

Duncan Park Commission
Meeting Minutes

DATE: July 20, 2021

MEETING HELD: Grand Haven City Hall, Council Chambers

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:09 p.m. by President Jennifer Holland.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Roger Cotner, Jennifer Holland, Nancy Nagtzaam, Georgette Sass and Aaron van Baal

OTHERS PRESENT: City Council Liaison Dennis Scott, City Liaison Derek Gajdos

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Sass motioned to adopt agenda; Van Baal seconded. Cotner requested to remove Work Session from the agenda. Commission approved the agenda as amended, 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: No changes made to the circulated minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Election of Secretary: Sass volunteered to serve as Secretary; the Commission unanimously elected Sass as Secretary.
- Parking Lot Striping/Trail Cross Marking
Motion to contract with Shoreline Striping to layout and stripe parking lot, trail crossings and pedestrian crosswalk at Lake Ave at a cost not to exceed \$500 made by Cotner; second by Nagtzaam. Gajdos discussed concerns on the work to take place inside and outside the park. Outside the park is the city's responsibility (and is under investigation). Inside the park, considerations of safety need to be addressed. Following discussion, it was decided to defer to a review by Public Safety. Motion to table was made by Van Baal; second Sass. Motion to table passed, 4-1 (Cotner).
- Proposal Deer Cull
Cotner motioned to direct the President to ask the City Council of the city of Grand Haven to conduct an annual Deer management plan to cull the excess deer population, protecting Duncan Park from continued over-browsing and ensuring a robust understory for replenishment of the Parks declining trees and stabilization of critical dune erosion in fulfillment of Martha's intentions regarding the woods; Van Baal seconded. Question on past culls and their location was clarified by Councilman Scott. Clarification on city procedures for culls was made by City Liaison Gajdos. After discussion, motion to remove the word "cull" and replace with "control" was made by Sass, with second by Cotner. Amendment to the motion passed 4-1 (Van Baal). Holland made a motion to amend with a removal of "in fulfillment of Martha's intentions regarding the woods"; second by Nagtzaam. Holland clarified her amendment adding the replacement of "President" with "Commission". Amendment to the motion passed 5-0. The motion as amended carried 3-2 (Holland, Nagtzaam). Van Baal volunteered to represent the Commission before City Council.
- LVAC use of Park Approval
Motion to review LVAC request to use Duncan Park was made by Holland, seconded by Nagtzaan. A general discussion of park use led to the agreement this should be a topic of a future work session. The motion passed 3-2 (Sass, Nagtzaam).

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Nagtzaam requested clarification about the approval process used for the trail map on the kiosk. Cotner noted that the Commission did not vote on the map but when Cotner was President, he authorized at a cost of \$220.80. It was further noted the map could be amended as needed.

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ACTION ITEMS/OLD BUSINESS:

- The following items were discussed with status as indicated:
 - Relocation of dog-waste bag holder – *in progress*
 - Facebook access – *completed*
 - ADA Picnic table – *in progress*
 - ADA sign at Lake St. – *in progress (with city input)*
 - Boot scrapers – *in progress*
 - Caretaker job – *in progress*
 - Exclosures – *in progress*
 - FSP – *completed, suggestion by Mike Samlligan of FSP was to enact the management plans we already have and get in touch with Urban Forester (Kevin Sayers) to request he come talk to us (which he has agreed to do). Zoom required to do this.*
- Request to distribute keys was made. Cotner indicated he would give his keys to Holland for duplication; Holland to distribute.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Discussion of upcoming dates and request for any additional dates. Volunteer events to be discussed at a future work session.

CITY LIAISON REPORT:

Derek Gajdos reported on cross walk request and parking. He will have Public Safety look at both. Identified posts still need to be replaced and will occur when gravel along the road is done.

TREASURER REPORT:

Amy Bessinger's June 2021 financial reports were received.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

City Council Liaison Scott noted there had previously been stripes in the Duncan Park parking lot. City Liaison Gajdos was asked to look into the requirements for the crosswalk striping in the park.

NEXT MEETING:

August 17, 2021 @7pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn at 8:59 pm by Cotner; second by Van Baal. Passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Georgette Sass, Secretary

Approval of these minutes by the Commission occurred at the meeting held on August 17, 2021.

Submitted to City Clerk Linda Browand on August 18, 2021 by Georgette Sass, Secretary