

**Minutes of the
City of Inkster Parks and Recreation Commission
Monthly Meeting
2025 Middlebelt Rd. Inkster, MI 48141
March 9, 2023
6:30p.m.**

PRESENT: Commissioners Ashawna Butts, Ray Brown, Walter Johnson, James Richardson Jr., Khalidah Muhammad, Lewanna Abney-Mitchell, Shirley Hankerson (arrived at 7pm); Antionette Todd (Assistant Director of the Dozier Recreation Center), Parks and Recreation. Director Darryl Greene (present arrived at 8:01pm)

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm by Chair/Commissioner Ashawna Butts.

Meditation/Prayer (moment of silence)

Roll Call of Commissioners (See attendance above)

Approval of Agenda:

- Motion: To approve the agenda as circulated
- Motion By: Com. Abney-Mitchell; Seconded By: Com. Brown
- Motion Carried

Communications:

- From Assistant Director Todd:
 - Clean Up:
 - The staff attempted to use community service volunteers to help with clean up in February and it was an “epic fail.”
 - Needs organization.
 - Not enough storage space; currently occupying a former rental room.
 - A lot of stuff that needs to be disposed of including: athletic equipment, computer equipment, paperwork, etc.
 - Hard drives need to be disposed of properly, as they may contain sensitive information.
 - Golf and baseball equipment could possibly be used to start a program.
 - Some items can be offered to a non-profit organization.
 - There is currently a dumpster at the recreation center.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Meeting:

- Minutes of the last meeting were read by Recording Secretary Khalidah Muhammad.

Old Business:

- Reminder of special budget review next Thursday (March 16, 2023).

New Business

○ Parks and Recreation Youth Board:

- Must live in Inkster
- 1 member per district; 2 nominees from recreation center staff.
- Com. Abney-Mitchell will research and bring guidelines from the charter to the next meeting.

○ NOTE: According to the city charter, you cannot serve on the (Parks & Recreation) Commission and work for the city directly.

- There are major conflicts of interest.
- Com. Brown, who began working as a parks and recreation staff member after being appointed to the parks and recreation commission, was asked from resign from the commission.
- When he asked for the relevant communications in writing, he was told by Director Greene that as far as Parks and Recreation is concerned, there are no issues and that because it had already been so long, he should continue (working for the Recreation center and serving on the commission) through his current term.

- Booker T. Dozier Event Calendar is active on the city website. (Last updated February 2023)

○ Spring is near- park clean-up is needed.

- Beautification committee runs programs from May-October (may be moved up to April)
- AKAs are donating trees
- Parkwood Park needs trees for shade.
- Adopt-A-Park program:
 - Participants should come before the board.
 - Inkster business owners wants to adopt 2 parks.
- Would like to establish a calendar for parks
- Signage is need at all parks. (Park rules)
- Flyer to highlight each park (hours, amenities, rental fees, etc.). Digital and paper versions.
- Look into grant money for a splash pad.

○ Complex Programming:

- Care Kids Monday-Thursday 10-3, Summer program currently in the planning phase. Tentative start date: June 27, 2023
 - Burger King will sponsor buses for summer field trips
 - Volunteers needed.
- Complex is a safe haven.
- Rentals Friday-Sunday
- Seeds to Feed?
 - Com. Richardson will inquire

- Summer jobs program
 - There were several questions as to what roles staff hired through this program can play. Can they assist with programs (I.e. field trips)?
 - Current programs running out of the Recreation center:
 - We Rise: wood work, sewing, culinary
 - Vikings Karate
 - New opportunity Tennis (Spring/summer)
 - Music Production
 - Teen Club
 - NOTE: these programs are housed in the Recreation center but are not official Parks & Recreation programs.
 - City website needs to be updated to reflect current programs only.
 - Programs introduced by Director Greene, currently listed on city website, will. Be summer programs. Potential start date June 20th.
 - Kids camp- Education program.
- NOTE: Meeting had to be called back into order after public and commissioners began talking over each other regarding programming.
- Com. Richardson expressed concerns over the lack of professionalism exhibited during the meeting and the fact that the meetings are regularly 2 hours or more.
 - Com. Muhammad agreed and expressed that the lack of professionalism during monthly meetings causes concern when thinking about dropping her children off to participate in programming at the recreation center.
 - Com. Brown stated that the Recreation center has been offering consistent programming Tuesday-Thursday and seeing numbers of 60-70 children per day. Suggests that commissioners come to observe operations during regular hours.

Public Comment:

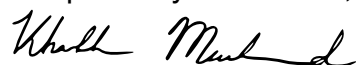
Oliver Henderson of the Beautification Commission: the Beautification Commission has a monthly listing of parks to be adopted.

Announcements:

- Boxing Match 3/17
- Teen Club Wed., Thurs., Sat.
- Pop up shop at the Dozier every month
- Wayne Westland Schools closed 3/10 due to snow
- Com. Ray Brown, Community Liaison, will send calendars and keep Commission informed of events.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Khalidah Muhammad, Recording Secretary