

**CITY OF BIG RAPIDS
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD
APPROVED MINUTES
April 14, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Richard Spedowske at 6:32 p.m.

Present: Richard Spedowske, Karen Simmon, Megan Eppley, Deborah Chipman,
Jason Kostecki, Mark Brejcha (joined at 6:45)

Absent: Caryn Schonert, Stacy Pedigo

Other: Heather Bowman, Park & Recreation Director
Paula Weipert, Board Secretary

MINUTES:

Motion by Karen Simmon, seconded by Megan Eppley to approve the March 10, 2016 minutes as presented. Motion Passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Win Kellum Update:

Heather updated the Board on the status of the new dugouts for the field. There have been many conflicts in scheduling with Job Corps. At this time, they may not be able to arrive until mid-June or early July. The dugouts will not be ready for the local school's baseball seasons as was hoped. Due to this conflict, Lee Templin's students will not be able to build the roofs for the dugouts. The City DPW crew will need to build them now.

Due to the need, the schools are utilizing the field in its current condition and are under the same understanding as anyone who uses a City property in regards to liability. A snow fence, for safety reasons, has been placed around the cement pad where the dugouts will be built as a means to block off the "construction area".

Park & Recreation Survey:

A copy of the survey is included in the agenda packet. This will be included in with the next month utility bills being mailed out. No changes to the survey were suggested.

Motion by Megan Eppley, seconded by Jason Kostecki to approve the 2016 Park and Recreation survey as presented. Motion passed.

Citizen Recognition Award:

Heather explained the purpose behind this award and the process in which the Board decides on a recipient. There is a list in each members binder which includes all prior year award recipients. All present agreed that the 2015 recipient of the Citizen Recognition Award should be Bowman Welding.

Motion by Mark Brejcha, seconded by Deborah Chipman to confirm Bowman Welding as the nomination and recipient of the 2015 Citizen Recognition Award. Motion passed.

A tree will be purchased and planted within the park and will have a plaque attached as recognition of this award.

Arbor Day Proclamation:

Heather explained the process behind the proclamation. This is the 38th year that the City has received a Tree City Award. The April 18th City Commission meeting is when this Proclamation will be read and signed by the Mayor. The Citizen Recognition Award will be presented at this same meeting. Those Board members that are available to attend the meeting, will be present for both actions.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Copies of current and upcoming Special Events are included in the Board packets.

STAFF REPORTS: Recreation

Heather updated the Board members on her current programs that she is offering.

COMMITTEE REPORTS/BUSINESS:

None.

UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS:

Pat will be back within the next couple of weeks. The pool is scheduled to be cleaned at the end of May. The remarcite will not be done this year.

The next meeting of the Park and Recreation Board will be May 12, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the City Commission Room.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Weipert