

**CITY OF MANISTEE
PARKS/BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, August 19, 2009
5:15 P.M.**

Members Present: Lynne Reinhardt, Mark Tomaszewski, Priscilla Rulison, Wendy Staffeld, Ed Tegler

Members Absent: John Rozga, Ben Kubiak, Ron Cowden

Also Present: Kathie Boyle

A meeting of the Manistee Parks and Beautification Commission was held on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, City Hall. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lynne Reinhardt at 5:15 p.m.

A **MOTION** by Priscilla, **Second** by Ed to adopt the July 15, 2009 minutes and place on file.

PARKS BUS TOUR

The Annual Parks Tour was held on August 4, 2009. Those in attendance included Lynne Reinhardt, Mark Tomaszewski, Priscilla Rulison, Ed Tegler and City Manager Mitch Deisch. A discussion on the tour followed. Many members were not aware of the number of parks we have in our City - it was very informative. The tour was to acquaint our new members with our city parks and check out their condition. Consensus of the group rated the parks into two categories - those parks that need the most attention and those parks which were in the best condition:

Parks in worst conditions: Douglas Park
Fish Cleaning Station
First Street Rest Rooms
Fifth Avenue -South of Coast Guard Station

Parks in best condition: Man-Made Area
City Marina
Rietz Park

Morton Park needs to be looked at as becoming a viable park or we need to decide what the future holds for this park. Wendy Staffeld will look into the lease agreement between Morton's and the City - she'll start with the Community Development Office for information regarding the lease between the two parties.

Improvements most mentioned in the survey during our tour was the need for trees at Rietz, Mac, Duffy and Morton Parks. It just appears that trees and parks go together.

Mitch did another tremendous job narrating the parks tour.

NEW BUSINESS

- ◆ Reviewed bylaws - Kathie will make changes and submit to City Council for their approval.

Ed Teglar questioned the possibility of raising our own money for projects. Lynne responded that she did raise money for other beautification projects. The City Treasurer's Office can hold the money for specified projects, but must be under city funds. At one time a certain project did have a bank account on their own - but was informed by the City Attorney this was not legal. Ed would like to see this commission grow and this could be accomplished by raising money for other projects.

Commission has requested a copy of the Parks Department budget to review.

Butterfly Maintenance Assignments: The butterfly garden needs to be maintained by our members. Maintenance takes about thirty minutes to weed the area and check for vandalism. We really need to keep this area up. Watering is not needed as it is a dry garden.

A schedule has been set up for members from September 1, thru October 24, 2009.

- ◆ Ed Teglar September 1 - 12, 2009
- ◆ Priscilla Rulison September 13 - 26, 2009
- ◆ Ron Cowden September 27 - October 10, 2009
- ◆ Mark Tomaszewski October 11 - 24, 2009

It was decided that the Parks/Beautification Commission will not hold a meeting in December, January or February unless requested by a member.

Lynne reminded members that if they have any petty cash under \$10.00 to submit their receipt to City Clerk Michelle Wright for reimbursement.


OLD BUSINESS

Shuffleboard Court - Signage placed at the court indicating where equipment is stored is already deteriorating from the elements. We will have to come up with better signage next season. Priscilla questioned where the equipment will be stored after the seasonal employees are gone. Commission believes equipment will be stored at the Senior Center.

Next meeting date: Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 5:15 p.m. - in the second floor conference room.

A consensus to adjourn at 6:20.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathie Boyle
Recording Secretary