

Mount Pleasant Recreation Commission

The Mount Pleasant Recreation Commission met in its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 5:30 pm in the Tom Hardin Room at City Hall.

Those who were present: Luemma McWilliams, Chairperson; Misti Grooms, Vice Chairperson; Jacqueline Grandberry, Representative from the City Commission; Larry Patton; Bedford Smith, Loree Knowles (arrived late); Kathy Pepe, Members; Phillip Grooms, City Manager; Alyshia Busby, Events Coordinator; Staff and Public.

Mrs. McWilliams called the meeting to order and asked that the minutes reflect there is a quorum.

Mrs. McWilliams asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the last meeting which was on March 13, 2024.

Ms. Pepe made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2024 meeting. Mr. Patton seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Busby reported the annual Easter egg hunt went well. She asked if anyone could think of ways to improve or anything that needed to change, to please let her know.

Ms. Busby was pleased to report that there was a huge turnout for the last Mother & Son dance.

Mr. Smith and Ms. Busby thanked Mrs. McWilliams for the new lights. They worked out great.

Ms. Busby stated the league has made a lot of improvements to the base ball field. She added that the city had spent time and money on assisting with those improvements.

Mr. Smith stated the newly painted building at the baseball field made a huge improvement to the property.

Ms. Busby stated the league still experiences coaching shortages. She hoped this commission could review the background check requirements and see what can be done to make some changes.

Ms. Busby stated the last movie on the square held in May was largely attended. We had beautiful weather that night and the movie was cute. She said she would like to plan another one soon but that depends on the construction work taking place on the square.

Ms. Pepe stated the next time, we need to see if we can have access to the restrooms.

Mr. Smith pointed out that is the reason it may be better to host movie night at Gardenia Park because there are bathrooms for those in attendance.

Mrs. Grandberry stated there was a request for an upcoming movie night but she would have to check with Loree to confirm the date.

Mr. Grooms stated that we are exploring improvement projects in the city and one improvement on that list was adding a bathroom facility at Arrow Mines Road. The problem we are facing is

the increasing costs due to inflation. He stated he wanted to present this idea to this commission for your support before we move forward on getting estimates.

Mrs. McWilliams and Mr. Smith stated adding bathrooms to Arrow Mines Park would be great. They pointed out the project was a part of the Recreation Commission's 5-year strategic plan.

New Business

Ms. Busby stated the next Craft Market is scheduled for September 7th. There was a huge turnout for the last one so there are plans to add more vendors at the September event.

Mrs. Grooms suggested to add additional space for the vendors to set up to avoid congestion.

Ms. Busby stated that the Boys and Girls Club organization has moved into the community center. She estimated there were 4-8 children attending the summer program so far.

Mrs. McWilliams stated the schools are preparing to do their back-to-school bash event. She suggested Boys & Girls Club representatives be set up at that event with informational flyers.

Mrs. Grandberry said she would like to see the Boys & Girls Club informational flyer list of the activities they sponsor. She said she believed that might be more of an attraction for the children. She said some may just think it is more school structured and they dismiss it.

Ms. Busby and Mrs. Grandberry discussed the Juneteenth event at Gardenia Park that took place in June.

Ms. Busby stated if anyone has not visited Gardenia Park recently, you need to go see the new pavilion and the new basketball court. She added there are new picnic tables out there and it all looks really nice.

Mrs. McWilliams asked Ms. Busby to get her the name and address of the Eagle Scout that adopted Arrow Mines Park for their project to make improvements. She would like to send him a thank you note.

Ms. Busby stated she did not have any events planned for July. She was going to use the time to prepare for the school's back to school bash.

The Recreation Commission and Ms. Busby discussed the back-to-school bash in more detail.

Mrs. Grandberry confirmed there will be movie night at Gardenia Park on Saturday, July 13, 2024.

Mrs. Grooms stated in the past she has noticed the backpacks were being discarded. She suggested using the funds for actual school supplies and let the kids put their things in regular bags. Most kids like to pick out their own backpacks anyway.

Ms. Knowles stated school policy has changed a lot so backpacks may not be allowed.

Mrs. Grooms announced she would be resigning from the Recreation Commission due to her husband becoming the new city manager. She said she felt it was important to make sure no one can claim there is a conflict of interest by her serving on this commission. She said she hoped she could help find someone at the school to replace her on the Recreation Commission.

Mrs. Grooms stated she still wanted to volunteer to help with the events. She asked if anyone had any recommendations, to please let the city manager or the mayor know.

Citizens Comments

Mrs. McWilliams verified there were no comments by any citizens.

There being no further business, Ms. Knowles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.

CHAIRMAN

DATE