Diamond – Mid Michigan Softball may be taking over this field if it fits their needs, they would do upgrades and we could use in the off-season.
 - Mission Creek – county has cleared brush, added new culvert and removed dam.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- A. Pickleball Courts – going back to the master plan of adding more amenities to the east side of town, staff had proposed rehab of tennis courts at Horizon Park to pickleball courts at a cost of \$24-25K, which was within budget and gets rid of eyesore. The cost of six new courts at Island Park came in at \$300K+ which is cost prohibitive, and loops us back to original proposal to rehab tennis courts at Horizon Park.

Tennis community is on board, and this spreads out pickleball courts within the community.

After discussion, motion by Batcheller, second by LaLonde to move forward with planned conversion of tennis courts to pickleball courts at Horizon Park. All Ayes.

Reservations on Pickleball Courts – Director Biscorner discussed reserved courts vs. first come first serve. Currently we have agreements in place with local little and softball leagues for exclusive use of fields during leagues/tournaments, providing staff with a schedule. Looking to find the best balance, staff will bring proposal to board once drafted.

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT – 6:53p.m.