



**CITY OF ALLEGAN
Parks Commission Meeting
Allegan, MI 49010
Monday, March 3, 2014 6:30 pm**

****MEET AT GRISWOLD AUDITORIUM**
401 Hubbard St.
Allegan, MI 49010**

MINUTES

- I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.
- II. Attendance: Bert Brouwer, Betty McDaniel, Greg Penny and Paula Mintek

Absent: Cyndi Reed, Lori Perkins and Becky Rininger

Also Present: Aaron Haskin, Rob Hillard, Tony McGhee (Abonmarche Consulting), Jason Watts, Mike Kiella and Mel Brummel
- III. Approval of minutes from November 4, 2013: A quorum from the November 4 meeting was not present; the approval of these minutes was tabled until the April meeting.
- IV. Introductions for our new Parks Commission Member, Greg Penny: The Parks Commission welcomed Greg to the Commission.
- V. Old Business
 - A. Election of Parks Commission Chairperson: A decision was made to table this item until a full Parks Commission is present.
 - B. Canoe Launch Grant Applications: Tony McGhee with Abonmarche Consultants presented a concept plan for a kayak/canoe launch, parking lot improvements and a restroom behind the Griswold Auditorium and Allegan Library. The City

plans to apply for grants from the Natural Resources Trust Fund Program and from the DNR Land and Water Conservation Fund to partially fund the construction. Paula asked if a temporary storage/lock up area could be added to the plan for individuals to leave their canoes or kayaks while they visit Allegan. The Parks Commission agreed a storage area would be good to have. Mike Kiella with the library board commented that the restroom would be a nice feature. Mike K. also asked if the plan could be presented to the Library Board at their March 18 meeting. After the presentation and comments, Paula, supported by Betty, motioned to recommend and support applying for both the Natural Resources Trust Fund Program and the DNR Land and Water Conservation Program to help fund this project. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Mountain Bike Trail: Mel Brummel updated the Commission on the proposed mountain bike trail in the City of Allegan. The proposed trail includes the sports complex paths and an off-road trail from the end of Streeter Street through the ravine, crossing Bond Street and looping through the Rossman Creek ravine area behind the apartments and the water tower back towards 29th street. Some easements need to be obtained from land owners, but they have verbally agreed to the trail. Mel has been working with the Michigan Mountain Biking Association to design the trail. If the trail is professionally constructed to their standards, the Michigan Mountain Biking Association will cover the trail with their liability insurance. Mel will have a contractor experienced in bike trail construction look at the area this spring to give a cost estimate. Currently \$6300 has been donated for the trail construction. Mel is hoping to have a mountain bike race on the trail to get it on the map. Betty commented that this is an exciting project to bring to the City.
- D. Sports Complex Entry Sign: The Commission reviewed and commented on sign designs Paula created. Paula will take the comments, work on the suggested design and color schemes, and bring it back to the next meeting for review again.
- E. Replacing the downtown locust trees: The Commission would like to look at the trees when it is warmer out and make a plan for replacements.
- F. Removing downtown tree grates: The Commission discussed the downtown tree grates and is recommending their removal. They also suggested selling the removed grates to purchase benches and other items

- G. Veteran's Memorial Park: The project was bid and the low bidder is TJM Services. The DNR has approved of the low bid and given authorization to move forward on the project. The project must be completed in June.
- H. Ruth Smith Resignation: Aaron informed the Commission of Ruth's resignation on the Commission and thanked Greg Penny for filling the vacancy.
- I. Parks Commission terms: Aaron shared the current terms and expirations. We have a couple of member's terms expiring in May; neither individual was at the meeting. Aaron will keep this item on the agenda.
- J. 2014/2015 goals: Aaron read through the budgeted goals in the current budget. All of the proposed goals are complete or in the construction or design phase. The Commission would like their 2014-2015 goals to be Riverfront Improvements.

VI. New Business

VII. Comments

VIII. Adjournment – Betty, supported by Paula motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm.

The next scheduled meeting is April 7, 2014.

The minutes of this meeting will be available at City Hall, 112 Locust Street, and Allegan MI 49010 (269)673-5511