

**CITY OF MANISTEE
PARKS AND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
MINUTES**

Thursday, October 24, 2013

5:00 P.M.

Members Present: Mark Tomaszewski, Ed Tegler, Roger Zielinski, Lynne Reinhardt, Darci Scott, Jane Schimke, Lynn Vasquez

Also Present: Jeff Mikula, Kathie Boyle, Gary Niesen - City of Manistee
Ted Arens & volunteers from the United Veterans Council
Tim Ervin, AES

A regular meeting of the Manistee Parks and Beautification Commission was held on Thursday, October 24, 2013 at the City Hall 2nd floor conference room. Meeting was called to order by Chair Reinhardt at 5:00 p.m.

Guest – Ted Arens spoke on behalf of the United Veterans Council and their plans for Phase II at Veterans Memorial Park. Future plans include handicap access to the Riverwalk, possibly integrate fishing areas, and beautify the Riverwalk for future placement of monuments. The first monument to be dedicated would be in remembrance of the crew of the USS Liberty.

Tim Ervin from AES also spoke on funding that may be available from Explore the Shores Program. Mr. Ervin will facilitate a meeting on November 5, 2013 @ 10:00 a.m. at the Memorial Park to brainstorm ideas - all members are invited.

Commission requested more information from United Veterans Council before making our recommendations. Mr. Arens was given the P & B Commission criteria form to complete and invited to our November 21 meeting. Mikula believes this project would benefit the entire community.

Approval of Minutes

OLD BUSINESS

Review of Bylaws – Bylaws changes were reviewed. **Motion** by Schimke, **second** by Scott to approve bylaw changes. **Motion approved.** Boyle will prepare council meeting agenda form and forward to the City Manager for city council approval.

Parks Tour – Reinhardt discussed holding our annual parks tour at our November 21 meeting. After discussion it was decided to hold our tour in the spring of 2014, at that time a location at Morton Park will be chosen to plant a memorial tree with plaque in honor of John Rozga.

NEW BUSINESS

Adopt a Park – Reinhardt appointed Vasquez to chair a sub-committee for Morton Park Scott will assist on committee. Vasquez may have as many members as needed but only three will vote, recommendations are requested at our March meeting. Zielinski & Schimke are investigating other communities with adopt a park program. Zielinski found the City of Alpena to have the best information packet however did have information from seven communities.

COMMENTS – Zielinski was very disappointed he was not informed when painting of the fish wall was done. The Manistee News Advocate stated it was a Parks & Beautification Project and felt the members should all have been contacted. Vasquez agreed with Zielinski on the lack of notice to members, she also believes the adopt a park program should not have been mentioned in the news article since it is still in the early stages. Reinhardt explained it was “Friends of Beautification” not Parks & Beautification Commission.

Zielinski would like to invite Mr. Tim Ervin to our next meeting to discuss possible funding for adopt a park.

Tegler addressed the annual report to council stating that what was provided to council was not what he prepared, also what has been done on changing the ordinance regarding the chair being a city resident. He has requested repeatedly this be addressed.

UPDATES- Mikula informed the commission on activities being accomplished by and in the Parks Department

- Restrooms closed for the season
- Sprinkling systems blown out and turned off for the season.
- Snow fence being put up at the beaches
- Concrete pads have been poured under bleaches at various parks with the exception of Mack Park which will be completed in the spring of 2014.
- Tore down old concession stand at First Street Beach
- Ice skating rink – Niesen & Mikula are working on a different concepts. However the Teen Center Board would like to weigh in on this plan.
- First Street Lions Area – construction has started on new main pavilion.
- Rotary Club has re-stained deck at First Street Beach.
- Roundabout Area – currently no plans , however dune grass was replanted.
- Non-motorized Committee – exploring water routes for kayaking, canoeing, swimming, etc.

Motion by Zielinski, **second** by Tegler to adjourn @ 6:35 p.m.

Next meeting date –Thursday, March 21th @ 5:00 p.m. at City Hall – 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Boyle
Recording Secretary