

**GLADSTONE PARKS & RECREATION  
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**April 09, 2024**

**MINUTES**

Chairman Gary Stevenson called the meeting to order at 6:34pm, Chairman Stevenson called roll.

**PRESENT:**

Anne Pfothenauer  
Gary Stevenson  
Jay Bostwick  
Bob Bosk  
Cathy Sjoquist  
Jeremy Cook

**ABSENT:**

Stacie Carter

**STAFF PRESENT**

Erik Buckman, City Manager  
Robert Brown, Acting Parks Director  
Troy Drebenstedt, Parks Employee

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public Comment

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

City Manager Eric Buckman raised a query concerning individuals subletting their campsites within the campground, as well as other regulations outlined in the updated campground rules. Deliberation ensued regarding the permissible number of sites for subletting, the duration of stay permitted, and additional stipulations necessary to enforce.

Motion by Cathy Sjoquist; seconded by Jay Bostwick, to defer the approval of the updated campground regulations until additional specifications regarding subletting terms are established.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Anne Pfothenhauer; seconded by Jeremy Cook to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2024, and to incorporate an agenda item for the upcoming May meeting to address the issue of individuals subletting their campsites and to review the updated campground rules.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

**UNFINISHED BUSSINESS:**

Acting Director Robert Brown presented a summary of the 10th St. Banner Project, highlighting the continued collaboration with the Parks Department and the Downtown Development Authority (D.D.A.). Brown noted the D.D.A.'s generous contribution of \$2000 towards the project. He elaborated on the current status of the project, detailing the advancements made thus far and the diverse designs and activities depicted on the banners.

During the discussion, board members explored various concepts and possibilities for the banners. Stevenson proposed the addition of banners at both ends of 10th St featuring simply saying: "Year-Round Playground."

Sjoquist suggested integrating the Gladstone school district into the banner themes. Bosk and Pfothenhauer expressed an interest in incorporating more winter-themed sports, including downhill skiing and cross-country skiing.

Motion by Jay Bostwick; seconded by Pfothenhauer to proceed the 10<sup>th</sup> St Banner Project.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

City Manager Eric Buckman provided an update on the progress of the recruitment process for the open Parks and Recreation Director position. He

noted that resumes have been received and interviews are scheduled to take place next week.

### **STAFF REPORTS:**

Parks and Recreation's Acting Director, Robert Brown, presented updates and enhancements implemented within the park. These include the installation of a new safety life ring and shelter for the fishing pier. Additionally, Brown highlighted the renovation of the west skid pier utilized for boat launching. He also addressed the impact of the contract with the DDA on the budget and outlined improvements made to the lighting system on the fishing pier.

Parks and Recreation employee Troy Drebenstedt spoke about the Land based mooring proposal. The proposal aims to address the needs of both the community members and the Gladstone Sail School by establishing a summer mooring field. The primary objectives are to provide convenient boat storage for community members with small boats and to generate a sustainable revenue stream for the Sail School. By utilizing the South Facing sandy beach in front of the Sail School, we can offer an accessible and secure location for boat storage, benefiting both parties involved.

Motion by Cathy Sjoquist; seconded by Jeremy Cook, to approve the proposal and forward it to the city commissioners for their approval.

Voting Yea: ALL

MOTION CARRIED

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**Bob Bosk:** initiated discussions on several topics during the meeting:

1. **Harbor Rates:** Bosk raised a query regarding the harbor rate increase, seeking a comprehensive breakdown of the increment, its allocation, and a comparison with DNR rates. Additionally, he inquired about the rationale behind the Parks department's \$25 application fee for joining the waiting list for harbor slips.
2. **Fourth of July:** Bosk inquired about the participation criteria for the 4th of July Parade and whether any prizes will be awarded. He also seeks information on who is leading the planning efforts for the Fourth of July celebrations, an update on the progress of the preparations, and whether there is a volunteer list available. Additionally, Bosk is

interested in knowing who oversees coordinating volunteers for the event.

**Jay Bostwick:** Bostwick expressed interest in Stacy's current standing with the board and inquired about potential actions regarding her continued absence, including the possibility of her removal from the board.

**Jeremy Cook:** Cook informed the board that a member of the community, Dwayne Kinnart, has proposed building a roof over the Indian Statues, enhancing lighting in the area, and adding more benches.

**Cathy Sjoquist:** "Cathy Sjoquist presented several items for the board's consideration during the meeting. Firstly, she expressed her interest in obtaining further details about the boardwalk. Additionally, she shared that a service group from the high school has volunteered to assist with the refurbishment of Kids Kingdom on May 11th. Furthermore, she inquired about the availability of a job description for the harbor master position. Cathy also informed the board that Jim Hansen has offered assistance with Harbor Master training. She expressed her desire to contribute more to the beautification of Gladstone. Lastly, she proposed implementing a designated area for advertisement signs."

**Gary Stevenson:** Stevenson requested budgetary information for both the Parks Department and the DDA, particularly regarding how the change in funding from the DDA will impact the Parks Department. Additionally, he inquired about the availability of funding or the possibility of applying for grants to support the installation of a basketball court and playground equipment at the campground. Stevenson would also like to know about the harbor and the status of updating the transient docks are.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business before the board Anne Pfothenauer motioned; Jay Bostwick seconded to adjourned meeting at 9:15



THE GLADSTONE LIONS CLUB and  
THE BAY DE NOC LIONS CLUB



# SPRING SOCIAL AND FUNDRAISER

APRIL 20 | 7 PM



PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CITY OF GLADSTONE SAIL SCHOOL

**MUSIC BY**  
**THE JAM BAND**  
*starting at 8 PM*

**ADMISSION:**  
**\$15 at the door**

**50/50, BUCKET, &  
GUN RAFFLES;  
SILENT AUCTION  
& MORE!**

**AT THE BLUFF COUNTRY CLUB**



Refurbished skid pier - spring 2024  
west side



**CONCERT TIMES 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**BRING LAWN CHAIRS, BLANKETS, COOLERS,  
FRIENDS, DOGS (ON A 6' LEASH), AND YOUR DANCE MOVES!**

<b>JUNE 13</b>	<b>SETH BROWN DUO</b>	<b>American / Folk Duo</b>
<b>JUNE 20</b>	<b>FAILTE</b>	<b>Traditional Celtic</b>
<b>JUNE 27</b>	<b>COSMIC EXPOSURE</b>	<b>Funk Rock</b>
<b>JULY 4</b>	<b>BAD DOG</b>	<b>Classic Rock / Rockin Blues</b>
<b>JULY 4</b>	<b>BIG AL AND THE TOMATAS</b>	<b>Rock Variety</b>
<b>JULY 4</b>	<b>DERRILL SYRIA BAND</b>	<b>Variety Acoustic</b>
<b>JULY 11</b>	<b>JAM BAND</b>	<b>Classic Rock</b>
<b>JULY 18</b>	<b>2ND EDITION</b>	<b>Classic Rock / Blues</b>
<b>JULY 25</b>	<b>DERRILL SYRIA BAND</b>	<b>Variety Acoustic</b>
<b>AUGUST 1</b>	<b>THE MAYNARD'S BAND</b>	<b>60, 70, 80's Soft Rock</b>
<b>AUGUST 8</b>	<b>ANGELS AND OUTLAWS BAND</b>	<b>Classic Rock, Country</b>
<b>AUGUST 15</b>	<b>GRAND DESIGN</b>	<b>Variety Music</b>

**VAN CLEVE PARK, GLADSTONE, MI**

