



City of Pleasant Ridge

Members of the Recreation Commission and Residents: This shall serve as your official notification of the Regular Recreation Commission Meeting to be held on Wednesday, September 24, 2014, 7:00 P.M., at the **Pleasant Ridge Community Center**, 4 Ridge Road, Pleasant Ridge, Michigan 48069. The following items are on the agenda for your consideration:

REGULAR RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

1. Meeting Called to Order.
2. Roll Call
3. Consideration of the following minutes:
 - a. Regular Recreation Commission Meeting held Wednesday, August 27, 2014.
4. PUBLIC COMMENTS- items not on the agenda.
5. Consideration of the report on the 2014 Pleasant Ridge Community Pool Season.
6. Consideration of the Park Improvement Millage Fact Sheet.
7. Consideration of the report on the renovation to Gainsboro Park.
8. Consideration of the report of the project sub-committees:
 - a. Art Fair
 - b. Community Enrichment
 - c. Community Garden
 - d. Health, Wellness & Play
9. Other Business
10. Adjournment.

RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2014

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p. m.

Roll Call:, Victor Furnari, Diane Peraino, Christine Matyas, Jean Russell, Jacqueline Scully, Sue Terpack, Amanda Wahl, Jason Krysiak, Bridget Brown, Scott Pietrzak
Absent: Chris Budnik, Victor Furnari

2. **Consideration of the minutes of the Recreation Commission Meeting held, Wednesday, June 25, 2014.**

No corrections.

Motion: Russell Second: Wahl
 Yeas: 7 Nays: 0

3. **Public Comments-items not on the agenda:** None

4. **Consideration for Gainsboro Park new equipment.**

Pietrzak presented the revision of the layout for the new play equipment so that it is located farther from the street. It also saves the swings and the tree.

Peraino moved to accept the revised layout. The motion was seconded by Matyas. All approved.

Discussion followed concerning colors.

ACTION ITEM: Pietrzak will send color options via email and the commission is to respond with their preferences.

5. **Consideration of the report of the project sub-committee:**

- a. **Art Fair:** 14 have paid with half new artists.

- b. **Community Enrichment:** No report

- c. **Community Garden:** All going well. Harvest Party to be October 4th.

- d. **Health, Wellness & Play:** The Sidewalk Chalk Drawing event was rainout out. Will try to reschedule at a later date.

Because of the issues with waste remove and disposal due to the flood it was suggested that the castle building event be postponed until spring. Following discussion all agreed

- e. **Community Pool Outreach:** Bingo night and adult swim will be held August 28.

6. **Other Business:** Peraino suggested that the Recreation Commission send a letter of recognition and thanks to retiring Chief of Police.

Adjournment: Motion: Russell Second: Wahl



City of Pleasant Ridge

Scott Pietrzak, Assistant City Manager

From: Scott Pietrzak, Assistant City Manager
To: Recreation Commission Members
Date: September 22, 2014
Re: 2014 End of Year Community Pool Report

Attached you will find the end of year report for the 2014 pool season. It was a very successful summer at the pool with over 14,500 visitors using the facility this season.

I commend the City Commission, Recreation Commission & Administration for its efforts in developing a comprehensive, practical and reasonable plan for guests and fees. After eleven seasons, the Community Pool and Wellness Center has a system that still works well for the overwhelming majority of residents

I recommend that the attached report regarding the 2014 Pleasant Ridge Community Pool Season be accepted and forwarded on to the City Commission for their review.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.



2014 Community Pool Season Review



I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the staff at the Community Center/Pool Complex this year for their efforts and commitment to excellence. The eleventh season at the pool was a challenging one due to the timid weather and high expectations for a great season.

Listed below are my comments about the 2014 season and overall “State of the Pool Address.”

Attendance and Pool Capacity

This summer attendance was the lowest on record for the last 10 years. This is mainly attributed to the below average temperatures and very rainy season.



Being a slower year it was still crowded at times, staff was able to manage the crowds comfortably. Wednesday nights were often the busiest, while Friday evenings were slow and weekends are always hectic. 2014 attendance numbers are attached for your review. (Note: attendance figures do not include swim team or daily swim lesson numbers.)

The zero depth area opened weekdays at 11:00 a.m., and was popular with parents and tots. This is a great service to offer the residents. It allows parents to come to the pool before the child’s nap time and enjoy the pool before the temperature is too high.

Weather

Weather dictated much of the schedule this year. The weather conditions this summer were below average, with an average summer temperature of 79.43°, and 2 days of 90° or more, compared to an average of 77.92°, and 7 days of 90° or more last summer. Thunder and lightning caused the pool to close an above average amount of times this season. I recall approximately ten occasions where the pool was closed for lack of attendance or low temperatures.

Moberly Park

The renovated Moberly Park was in its second full season in 2014. I do not remember a time since the first season in 2004, where we received so many positive comments about the pool and the new “Moberly Park.” Pool users flocked to the area to play, sun bathe, picnic and relax.



The field turf was a great solution for an area that was plagued with dirt and mud. Even if real grass was installed, it would have been turned to mud and trampled in no time, especially in the high traffic areas.

This area has become a main stay for many pool user. It has allowed us to utilize the space around the pool, and provide a relaxing, unobtrusive space for residents to enjoy the pool.

