

CITY OF MONROE
PARK BOARD MINUTES
October 16, 2014

Call To Order

Chairperson Karin Coppernoll called the Park Board meeting to order at 7:03pm in the Parks/Public Works Conference Room.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Steve Whalen, Karin Coppernoll, Lara Ramey, Shawna Chamberlain, Ralph Yingling

Board Members Absent: Tami Beaumont, Dian Duerksen

Agenda Revisions – None

Approval of Minutes - Motion was made by Karin Coppernoll and seconded by Lara Ramey to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2014 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Audience Participation –None

Unfinished Business – *Park Plan Update- Monroe Land Use Districts Concept- Review & Comment* – Director Farrell explained to the Board that the materials distributed are concepts for land use districts within Monroe as drafted by the consultants from Studio Cascade, and that the Board should review them in preparation for the scheduled 7:00pm November 13 joint workshop with the City Council, Planning Commission and Citizen Advisory Committee at Park Place Middle School. The concepts, along with comments and feedback from the joint workshop will help develop policies and program concepts for the Comp Plan Update.

A discussion ensued whether to cancel the regular meeting scheduled for November 20 since the workshop is also in November. The Board agreed to leave the regular November Board meeting as scheduled for November 20.

New Business – None

Staff Reports/Updates –*Director's Report*- Director Mike Farrell informed the Board that the annual YMCA Fall Classic run will be on Saturday, October 25 and has moved from Lake Tye Park to the Downtown area streets. Road closure information is posted on the City's website.

Parks & Recreation Department 2015 Preliminary Budget – Director Farrell distributed slides from the budget presentations to the City Council on the preliminary 2015 Operating and Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) budget proposals. The slide on the Operating budget proposal highlighted 2014 department accomplishments, as well as 2015 proposed actions, events and programs. The CIP slide listed ongoing projects such as the skate park improvements and park plan update, as well as new proposed projects that include trail repairs, athletic courts resurfacing, new ball field surfacing, dugout covers, additional protective netting for foul balls, fencing and master planning for the Cadman site.

Board Discussion – *Park Tour (continued)*– The Board agreed that the recent park tours to Lake Tye Park(*August*) and Sky River Park(*September*) were very informative and gave the Board opportunities to interact with park users. The Board would like to schedule multiple park tour dates for 2015 during the spring/summer months to review more park sites in detail as was done this year.

City Website Ideas – As was carried over from a new discussion item at the September Park Board meeting, the Board discussed feedback that they received while manning the Parks & Recreation booth at the National Night Out Against Crime event in August. Pros about the City’s website are: the amount of information that is available, updates on events, activities and projects. Suggestions for improvements include: navigating through the website to find some types of information, preferences for a menu along the left side of the screen and making it more user-friendly in general. Director Farrell gave a background on the three-year-old website upgrade process and added that he liked the added feature that staff from all departments have the ability to make changes and add content to the website directly, which was not available in the past. Another added feature of the new website is that citizens can sign up for e-mail and/or social media updates and notices. The Board made a request that Mike Farrell share the feedback with the other managers at the City.

Agency Reports

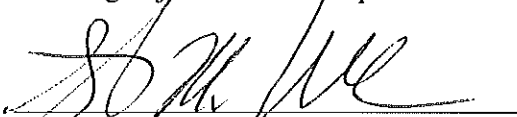
Planning Commission –No report

Monroe School District – Ralph Yingling reported that the School District is doing a series of listening tours as the District is considering running a bond issue. There are several large capital projects on the list, among them being new all-weather ballfields at the high school, a complete renovation of Park Place Middle School, and the listening tours will help the School Board prioritize them. The District held a listening tour stop at a Monroe City Council meeting earlier this month for feedback. Citizens can also visit the School website for information to a link to leave comments and feedback as well. Ralph Yingling also added that he will pass along to the School District the Leeland Consulting Group’s memo regarding conceptual plans for the Park Place Middle School area as part of the City’s Comp Plan update, as it appears that some of the conceptual ideas for the area are in conflict with the School District’s plans for the property.

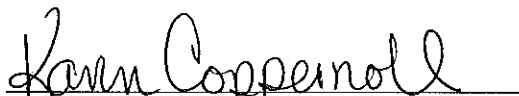
Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Yingling and seconded by Karin Coppernoll to adjourn. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.



Steve Whalen, Chairperson



Lara Ramey, Secretary