

**CITY OF WILLIAMSTON
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
AUGUST 9, 2023
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Williamston City Hall Council Chambers by Chairman Earl Wolf and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call:

Chairman Earl Wolf, Vice Chair Teri Nelson, Commissioners Byron Aldrink, Kent Hall, and Tammy Scott. Absent: Terry Hansen (arrived 7:04 pm) and John Magee.

Also present: City Manager John Hanifan, Deputy Clerk Barbara Burke, Thomas Mahany, Jack Smith, and other members of the public.

4. Approval of Agenda:

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Scott**, to approve the agenda as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

5. Audience Participation:

Chairman Wolf called for public comments at this time and there were none.

6. Approval of Parks & Recreation Commission Regular Meeting Minutes of June 14, 2023:

Motion by **Nelson**, second by **Hall**, to approve the Parks & Recreation Commission regular meeting minutes of June 14, 2023, as presented. **Motion passed by voice vote.**

7. Action Items

8. Discussion Items

8a. & 8a (i) Parks Plan Update & Parks Plan Draft Survey 2023:

Manager Hanifan said the Commission will be reviewing the Parks Master Plan and the goals/priorities from the existing plan (2019-2023). This is not a complete rewrite but needs to be done every five years to apply for funding. He included a community parks survey in the packet and asked commissioners to give him feedback as this will go live very soon.

(Terry Hansen arrived at 7:04 p.m.)

8b. Memorial Park Trail Grant Update:

Manager Hanifan said the Memorial Park/Honor For All Trail grant was selected by Ingham County for a site visit on August 22 and City representatives will make a presentation to the Ingham County Parks Board on October 9.

8c. Pavilion:

Manager Hanifan said the pavilion project is out for bids. This will replace the older pavilion in McCormick Park. Construction would begin after September 1.

8d. Historic Turbine Placement:

Manager Hanifan did not have any specific information at this time. This historic turbine has been sitting at the Department of Public Works for many years.

8e. Tree Nursery Idea:

Resident Jack Smith said the DNR has funds available to communities through the Community and Urban Forestry program. An application will be available soon through the DNR, with a deadline of September. There have been discussions about having a City tree nursery, and one of the well fields would be a good area. This would be for the purpose of starting trees so the City can use these trees in replacing trees and in projects.

8f. Bench Donation:

Manager Hanifan said one concrete pad was poured today at the Red Cedar Bend Landing for a bench and kiosk. The other pad that was to be poured today near the pickleball courts was halted due to placement concerns from the fundraiser coordinator.

8g. Red Cedar River Kiosks:

Chairman Wolf said there will be two kiosks placed – one at McCormick Park and one at Red Cedar Bend Landing. There will be a celebration on September 30.

8h. Riverwalk Right of Ways

Manager Hanifan said we will move forward with the rights of way we currently have if the additional property owners will not grant access.

9. Staff Reports

9a. City Manager:

There was brief discussion on the North Putnam construction project.

10. Audience Participation:

Chairman Wolf called for public comments at this time and there were none.

11. Member Comments:

Commissioner Hall said he and Mr. Mahany have been clearing the west end of Memorial Park.

Commissioner Aldrink is glad to be here.

Commissioner Hansen said he is glad to know there is a resident tree expert in town.

Commissioner Scott is glad to be back after missing a few meetings.

Commissioner Nelson said the Kiwanis are having their annual garage sale this Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the parking lot at D & W.

Everyone is invited. No prices, it is all by donations and all the money goes back to the kids in the community.

Chairman Wolf said the Friends of Williamston Parks are working on a broken portion of the wooden play structure in McCormick Park. There are two more Thursday night concerts this year. He also mentioned a social district as what many other communities are doing.

12. Adjournment:

Chairman Wolf adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
Barbara J. Burke, City Deputy Clerk

Date Approved: _____