



**12 N. Charles, White Cloud, MI 49349  
Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes  
September 7, 2023, at 7:30 a.m.**

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Member Barnhard called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

Attendees: Mary Bleiler, Don Barnhard, April Storms, Lori Shears

Absent: Ed Canning

Staff present: Andrew Stafford, Kelli Arnold      Public in Attendance: None

**2. Set/Amend Agenda**

Agenda presented for the regular Parks & Rec committee for September 7, 2023.

**Motion** by Bleiler, **Supported** by Shears to set the agenda for September 7, 2023.

**Vote:** Ayes- All      Nays- None      **Motion Carried**

**3. Minutes of June 1, 2023.**

Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on June 1, 2023, were presented for consideration.

**Motion** by Shears, **Supported** by Storms to approve Parks and Recreation meeting minutes as presented.

**Vote:** Ayes- All      Nays- None      **Motion Carried**

**4. Discussion Items**

a. WC Campground tour June 22, 2023

Brian Miller, Lori Shears, Candice Dault & Kelli Arnold represented the city on the tour. Per Nick (NC Parks Director) approximately a dozen oak trees need to be removed, wi-fi service will be installed when the County does their cable up-grade, no date given for that; discussed an alternative to putt-putt golf, suggested that a bocci ball court would be good addition; a second bathhouse was discussed, part of the park trail is in need of being rerouted to more stable ground, the lodge chimney has been leaning and is now at 4 inches tilt, much discussion whether the expense of a new chimney is feasible and many alternatives were brought up. Suggested to have the building checked for structural soundness without replacing the chimney and possibly putting restroom facilities into the lodge building and add a wrap-around deck to accommodate more people (currently about 75 and could increase to 125-150) which may attract more weddings, grad parties, reunions etc.

b. Ebenstein Memorial

The Charlie Ebenstein family donated \$500.00 to the city for a memorial. The Parks and Rec committee discussed a memorial bench and if so, a composite bench or wood. The price for a 4-foot bench is \$996 plus tax/shipping.

c. Outdoor musical equipment

Shears presented the Parks & Rec committee with playground equipment that features several shapes and sounds that are sensory friendly. The manufacturer shown to Parks & Rec was Noah's Park & Playgrounds, LLC. This may be something we can submit a grant to fund the equipment.

d. Downtown Art Mural

Renaee Wallace has committed to doing a downtown art mural, there have been some modifications since originally presented; she will be working on it throughout the winter and installation is planned for Spring 2024. Storms will be working with the building owner on a contract.

e. Spark Grant update

The City of White Cloud is considered an "Opportunity Community" for the DNR Spark grant. Fremont Area Community Foundation will be facilitating funds for the DNR for the opportunity communities. We have submitted a letter of intent to the Foundation for the grant. Fleis & Vandenbrink Phase 1 plan is estimated at a total project cost of \$999,100.00, Phase 2 is estimated at \$1,225,400.00.

f. Mill Pond trees

The willow trees at Mill Pond Park have been removed. The city replaced with 2 maple trees that were delivered and planted by Mellema's; They are soft maples and should grow fairly fast.

C. Public Comment

None

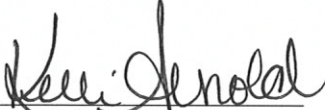
D. Correspondence

E. Adjournment

**Motion** by Shears, **Supported** by Shears to adjourn the Parks & Recreation meeting at 8:07 a.m.

**Vote:** Ayes- All Nays- None **Motion Carried**

Respectfully submitted:

  
Kelli Arnold Clerk

Approved on: 11-02-2023