

APPROVED MINUTES

Mt. Pleasant Parks and Recreation Commission
Electronically Conducted Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER – 6:31 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ATTENDANCE/DECLARATION OF QUORUM – ROLL CALL AND LOCATION IDENTIFICATION

A. Commission Members Present:

Megan Barber barde2ms@gmail.com, Liz Busch tanglesprout@gmail.com,
Pete Little parksandrec@gratiotmi.com, Brian Mitchell bcmitch13@gmail.com,
Brian Sponseller spons473@gmail.com

All present in Mt. Pleasant, Isabella County, Michigan

B. Commission Members Absent: Jim Batcheller batch1jc@gmail.com, Jef Fisher fish3j@gmail.com

C. Parks and Recreation Staff: Bundy, Longoria, Way

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES & COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Changes/Approval of Agenda – motion by Mitchell, second by Sponseller to approve the agenda as presented. Motion unanimously carried.
- B. Approval of Minutes – motion by Sponseller, second by Barber to approve the minutes from the Meeting Tuesday, October 27, 2020. Motion unanimously carried.
- C. Approval of 2021 Meeting Dates – after discussion to move start time to 6:00 p.m., a motion was made by Mitchell, second by Sponseller to approve the 2021 meeting dates with amended start time of 6:00 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

SET PUBLIC HEARING – Adopt a Bench Program – applications received for two bench placements within city parks.

Bench one: Request from the friends Mindy Norton, longtime community Journalist, to be placed at Mission Creek Park near or in the bark park.

Bench two: Request from city employees in remembrance of Carter Craig Moody, to be placed in Island Park along the river.

Motion by Busch, second by Sponseller to set a public hearing for Tuesday, January 26, 2021 to receive input on these bench placement. Motion unanimously carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

A. Parks –Director Bundy reported on the following:

- City Hall closing to the public tomorrow for three weeks in accordance with the current MDHHS order. Parks staff will be working during this time in the field. Restrooms currently open are Island north, Nelson Park and Mission Creek. All other restrooms have been winterized. Staff also working on mulching leaves and getting equipment ready for winter operations.
- DNR deer check station is open at Chipp-a-Waters Park through Nov. 30.
- Working on close-out of Trust Fund grant for Island Park Fitness Trail.

B. Recreation – Director Longoria reported on the following:

- PEAK – at the school board meeting last night the decision was made to go remote for all grades with K—5 going back face-to-face the weeks of Dec. 7 & 14 (depending on current status) and all returning back face-to-face the week of January 12.
- Fall basketball and volleyball programs have been canceled due to MDHHS order. Staff looking in to offering outdoor winter leagues for youth and adults (kickball, flag football).
- Drive-in movie being offered December 19 at City Hall Parking Lot featuring “Elf”.
- City-wide Holiday Light & Display Contest, register by December 10 and judging Dec. 16 & 17.
- Man vs. Mountain 2021 has been cancelled. Challenges with gathering sizes.
- Chippewa River master plan is moving along, anyone who is interested in getting involved get in touch with Ryan Longoria.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS - none

OTHER BUSINESS/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS – recognition and appreciation given to Megan Barber (last meeting) for serving on the Parks & Recreation board. There are several board positions available; if you know someone interested in serving, applications are available on the City’s website.

Thank you Vandersys Tree Farm for the Christmas tree donation in Town Center.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:00 p.m.