



## Recreation Commission

### MEETING MINUTES

July 23, 2003

#### I. CALL TO ORDER 7:20 PM

- Meeting called to order and City Clerk Robert A. Stone, Jr. swore in members.

#### II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: P. Horn-McGee, J. Weiss, L. Zuber, J. Luchetti

Members Absent: B. Filipick (excused)

Staff Present: Shannon Stumbo Bellers, Assistant City Manager  
Caryn Patrias, Technology Assistant

#### III. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- J Weiss volunteered to serve as chair, motion made by L Zuber and supported by J Luchetti. Motion Carried 4-0
- P Horn-McGee nominated J Luchetti for Vice Chair (no other nominations). Motion made by P Horn-McGee for J Luchetti, supported by L Zuber and motion carried 4-0

#### IV. PRESENTATION OF OPEN MEETINGS ACT

- City Clerk provided an overview of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and distributed copies of the overview to Commission Members.

#### V. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – none present

#### VI. AGENDA APPROVAL

- L Zuber requested addition of "Discussion of Process"
- P Horn-McGee requested addition of "Introduction of Members" and J Weiss asked that it be added as item "A"
- J Weiss requested addition of "Status on current progress"

L Zuber Moved to approve as amended (P Horn-McGee supported). Agenda approved as amended 4-0

#### VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. **Introduction of Members** – Each Commission member introduced themselves indicating their current profession and/or experience. Assistant City Manager Stumbo Bellers and staff member Caryn Patrias also provided introduction information.
- B. **Public participation guidelines** – Commission members discussed the process and agreed to provide a guideline of three minutes per participant, allowing additional time if necessary.
- C. **Meeting schedule** – Commission members discussed how often and where to meet and agreed to meet two times per month for three months on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 PM in the Meeting Room of City Hall. After the initial three months, the Commission agreed to meet once per month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 PM. The Commission also discussed conducting some of the regular meetings and focused work sessions at recreation facilities (Parkridge Center, Senior Center, and Freighthouse) to increase access for resident participation. Meeting dates for the current fiscal year include 2003: August 13 and 27, September 10 and 24, October 8 and 22, November 12, December 10; and 2004: January 14, February 11, March 10, April 14, May 12 and June 9.

- Subsequent to the meeting, Commission Members determined that calendar conflicts prohibited the proposed schedule and agreed (via internet e-mail communications; copies in file) to change the schedule to the first and third Thursday of each month for August, September and October and then once per month on the first Thursday from November 2003 through June 2004.

- D. **Status of Current Progress** – Stumbo Bellers provided information related to current activities, partnerships, and programming through Recreation Department. Commission members reviewed June 17, 2003, Update Report provided to City Council.
- E. **Commission Charge and Process** – The Commission discussed Council Resolution 2003-157A outlining the charge and J Weiss distributed a draft flow chart for Commission action. Commission members requested additional financial information from staff indicating operational costs associated with basic facility hours (as currently scheduled) including a break-down of an approximate per hour cost for each facility (Parkridge, Senior Center, Rutherford Pool and Freighthouse). Commission members agreed that agendas would be set by members and provided to Stumbo Bellers via internet e-mail. Commission also agreed that agenda packets and information would be distributed via internet e-mail.

Stumbo Bellers discussed the status of negotiations with Parents Together and their desire to lease space at Parkridge Community Center. The Commission provided conceptual support (Motion by J Weiss / Support by J Lucchetti -

Carried 4-0: Support staff in moving forward with negotiations to reach a lease agreement with Parents Together for use of space at Parkridge Community Center). The Commission further requested that staff review possibilities to enable relocation into the Center as soon as possible.

The Commission discussed a process with which to proceed and outlined contact areas for fundraising efforts and/or partnerships in preparation of the potential September/October programming gap. Contacts committed before the next meeting included L Zuber contacting Keith Peters at the Chamber of Commerce and Margaret Ann Kildau with the Friends of the Ypsilanti Police, J Weiss contacting the Human Services Department at Eastern Michigan University, and P Horn-McGee contacting fraternities and sororities through Eastern Michigan University.

Further discussion took place regarding fundraising letters, creation of a community foundation fund through the Ypsilanti Area Community Foundation, and use of volunteers to assist and support paid staff members and using the City's existing website for marketing and education of activities (Commission requested staff to post information to the website and utilize the network of neighborhood associations to distribute information).

Stumbo Bellers informed the Commission that Vic Chiasson with the Recreation Department at Eastern Michigan University is knowledgeable in implementing and supporting recreation commissions and has agreed to work with the City's Commission (free of charge) if desired. The Commission agreed this would be beneficial and J Weiss will make contact with Mr. Chiasson to schedule a date and set an outline.

L Zuber requested that an article appear in the Ann Arbor News outlining the issues facing the City's Recreation Department, the newly appointed Recreation Commission and that the City will accept donations.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT –**

With no further business before the Commission, meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.  
Motion by L Zuber / Supported by J Luchetti – Motion Carried 4-0