

**CITY OF WIXOM  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
Monday, August 12, 2024  
6:00 p.m. Wixom Community Center**

**CALL TO ORDER BY CHAIRMAN:**

**ROLL CALL:** John O'Brien, Chairman  
Maryann Chupa  
Lisa Ferrari  
Tom Menzies  
Shondra Okimura  
Dan Williams  
Jeff Winters

**CITY STAFF:**  
Community Services Director: Deanna Magee  
Recording Secretary: Mona Freiburger

**GUESTS:** None

Absent: Churilla; VanSickle

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**

Quorum was met.

**CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Menzies and second by Commissioner Ferrari to approve the Wixom Parks and Recreation Agenda, as submitted.

**VOTE: MOTION CARRIED**

All in favor.  
Motion passes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Menzies and second by Commissioner Williams to approve the April 8, 2024, minutes, as presented.

**VOTE: MOTION CARRIED**

All in favor.  
Motion passes.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC:** See Rules of Conduct listed at the end of Agenda

None

**TABLED MOTIONS**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Gunnar Mettala Pickleball Courts completed – discussion on rental and league play

Director Magee commented they are excited the pickleball courts are completed at Gunnar Mettala Park. There are some edging and landscaping work to be done. A small pavilion is planned to be installed. The pickleball courts turned out nice.

Director Magee stated she has quotes out for Gilbert Willis where there are cracks to be fixed in the pickleball courts. The courts need to be resurfaced but the cost would be approximately \$250K, and this amount is not in the budget. The courts will be repaired, and then bring out a plan to have them redone in the future.

Director Magee had a discussion with the Commissioners regarding pickleball court rental and league play. There have been calls from several people to rent the courts to run leagues. The staff's position is the courts were built on taxpayer dollars and the courts should be available to the taxpayers. A lot of the pickleball league players are not Wixom residents. The leagues are signed up through Wixom. A fee would incur from the league players. Director Magee asked for the Commissioners' comments.

There was a suggestion to offer "x" number of courts available for league play and for the others to be open, first come/first serve basis. There aren't any policies in place. The courts could be rented on certain days. There was a suggestion to have a policy and have 50% of the courts available for league play. If residents are not able to use the courts, and complain to the City, then the policies should be reassessed.

Chairman O'Brien thought it would be nice to develop a combination of league play and open courts; league play would be a source of income to help with maintenance and repair. We would control how many courts would be available for leagues, and for residents. The league rentals and registrations would go through staff. A survey would be taken from other cities for court rental rates. It was also suggested to control the numbers of days for league play and/or have opposite days of leagues at the parks.

Commissioner Winters inquired if there would be racquet holders installed at the courts. Director Magee stated yes.

Director Magee stated she would draft a policy for the Commissioners to review and comment.

2. Mack Park Pavilion completed: TBD Landscaping; Clock; Bike Repair Station

Director Magee stated Mack Park Pavilion is completed. The clock, landscaping and some benches need to be installed.

3. Tot Lot Playground completed

The Tot Lot Playground was completed on time and looks great. Director Magee commented she was glad turf was installed.

4. Community Center Improvements: Construction August – December

Director Magee indicated there will be community center improvements. A grant was received about a year and a half ago for improvements such as a courtyard, replacing automatic doors and landscaping.

5. Gunnar Mettala Park Improvements: Restroom replacement; Pavilion replacement; Shade Shelter for Trailhead; Walking path improvements. Bids to be let in August/September – Spring Construction.

Director Magee stated the next project is Gunnar Mettala improvements. HRC Engineering is working on the specs for the restrooms, and pavilion replacement. Benches will also be installed. Bids will be out this month or September. The restroom will not be completed until Spring, 2025.

6. Gala Event for 2025 – Collaboration with Wixom P&R and Hospitality House:

Director Magee stated the Gala event last year went well for the first year. This year, the event will be in collaboration with Hospitality House to do a joint venture. All profits will go to Hospitality House. The event will be hosted by Wixom.

The Gala Event for 2025 will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

7. New Wixom Logo, branding, and signage rollout:

Director Magee commented there is a committee from the City that has been working on the branding and signage. She shared a packet with the signage. On Page 7 are the parks and wayfinding signs. The signs will be installed within the next three years. The packet includes more details about timing and schedule.

8. Review of Events:

- Employee and Volunteer Appreciation Picnic
- Concerts & Family Fun Nights

Director Magee stated the concerts are very popular and going well. The electrical power needs to be upgraded because of all of the food trucks; better lighting upgrade is needed. The plans will be reviewed and evaluated with the engineers. This will roll into the 2025 budget and the capital fund.

- Lite the Night

Lite the Night went very well; there were a lot of people in attendance. The event was calculated to be approximately 10,000 people in attendance. There may be some discussion for the event to be moved back to Gilbert Willis because of the new housing.

9. Upcoming events:

- BBQ & Blues – August 15
- Barkin' in the Park – September 15
- Fall Fest – October 12
- Tree Lighting – December 6

Director Magee commented that the Pacer Program is interesting. It can track how many people are in attendance, male/female, ages, etc., from your phone. The data is then relayed back.

10. Disc Golf Course Phase II – Concrete Tees in Phase I, Signage for holes on order

Director Magee stated Phase I signage has been ordered and Phase II is being worked on. All of the planned projects are coming to fruition.

**INFORMATION:**

**COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Director Magee, Chairman O'Brien, and the Commissioners thanked Commissioner Ferrari for her contribution to the Parks and Recreation for 25 years. Commissioner Ferrari will be missed.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** by Commissioner Winters and second by Commissioner Ferrari to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

**VOTE:**

**MOTION CARRIED**

All in favor.

Motion passes.