

# APPROVED MINUTES

Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Commission  
Electronically Conducted Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, February 23, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER** 6:01 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ATTENDANCE/DECLARATION OF QUORUM – ROLL CALL AND LOCATION IDENTIFICATION**

- A. Commission Members Present: Jim Batcheller, Liz Busch, Pete Little, Brian Sponseller, Desirea Woodworth  
All members present in Mt. Pleasant, Isabella County, Michigan
- B. Commission Members Absent: Brian Mitchell
- C. Parks and Recreation Staff: Brune, Bundy, Longoria, Way

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES & COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- A. Changes/Approval of Agenda – motion by Batcheller, second by Sponseller to approve the agenda as presented. All Ayes.
- B. Approval of Minutes – Motion by Busch, second by Sponseller to approve the meeting minutes from Tuesday, January 26, 2021. All Ayes.

**ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR** – In January, the commission elected Jef Fisher as vice-chair and he has since resigned due to job opportunity in another city.

Floor opened by Chair Little for position of vice-chair. Busch nominates Woodworth, second by Batcheller. Voting took place and Desirea Woodworth unanimously elected as vice-chair for the remainder of 2021.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

**PUBLIC HEARING** – Adopt a Bench – public hearing opened by Chair Little. After receiving no public comments, motion by Batcheller, second by Sponseller to approve the bench application petitioned by Carol Siefker in memorial of Larry Siefker and directs staff to complete the Lifecycle Agreement for the installation and maintenance of a bench per the City's Adopt A Bench policy. Rollcall vote All Ayes.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

- A. Parks – Director Bundy reported on the following:
- Park Staff working on snow removal and restroom updates. Island Park North Restroom steel doors and frames to be replaced first week of March with rust proof FRP material. Restrooms will be closed for about 2-3 days for the work to be done.
  - Full-time park staff working on requirements to fulfill city training requirements (i.e. CDL, Playground Safety, heavy equipment operation). All staff has now completed CDL requirements.

- Volunteer groups have been making requests to help with parks projects. Current CMDHD order is still in place limiting outdoor gatherings to 25.
- Director Bundy announced his retirement from the City after 32 years of service. During an anticipated transition period, Recreation Director Longoria will serve as City staff liaison to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

B. Recreation – Director Longoria reported on the following:

- Youth drop-in football program started Sunday 2/21 at Island Park
- Spring sports registration ongoing
- Farmer’s market vendor group met via Zoom. Staff received positive feedback.
- Staff working on a collaboration with CRDL, CFX, Art Reach and Discovery Museum to come up with an Easter celebration event.
- Isabella Bank Sponsorship – Isabella Bank has agreed to renew the \$20k yearly sponsorship. Agreement sent to City Manager for approval, which was then forwarded to City attorney for final review.
- Staff working with CMU RPL350 class to offer outdoor activities and programming.
- Drive-in movie (Yogi Bear) this weekend Friday and Saturday at Island Park, free to the public.
- PEAK afterschool program ongoing, staffing in place and very few COVID related issues at all five sites.
- Staff met with MPPS Superintendent to discuss summer camps locations; camps were approved for all sites.

**OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

A. 2021 CIP Update – As was discussed at last month’s meeting, additional proposed 2021 Parks projects were submitted to the City Commission for consideration. The following projects have been approved by the City Commission:

- \$48,000 Conversion of Island Park tennis court to 6-8 pickle ball courts
- \$22,000 Purchase additional fitness equipment for new I.P. trail loop
- \$25,000 Mill Pond parking lot repair

Projects carried over from last year include:

- Pedestrian bridge deck updates
- Mill Pond Fishing deck replacement
- M20 Pedestrian Bridge repainting (work with MDOT)

Chair Little asked about the cost of pickle ball courts, what does this include? Potential for 6-8 new Pickle Ball courts, remove existing tennis posts and grind down metal sleeves and any protruding concrete slab material to make a smooth surface, install new Pickle Ball Court posts and nets, patch any existing cracks in asphalt and repaint courts to current standards. If funds remain may include a 4’ fence between sets of Pickle Ball courts.

**OTHER BUSINESS/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS - None**

**ADJOURNMENT 6:31 p.m.**