



Parks and Recreation ♦ 4811 North Saginaw Road ♦ Midland, Michigan 48640 ♦ 989.837.6930 ♦ 989.835.5651 Fax ♦ www.cityofmidlandmi.gov

May 3, 2023

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Karen Murphy, Public Services Director

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of May 3, 2023

The regular meeting of the Midland Parks and Recreation Commission has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 3, 2023. The meeting will be held in person at the Council Chambers of Midland City Hall at 333 W. Ellsworth Street and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call
- 3) Minutes of meeting of February 7, 2023
- 4) Call to Audience
- 5) Reimagine the Riverfront design proposal
- 6) Personal Lift for Miracle Field restroom
- 7) mParks Recreation Leadership award
- 8) Plymouth Pool update
- 9) Project Reports
 - a. Poseyville Riverfront Restoration
 - b. Stratford canoe/kayak launch
 - c. Grove Park restroom
 - d. Upper Emerson riverfront
- 10) Recreation Update
- 11) Old Business
- 12) New Business
- 13) Adjourn



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April 27, 2023

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Karen Murphy, Director of Public Services

SUBJECT: Notes for Meeting of Wednesday, May 3, 2023

Reimagine the Riverfront design proposal: The Downtown Development Authority has gone through a conceptual planning process with the assistance of PMBlough, Inc. to create a master plan for redeveloping the riverfront area along the Farmers Market leg of the Tridge. I will share the conceptual design with the Commission and ask for a motion of support.

Personal Lift for Miracle Field restroom: The Midland Area Community Foundation offered a grant for \$10,000 to purchase and install a personal lift in one of the Miracle Field restrooms. The lift provides full coverage of the restroom for patrons in mobility devices who need assistance getting onto the toilet and/or changing table.

mParks Recreation Leadership award: I will share that Marcie Post received a prestigious award from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association at their annual conference. Congratulations Marcie!!

Plymouth Pool update: The City was not selected for state funding for Plymouth Pool so City Council has allocated funds in the FY2023/24 budget for the necessary repairs. I will provide an update on this upcoming project.

Project Reports: I will provide project updates on the following including bid timelines, construction updates and some updated project designs:

- a. Poseyville Riverfront Restoration
- b. Stratford canoe/kayak launch
- c. Grove Park restroom
- d. Upper Emerson riverfront

Recreation Update: Marcie Post will update us on recreation programming happening now and this summer.

Respectfully,

Karen Murphy
Director of Public Services

MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 7, 2023
MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:00 P.M.

PROPOSED MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson Neil Rankin.

Pledge of Allegiance

- 2) Roll Call:

- a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Bartle, Billotti, Carney, McCoy, Montalbano, Rankin, Steidemann
- b. MEMBERS ABSENT: Varela
- c. OTHERS PRESENT: Marcie Post, Assistant Director of Public Services

- 3) Minutes of December 6, 2022: Montalbano motioned, Bartle seconded to receive minutes of the meeting of December 6, 2022. Motion passed 7-0.

- 4) Call to Audience: None

- 5) City Forest Mountain Biking Flow Trail proposal: Steven Keeley and CJ Brey of the Central Michigan Mountain Biking Association (CMMBA) shared a proposal to design and construct a mountain biking flow trail and skills park at the City Forest. Brey gave an overview of a flow trail, describing it as a progressive training format for children and adults to learn to ride on natural surface trails. The project would consist of a skills park area as well as a trail system with two loops of increasing difficulty. To date, there are two youth programs that meet at City Forest two nights each summer with a combined total of over 200 children and 65 adult coaches who participate. The proposed trails would provide approximately two miles of soft surface trails. Flow trails are designed intentionally according to standards to protect the environment, prevent erosion, have slightly less risk and to hold up better over time. The trails can be multi-purpose for use on foot, fat tire bikes, snow shoes as well as mountain bikes. The proposed trail system would be designed using grant funds already secured by CMMBA and CMMBA would lead a fundraising effort to raise the estimated \$200,000 needed for construction. CMMBA would enter into a memorandum of understanding for continued maintenance of the trails once in place in partnership with the City.

