

**HUNTINGTON WOODS PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020
7:30 pm**

Members present: J. Zieldorff, F. Spencer, J. Aisen, J. Steinhart, A. Philko, S. Cohen, K. Tarnopol, Mary Gustafson

- I. Call to Order by Chair, Jeff Aisen: 7:30pm
- II. Approval of Agenda for February 25, 2020; Motion A. Philko, all approved
- III. Approval of Minutes from January 28, 2020: Motion: J. Steinhart, all approved
- IV. Correspondence: None
- V. Public Participation
 - a. Todd Sperl (13103 Borgman): Passed out data about South Oakland County. Concerned about usage of Reynolds Park and loss of practice space with installation of exercise equipment and loss of green space.
 - b. Evan Cardon (Lasalle) – Concerned about choice of location of Reynolds Park for exercise equipment and loss of green space. Would prefer change of location.
 - c. Rose Blaze (did not disclose street): Concerned about choice of space for exercise equipment. Does not believe that she and her friends would use the equipment. Would prefer to see exercise equipment indoors at Parks and Rec and believes that it would be used.
 - d. Ellie Mosko (Huntington): Uses the park a lot with her children during all seasons. Prefers this park because it is enclosed. Concerned about safety of children who might try to use the equipment.
 - e. Anna Youngblood (Kingston): Uses the park with her small children. Has seen children tempted to try to use adult exercise equipment in Royal Oak and it was a safety hazard for her kids.
 - f. Jay Schwartz (Ludlow and Wyoming): Also is concerned about lack of use and lack of green space. Would like to see a market research/formal survey done to ensure broad community-based support.
 - g. Sharon Nowak (did not disclose street) – Believes that exercise is important for everyone because of her past experience as a registered nurse. Believes that seniors have supported all community projects but have gotten nothing in return.
 - h. Alan Weiss (Kingston) – Referenced Master Plan and respondents not representative of city demographic. Also pointed out that Master Plan states that Reynolds Park is heavily used and this would impact that usage. Park is in more need of a bathroom and additional parking.
 - i. Bonnie Nowakowski (did not disclose street) – There is nowhere in the city for adults to use. Families with children are in the minority. Seniors have paid

for everything in this city. Silver Sneakers is not free. Would prefer indoor equipment is possible

- j. Mike Spar (Ludlow) – Used to live next to park. His kids use the park. Would like to see something that is a win-win for everyone instead of pitting different groups against each other in the city. Prefers indoor equipment and an elevator that would make the basement accessible.
- k. Claire Galed (Lasalle) – Location was picked by rec center. Discussion has been going on for two years. Playgrounds are not used all of the time. It's not fair for seniors to not getting equipment because parents are concerned about their kids safety. Peasley Park renovation did not require a debate. Parking is a problem for all other parks except Reynolds
- l. Gail Linden (Concord) – Seniors have been discussing this for two years. Other cities are providing equipment for their seniors. Senior Lounge has capacity of 17 people and they have nowhere else to congregate.
- m. Rebecca Nagaski (13307 Vernon) Is this a done deal? As a senior, she would not like to see Reynolds Park green space taken away. Perhaps Planet Fitness can provide a reduced rate. Can another park be used?
- n. Jeff Jenks (City Commission) – Represents us on Southeast Michigan Council of City Governments. Population of kids is smaller than population 60+. HW is unique because seniors are not leaving as they age. Would prefer to exercise outdoors in our community. Location was chosen by Parks and Rec. Commission approved the decision.
- o. Susan Rutenberg (Roycourt) – Seniors should be able to stay in the community to have access to exercise equipment.
- p. Terry Landa (Winchester) – Green space at Peasley Park is not leveled and needs to be looked at.

VI. New Business

- a. Municipal User Fee Study: Long Range Budget and Planning Committee is looking at Municipal User Fee charged by all city services and assessing other local communities for comparison. Adjustment of fees will not be done until results are in from the committee. Raises for pool, latchkey, etc. were already a result of this committee.
- b. Grandchild Pool Rate Discussion (delay until results of Fee Study) – Per Long Range Budget and Planning Committee, this discussion will be postponed.
- c. Board Member Status: Alexa Philko is the new student member. The position for one additional member who joined last month has been suspended pending the outcome of litigation. This Board position is being held until a determination is made.

VII. Old Business - None

VIII. Department Update: Latchkey registration starts March 16. Last year registered 194. Anticipate similar enrollment but Burton will reduce issues surrounding capacity. Great candidates for summer programs, café, etc. Looking for maintenance crew for

the summer. Mogo bike sharing installed April 22 in front of Parks and Rec. Spring Hometown Herald being put in mail. Fruit camp has a few openings. Ninety-seven returning swimmers for swim team. Fourth of July parade will end and all events at Scotia Park. HWMC auction at end of March.

IX. Plan of Action for March Meeting:

- a. Drainage at ball fields
- b. Fundraising for 4th of July events

X. Board Member Comments:

- a. K. Tarnopol - Run Walk Book. Committee is having problems with fundraising and retaining sponsors. Raises 80% of funding for the fireworks. Gofundme raised some money but there was some backlash from the community. Committee is also shrinking. Cost of fireworks is \$14,000. Men's Club covers part of the cost. Public participant suggested sponsorship of parts of parade.
- b. J. Steinhart - Frustration over public participation and seniors' comments that they paid for everything in the community. The current tax structure puts the burden of funding city services on the backs of young families and restricts the diversity of the city population

XI. Adjournment – J. Aisen, 8:30pm