

**CITY OF BIG RAPIDS  
PARK AND RECREATION BOARD  
APPROVED MINUTES  
September 8, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Richard Spedowske at 6:31 p.m.

Present: Richard Spedowske, Megan Eppley, Mark Brejcha, Deb Chipman,  
Karen Simmon

Absent: Caryn Schonert, Stacy Pedigo, Jason Kostecki

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

**MINUTES:**

Minutes will be provided for approval at next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**Disc Golf:**

Leonard Johnson reported on the completion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> 18-hole course. He would like to add 2 practice baskets to the course. Heather suggested that they be installed on the left side grassy area at the park entrance. A MISS Dig will be called in for this work to take place.

Mark Brejcha thanked Leonard for his leadership and all that he's done to bring this course to fruition.

*Motion by Karen Simmon, seconded by Mark Brejcha to approve the expansion of the Disc Golf Course in Northend Riverside Park to include the addition of 2 practice baskets. Motion Passed.*

**Win Kellum:**

Heather reported that she has made many attempts to contact the Job Corps group and has not been getting any response.

She has contacted Lee Templin about the possibility of him being able to bring in some of his students. If this is not possible, she added that Alex Manga has offered to get ball players to do the construction. There will be additional footage added to the existing concrete to enlarge the planned dugouts.

The Ferris Club Baseball group will be starting fundraising for the in-field red clay mound and gravel.

Richard Spedowske spoke on how well the field was manicured in earlier years. He feels that it hasn't been kept up as well. Would like to see more being done.

**Mitchell Creek:**

The Ribbon cutting is planned for September 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. The Mayor, Marlise Manning and President Eisler will be speakers. Dave Murray and the students who constructed the dome will be in attendance as well. Heather will be making certificates of appreciation, signed by President Eisler and the Mayor, for each of the students that worked on the project.

All members are invited to attend.

**Pool:**

Heather updated the members on the current remarketing project that is taking place in the shallow end of the pool area.

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

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

**STAFF REPORTS: Recreation**

Heather reported on current activities that she is offering. The Water Aerobics Instructor, Jan Weining, has resigned due to personal reasons. She has been the instructor for many years and will be greatly missed. There will be Ferris lifeguards instructing this activity.

Looking for suggestions and location ideas for a mother/son event.

Reported on the receipt of a \$6,000 grant from Yoplait for the Girls on the Run program.

The City is looking to annex some of the Clay Cliffs Nature Area into the City limits. Some of the property lies outside of the City boundary and would like all within one jurisdiction for emergency services clarity.

St Peters students will be volunteering September 28<sup>th</sup>. The younger students will be doing some work in the Playscape area, while the older students will be putting up the cornstalks through downtown. Other ideas may come up and will be added.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS/BUSINESS:**

None.

**UNSCHEDULED BUSINESS:**

None.

**The next meeting of the Park and Recreation Board will be September 8, 2016 at 6:30 pm in the City Commission Room.**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula Weipert