

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

**Wednesday, April 21, 2010
5:15 P.M.**

Members Present: Lynne Reinhardt, Mark Tomaszewski, Priscilla Rulison, Wendy Staffeld, Ed Tegler, Ron Cowden, Ben Kubiak

Members Excused: John Rozga

Also Present: Gary Niesen, Kathie Boyle
Vicki Sheffled, MRA Director

A meeting of the Manistee Parks and Beautification Commission was held on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 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 Wendy, **Second** by Ed to adopt the March 17, 2010 minutes and place on file.

Lynne Reinhardt introduced Vicki Sheffled, the Director of the MRA. She was invited to discuss the need for additional T Ball fields. Mrs. Sheffled gave a brief description of her job duties and the responsibilities of the Recreation Association. Mrs. Sheffled stated that the MRA is in need of additional fields. Last year the MRA had so many children participating in T Ball they needed to schedule three games per night. The MRA is in the process of looking for other locations to play T Ball and would prefer a location in the City of Manistee. This year they will schedule only two games per night. What they are looking for is a flat field area where they can paint the outline that would have portable surface bases. Mr. Cowden brought up the two fields at First Street Beach, now that Manistee High School has their own field and the Softball Association doesn't have as many teams in their league as in the past. Morton Field was also discussed as becoming a T Ball field. Morton Salt is still interested in developing that area and would welcome a field. Gary felt that Sands Park or First Street Beach ball diamonds would be better than Morton Park, he suggested checking with the Softball Association on their schedule. Hamlin Field was discussed as an option, but is in desperate need of work. Gary informed the commission that legally this is not our park.

OLD BUSINESS

Winter Garden - Jason Thompson's crew will assist in the planting tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. The City will have the water wagon available - this will be an attractive beginning to our garden.

Parks Commission Logo - At the November 18, 2009 meeting a new logo was brought up for the Parks and Beautification Commission - this logo would set us apart from other commissions. Wendy passed around a beautiful picture of the sunset/beach that she believed would make a very nice logo. This would need approval from the City Council. No action is planned at this time.

Council Meeting March 16, 2010 - Ed is still disappointed that the City Council did not respond to Ed's questions regarding our input in any upcoming projects for the parks. Ed stated that he will attend another council meeting and ask for answers. Lynne will set up a meeting with herself, Ed and Mitch once the budget is approved.

NEW BUSINESS

First Street Beach Fish Wall - Lynne appointed Ron to spray paint the fish and check for any repairs, painting is typically done in the spring and fall. Noticed that there are some cracks in the wall that will need to be repaired - will check with Rotarians to see if they can be of any assistance.

Manistee Art Institute - Priscilla stated that the MAI artists would like to start up the sculpture art once again - did we have any ideas on any locations. Beautification Committee did this before at the City Marina. That project ended last year. Sculptures up and down River Street would look nice. However, the City Manager has the final say in any location. Priscilla is welcome to invite the chair of the MAI/ sculpture committee to one of our meetings.

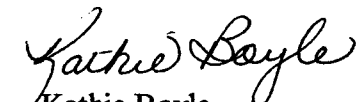
City Budget - Lynne requested a consensus from the commission to council as to how we believe the city budget should be balanced. After a lengthy discussion - no consensus was reached. Lynne would like all members to write a half page letter on their thoughts and forward to Kathie.

Fifth Avenue - The area where the Northside Improvement building was located is unacceptable. This area is in dire need of work.

Consensus to adjourn.

REMEMBER : Next meeting date: Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 5:15 p.m. - This meeting (weather permitting - if raining will be in our usual conference room) will be held at **Fifth Avenue Beach in the area of the old Northside Improvement building.** This location is located across from the Coast Guard Station.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathie Boyle
Recording Secretary