

A regular meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Events Board was held at City Hall, 200 S. Main St. Eaton Rapids, MI on Tuesday, June 18, 2024.

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

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

Absent and excused was Board Members Ford & Wixson.

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

Board Member McNutt moved to approve the agenda of June 18, 2024, regular meeting be approved with the change of Moving 6.2 to before Unfinished Business; seconded by Board Member Ash, passed unanimously.

Board Member McNutt moved the minutes of April 16, 2024, regular meeting be approved as written; seconded by Board Member Sebastian, passed unanimously.

Public Comments

None.

Unfinished Business

5.1 – Director Cagle gave the group an update on upcoming events. The board discussed holding a Fall Plant Exchange. Sebastian Moved to hold the Fall Plant Exchange event on September 28, 2024 from 9:00am-1:00pm at Pavilion #2; seconded by Ash, passed unanimously.

5.2 – Emerson gave a recap on the Spring Plant & Seed Exchange, reporting that the event saw more attendance than ever before and continues to be a very successful event.

5.3 – Ash gave a recap on the Free Youth Fishing Tournament from June 8, 2024. He expressed high participation and continued success of the event. Suggesting partnerships with the DNR & Michigan Outdoors in future years. Sebastian gave a recap on Art in the Park, reporting high attendance and a very successful event. Suggestions for future years included preassigned locations for Vendors for the Craft/Vendor Show portion of the event.

5.4 – Director Cagle updated the group that the City is releasing the Request for Proposal for the next Parks & Recreation Master Plan as the current plan expires at the end of 2024.

New Business

6.1 – McNutt nominated McCuen to serve as Chair for a term to expire in May, 2025. McCuen accepted the nomination. McNutt Motion to appoint McCuen to Chair for a term expiring in May, 2025; Seconded by Sebastian, passed unanimously.

Ash nominated McNutt to serve as Vice Chair for a term to expire in May, 2025. McNutt accepted the nomination. Ash motioned to appoint McNutt as Vice Chair for a term expiring in May, 2025; Seconded by Emerson, passed unanimously.

6.2 – Moved up on the agenda to before Unfinished Business – UPDATE NAME HERE from Earth to Table Garden discussed placing Food Pantry on City Property dedicated to fresh produce. This pantry would be managed, maintained, and operated by Earth to Table Garden. Director Cagle discussed the need for City Approval and informed INSERT NAME HERE that he would get back to her with an answer.

Public Comments

None.

Correspondence

Ash gave an update on the Oak Ridge Park Disc Golf Course, explaining that the project is on hold awaiting a redesign. Ash informed the group that the Oak Ridge Park Board will be creating a “Friends of Oak Ridge Park” Facebook page. Ash also informed the group that Oak Ridge Park is ready to expand their trails.

Committee Reports

Parks, Recreation, & Events – No Report.

Arts Council – Board Member Sebastian updated the group on upcoming Arts Council Events and classes; including Chalk Fest, & The 4th Annual Grand River Color Tour Triathlon.

Adjournment

Board member Sebastian moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24PM; seconded by board member Ash, passed unanimously.