

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

**Thursday, February 20, 2014
5:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Mark Tomaszewski, Roger Zielinski, Darci Scott, Lynn Vasquez, Erin Pontiac

Excused: Ed Tegler

Also Present: Jeff Mikula, Kathie Boyle - City of Manistee
Mitch Deisch, City Manager
Kendra Thompson, Thompson Architects

A regular meeting of the Manistee Parks and Beautification Commission was held on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at City Hall 2nd floor conference room. Meeting was called to order by Corresponding Secretary Lynn Vasquez at 5:02 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

United Veterans Council – Kendra Thompson of Kendra Thompson Architects provided an update and drawing on the “Proposed Phase II Expansion at Veteran Park” Details include enhancements to the park, also engaging the youth of our community where high school seniors would compete for a scholarship to best honor a group of veterans or a single individual. Discussion followed:

- Need approval from Blue Star to relocate sign.
- North Riverwalk is becoming a issue – Veterans Council is very interested in assisting development.
- Veterans Council will continue project with assistance from the City as in the past, ie. mowing, general upkeep.
- Funding will come thru the Veterans Council – no cost to the City.

Motion by Zielinski **second** Scott to support Veterans Council on the improvements to Veterans Memorial. Commission is requesting to preapprove content of new plaque. Zielinski asked if Harbor Commission needed to be notified of expansion, Deisch believes they do not but will notify. City Manager will prepare memo and attached drawing to City Council for an upcoming council meeting. **Motion** approved.

Approval of Minutes - Motion by Zielinski, **second** by Scott to accept November 21, 2013 minutes and place on file. **Motion** approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on First Street Beach/Rocket Park – City Manager provided information on Rocket Park. In December 2013 the City received notice from the State of Michigan approving our grant application, but is requiring additional information which was submitted last week. Application now proceeds to the Federal Parks for their review. City should hear back in 60 – 90 days, City will be good to go when noticed is received. This will be a community project hopefully built in late summer/early fall.

Adopt a Park – No updates. Vasquez will schedule work session.

First Street Roundabout – This is a designated traffic area not a walkway we need to keep in mind that whatever we choose will not cause a safety issue. Pontiac felt a historical scene which would not cause a distraction.

Morton Park – Vasquez presented drawing of area. Morton’s should be approached with any concepts. Discussion followed.

Ordinance Chapter 289, Sec. 02 – Is it possible to make recommendations’. City Manager and DPW Director will draft changes and forward to Ordinance Committee and City Council regarding “Qualifications for chair of the commission” to change to property owner in the City of Manistee.

NEW BUSINESS

Ice Skating Rink – Mikula updated commission on meeting held with the Teen Center Board and the City of Manistee. The city has investigated into purchasing a complete ice skating system which would include liner, bracket system and protective kickplates. This system would be much easier to maintain and sustain, which could provide a longer skating season. City Council will be asked for their support and apply to the local revenue sharing board for 50% of the \$12,000 cost.

Council Strategic Plan 2014/15 – Deisch updated commission on council strategic plans which includes the ice skating rink, resurfacing Sands Park tennis courts, Fifth Avenue area of old N.I.A. building, also “Adopt A Park” concept will be included in this plan. Council will also will be looking for a designated area for dogs at a beach and will be asking for recommendations from Parks & Beautification Commission.

Temporary Fill of Chair and Vice Chair – It was decided to continue with Vasquez chairing the meetings and preparing agenda.

COMMENTS

None

Motion by Zielinski, **second** by Scott to adjourn @ 6:50 p.m.

Next meeting date – Thursday, March 20, 2014 @ 5:00 p.m. at City Hall – 2nd Floor Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Boyle
Recording Secretary