

JOINT PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE/BOARD

Wednesday, May 25, 2016

A meeting of the Park and Recreation Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Vandertie in Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street.

Roll Call: Members Vandertie, Stults, and Catarazoli were present. Also present were City Administrator VanLieshout, Alderperson Gregory, Municipal Services Director Bordeau, Planner/Zoning Administrator Kernosky, and Municipal Services Assistant Lenius.

Adoption of Agenda: Moved by Ms. Catarazoli, seconded by Mr. Stults to adopt the following agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Discussion of: Bird City USA
5. Update of Skatepark
6. Discussion of: Chemical use in Parks
7. Adjourn

All in favor. Carried.

Public Comment: The following people spoke during public comment: Linda Cockburn, 153 S. 3rd Ave; Jody Milske, 49 W. Maple St; Nicole Voight, 117 N. Geneva Ave; Christine Kellems, 120 Alabama Street.

Bird City USA: Mr. Bordeau stated the department has looked into the process to apply for Bird City USA designation. There are four application times throughout the year and he is hopeful that he can meet the November deadline. The City has to meet seven of 21 specified criteria of which they are close to meeting already except for the educational aspect. The application fee is \$100.

Update of Skatepark: Mr. Bordeau explained there had been some vandalism to the bathrooms at the Westside Ballfield so he had shut the bathrooms down. Since then, the Skatepark Organization has formed a committee to monitor the area. It has been in place for about a month and seems to be helping the situation. The shade structure and informational kiosk will be installed at the skatepark soon.

Chemical use in parks: Mr. Bordeau listed all the areas that are sprayed in the City park system and what chemicals are used in each area.

Pramitol and Cornerstone are sprayed around the fences at the Dog Park, Otumba Park, Woods West, Westside Field, Memorial Field, Sunset Park Ballfields and Girls Little League Fields. These are also used on the quarry wash trails at Sunset Park, Garland Park and Cherry Blossom Park.

Strike 3 and Urea are used on the grass and planting areas at Bayview Park, Maritime Museum, Graham Park and at City Hall.

Cornerstone is used in the flowerbeds at Sonny's, Maritime Museum, Graham Park, the parking structure, City Hall, Sawyer Park, Sunset Park and along Egg Harbor Road.

Chemlawn Weed and Feed is used on all Ballfields.

Ms. Catarazoli stated that Pramitol is bad for areas with sensitive ground water and wants to make sure the city is placing more importance on safety than aesthetics. Mr. Bordeau explained the department had tried using the

vinegar mixture last year, however found it took longer to kill the weeds and did not last as long. It also cost over 3 times as much as the other chemicals that were being used. He also explained that seasonal staff are not allowed to spray the chemicals and all staff who do the chemical spraying have been certified to do so.

Moved by Mr. Stults, Seconded by Ms. Catarazoli to adjourn. All in favor. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:07.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Lenius
Municipal Services Assistant