

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Events Board was held at Mill Pointe Pavilion, 114 Mill St. Eaton Rapids, MI on October 15, 2024.

Board Chair McCuen called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Present were Board Members McCuen, McNutt, Emerson, Ash, Sebastian, & Wixson.

Absent and excused was board member Ford.

Also present was Director of Parks, Recreation & Events Cagle & Councilman Loftus.

Board Member Sebastian moved to approve the agenda of October 15, 2024, regular meeting be approved as written; seconded by Board Member Wixson, passed unanimously.

Board Member McNutt moved the minutes of September 17, 2024, regular meeting be approved as written; seconded by Board Member Ash, passed unanimously.

### **Public Comments**

None.

### **Unfinished Business**

5.1 – Director Cagle gave the group an update on upcoming events. The Eaton Rapids Fire Department 150 Year Anniversary Celebration will be on Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024. The first Annual Fall Plant & Seed Exchange will be Saturday, Sept. 28, 2024 from 9am-1pm at Pavilion #2. The Eaton Rapids Arts Council will host a Pumpkin Carving Class on 10/29/24. Downtown Trick-or-Treat will be Wednesday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> from 5pm-7pm. The Arts Council will host a Community Painting Project to expand Whoville for the Holiday Season on Tuesday, 11/12/24 at 6:00PM. Hometown Family Christmas is scheduled for Saturday, 12/7/2024. The Eaton Rapids Arts Council will host an ornament making class on 12/10/24 at 6:00PM.

5.2 Vice Chair McNutt discussed the success of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Eaton Rapids Fire Department. Stating 20-30 Fire Departments in attendance and 50 or more participated in the Corn Hole Tournament.

5.3 Board Member Ash gave a recap of the first annual Fall Plant and Seed Exchange. Stating they had 5 individuals participate and anticipate a growing event moving into future years.

5.4 Board Member Sebastian gave a recap of the Scarecrow Building Class. Stating low participation but the weather may have been a strong factor in that. Overall, there are 11 entries this year and Your Creative Escape has donated a Gift Certificate for the winner.

5.5 Board Member Sebastian gave a recap on the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Grand River Color Tour Triathlon stating 40+ Participants. The winner completed the race in a record-setting 1 hour and 15 minutes. There are 7 racers already registered for 2025.

5.6 – Director Cagle updated the group that the Parks Master Plan is underway internally. The City of Eaton Rapids, Hamlin Township & Eaton Rapids Township will work together to create the next 5 Year Eaton Rapids Area Parks & Recreation Master Plan. At the November Meeting, the group will discuss and set Goals & Objectives. Director Cagle asked board member to visit all parks before 10/31/24 and report back with status and goals for the Master Plan.

5.7 Director Cagle asked to appoint a group specifically designed to help out with the Master Plan. Board Member Sebastian motioned to create a 3-member subcommittee to focus specifically on the Master Plan. There was some conflict on the idea and the group voted via roll call; Wixson: Yes; Sebastian: Yes; McNutt: No; McCuen: Yes; Emerson: Yes; Ash: Yes; Ford: Absent. Chair McCuen was appointed to chair the subcommittee with members Wixson & McNutt filling the remaining two spots.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Public Comments**

Rick Loftus – 236 E Hamlin St, Eaton Rapids MI 48827

Loftus gave compliments to the group on keeping active in the community. Loftus encouraged the group to keep up the good work and busy planning. Loftus also discussed his interest in a city skating rink .

### **Correspondence**

None.

### **Committee Reports**

Parks, Recreation, & Events – No Report.

Arts Council – Board Member Sebastian gave a brief reminder on events discussed during 5.1.

### **Adjournment**

Board member McNutt moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12PM; seconded by board member Ash, passed unanimously.