

MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2016
MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.

PROPOSED MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairperson John Metevia
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call:
 - a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Carney, Metevia
 - b. MEMBERS ABSENT: Billotti, Bovid, Carlson, , Rankin, Rice, Steidemann, Varela
 - c. OTHERS PRESENT: Park Supervisor Bart Heil

****MURPHY SHARED THAT WITHOUT A QUORUM OF MEMBERS PRESENT, ALL ITEMS REQUIRING A VOTE MUST BE TABLED UNTIL A FUTURE MEETING. MURPHY ALSO OPTED TO TABLE THE DIVISION REPORTS UNTIL A MAJORITY OF COMMISSIONERS ARE PRESENT.**

- 4) Minutes of February 2, 2016: Item tabled until future meeting.
- 5) Call to Audience: None
- 6) Grant application to Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for Emerson Park project: Item tabled until future meeting.
- 7) America in Bloom update: Murphy updated the Commission on the steering committee's progress on the AIB program. Bolger and Battle Marketing Communications (B+B) has made a generous in-kind donation of their talents to put together a marketing plan and will be assisting with the final edits of the required community narrative document. B+B is also working on a logo with the tag line "Get Your Bloom On". Staff will be ordering seed packets with the logo to hand out to participants of the Make Midland Beautiful poster contest to promote AIB, as well as ordering banners & flyers to be used throughout town to spread the word about the program. Murphy shared that a new program will be run in conjunction with the annual Beautification Awards to highlight "secret gardens" in neighborhood backyards, and the committee is working on a YouTube video to highlight the community as part of the AIB submission requirements as well. Murphy shared that the City of Holland reached out to staff to lend support as Holland is a Circle of Champions AIB participant with 5 years of experience. Steering committee members will start visiting community groups in the next few months to spread the word about the program.

- 8) Division Report: Item tabled until future meeting.
- 9) Project Report:
- a. **River overlooks** – Murphy reported that not much progress has been made on the remaining river overlooks since last meeting. The contractor is waiting for the weather to break to pour concrete and has done some preliminary work on laying out the walls for the boat launch.
 - b. **City Forest trail signage** – Murphy reported that the signs are currently being produced with an expected delivery in the next two weeks. Once the signs arrive, the trail consultant is ready to start mounting them on the sign posts and on trees along the single track trails. We still anticipate a spring completion of the project.
- 10) Old Business: Murphy shared that the recommended changes to the recreation fees have been approved by City Council. An increase of \$1 per player will be added to all the adult and youth softball fees that the City charges to the two softball organizations. These changes will go into effect for this season.
- 11) New Business: Murphy reminded the Commission that there is no regularly scheduled meeting in April due to the proximity of the Midland Public Schools' spring break. Murphy stated that due to a lack of quorum for the March meeting, she will be scheduling a special meeting prior to March 14 for the Commission to vote on approval for the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant application for the upper Emerson project. Murphy also shared that three Commissioners' terms will expire in June and she will share information at an upcoming meeting on which Commissioners have requested an additional term and who has opted to step down from their role.
- 12) Adjourn: Motioned by Metevia, seconded by Carney to adjourn the meeting. Without a quorum, no vote was recorded. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy
Director of Public Services