Murphy asked for a motion of support from the Parks Commission to allow CMMBA to move forward with a design and construction cost estimate with the understanding that the final project design would then need to go to City Council for consideration and approval before construction could begin. Billotti made this motion, it was seconded by McCoy and the motion passed 7-0.

- 6) Grove Park Changing Places restroom donation: Murphy shared the plans for a restroom facility to be built in Grove Park. The restroom will consist of two ADA-compliant restrooms and one Changing Places restroom that has an adult changing table, an overhead lift system for people in wheelchairs to transfer to the toilet or changing table and other features to meet complex needs. The Midland Noon Rotary Club has received \$475,000 in grants and donations toward the

project with the City's Parks budget contributing \$25,000. Murphy asked the Commission for a motion of support to recommend that City Council accept this generous donation from Rotary to allow this project to move forward. Steidemann motioned and Montalbano seconded the motion to make this recommendation to Council. The motion passed 7-0.

- 7) Miracle Field play area and shade sail design: Murphy shared conceptual designs for a play area and a shade sail picnic area at the Miracle Field Complex. She also shared that there is approximately \$200,000 in the Miracle Field project fund at the Midland Area Community Foundation to be used toward this project. Additional funds will need to be raised before the project can move forward. Once these two areas are completed, the only remaining phase at the Miracle Field will be the reconstruction of the main parking lot, which Murphy stated would not be considered until after the Greater Midland Community Center completes their project as this area is serving as overflow parking for their patrons during the construction of their new facility. Murphy asked for a motion of support from the Commission for the play area and shade sails as this will be helpful as staff moves forward with fundraising efforts. Carney motioned and Bartle seconded the motion to offer support for the project. Motion passed 7 - 0.
- 8) Project Reports:
 - a. **Currie Stadium demolition**: Murphy reported that demolition is nearly complete at the stadium site. The stadium structure is down, both dugouts have been removed and the outfield light poles are being taken down. Fortunately the backstop foundation was separate from the surrounding concrete structures so the backstop was able to remain in place. Murphy shared there is still debris to be removed from the site as well as a lot of site restoration that will take place in the next few months. Some fence work will need to be completed in order to allow play to resume on the field as well. Overall, the project has gone well and is on track for completion as planned.
 - b. **Poseyville Riverfront Restoration**: Murphy shared a conceptual drawing of the pedestrian walkway that will span the river. She also shared that work will resume in the next couple of months on the site. A few unanticipated issues have been unearthed that have slowed down the project, one of which is the need to re-route a city water main. This work was already planned by the City's Water Department and will start in early May. Some underground foundations were encountered that required additional excavation. Removal of overhead utility lines and power/telephone poles will take place soon as well.
- 9) Recreation Update: Murphy reported that the first reading of the Recreation Fee ordinance occurred on January 23 with Council scheduled to conduct the second reading and adoption on February 13. The fees will go into effect upon adoption. Post shared information on City Forest including lack of winter offerings due to weather conditions. It is likely the cardboard sled races that were postponed until the end of February will need to be cancelled as well. Post reported that the toboggan runs will not be operational this season as staff needs 4-5 days of subzero temperatures to build the runs and the decision is not made to do this unless there are two or more weeks of forecasted consistent cold weather to maintain the runs. Post shared that registration opened for Community Garden plots on Monday, February 6 and the plots filled up by the end of the day. Post also shared that the Grand Experience trip is open for registration with over 62 rooms of the total 75 rooms available already sold. Post reported that staff is gearing up for Miracle League with registration to start the end of February and opening day

scheduled for April 29. Following the spring league, Post plans on hosting kickball, whiffle ball and a fall baseball league as well.

10) Old Business: None

11) New Business: None

12) Adjourn: Motioned by Steidemann, seconded by Montalbano to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 7– 0. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" at the end.

Karen Murphy
Director of Public Services