Members

Membership reports state that 1,718 residents applied for membership (plus a few swim team, employees and Oakridge memberships). Most visitors were diligent about swiping their membership cards and checking in so that the City is able to collect accurate data.

Contamination/Pool Closure

There were zero (0) contamination problems this summer, this is the fourth consecutive summer with zero contaminations. I would wager that no other pool in the State or the Country has a streak like this. A major role in the reduced number of contamination incidents is the clearing of all kids in the pool during adult swim. This gives the kids a time to use the restroom and take a break.

Pool Maintenance

Daily pool maintenance can seem fairly simple, however it is time consuming and tedious. A list of “who’s who” for the pool, including important numbers is very helpful. We had one Health Department violation on this year’s report, the violation was to place signs that tell patrons to please dispose of their food waste properly. The violation was corrected within the half hour of the inspection, by hanging signs around the deck and receptacles.



Safety

Safety was the top priority, there were no serious incidents at the pool this summer. There are always minor scrapes and bruises and those are handled on a case by case basis. Overall, the area has been designed as a “safe” facility with a very safety conscious staff.



Guest Passes

Having been at the Pool almost every day, I was able to observe the Pool deck during busy hours and received feedback from many, many residents during the season. There were no complaints about the number of guest passes this season (35 passes), and there were zero purchased punches recorded.

There is the option of purchasing the Pass Plus, which allows one guest each day. Multiple friends each and every day would only add chaos to the Pool, especially when an adult does not necessarily have to be present with the kids.

There were a few comments that non-swimmers and babies should not be counted as a full guest. The bottom line is that capacity numbers include every “body” and includes people on the deck. Capacity levels must be monitored and, therefore, we must count everybody that enters the pool enclosure.

Adult Swim—last 10 minutes of every hour

Adults look forward to the ten minutes of adult swim time every hour. The pool was cleared of all children during this time. There were some complaints saying children should be allowed in the zero depth, but that does not work. Also, this helps keep contaminations to a minimum and made the experience more enjoyable for the adults.

We held two adult only swim nights during the season. The pool closed to patrons under 18 at 7 p.m. and remained open an extra hour until 9:00 p.m. Unfortunately, it was a little chilly both nights this was scheduled. The August date we also held a 50+ Bingo at the pool. We had around 20-25 players, and it was fun as always. We will look at trying this again next summer, and hopefully Mother Nature cooperates.

Conduct/Discipline

There was zero disciplinary problem this year. Most visitors were cooperative and responsible. Having posted rules definitely benefits both staff and residents.

Swim Lessons

Swim Lessons are taught by the lifeguard staff. This year lessons had a number of guards that were new to teaching lessons. The Lessons Team pulled them together and made the year a positive experience for all involved. Lessons were very well attended, 170+ sign-ups, as always. Ms. Abilyn Cardelli did an outstanding job with the planning and organization of the 4 sessions. I think this year was one of the best for lessons in our 11 year history.

Parents and visitors had no problems with the pool deck clearing procedure that occurred each day at 12:45. It is somewhat inconvenient for visitors, but absolutely necessary. As patrons become accustomed to it, they are appreciative and understanding of the effort. This process definitely eliminates any abuse by non-resident swim lesson attendees.

Swim Team

I would like to offer a special thanks to Colleen Rose for her assistance, support and excellent swim team season. Seven records were broken this year including one that has stood for over 16 years. Ms. Rose's expertise was invaluable and together we were able to provide a fun-filled swim team season. The Swim Team does require



significant attention from City Staff. Coordinating the schedules, swim meets and team needs require a large number of staff hours. As the season progressed and everyone adjusted to the transition of summer swim, the relationship between the Swim Team and the Administration became more relaxed and cooperative. As always, I will work with the coaches and volunteers to make next year's swim season as beneficial to all swimmers as possible.

Life Guards/ Staff

All staff was returning from the previous summer, except for 6 new guards. The level of enthusiasm and the eagerness of the staff was enjoyable. They are routinely reminded to remain focused on the pool versus chatting with friends, and in-service training is mandatory. All and all, the staff members were reliable and conscientious. Emphasis on safety, keeping the pool and locker rooms clean and customer service is always a priority.

Overall, I was very pleased with the staff and their enthusiasm during the summer. Residents seemed to be pleased with the familiarity of the lifeguards.

Summary

I am certainly pleased with the operation of the Pool for the 2014 season. It was a tremendous challenge that required a large amount of time and commitment, but it was great fun! There are many new ideas, plans and improvements planned for next year, and Bridget and I are already planning for the 2015 swim season. In the meantime, the Community and Wellness Center has our attention and attendance and programs are growing by the day!



Respectfully submitted by:
Scott Pietrzak, Assistant City Manager
Bridget Brown, Recreation Assistant Director

2014 TEMPERATURE AND ATTENDANCE

Day	May	Attendance	June	Attendance	July	Attendance	August		September	Attendance
1			83	285	84	104	82	140	85	224
2			84	70	79	136	78	94		
3			79	73	70	91	82	271		
4			66	67	74	116	84	163		
5			73	66	76	160	73	63		
6			77	83	81	218	77	144		
7			80	215	85	142	81	134		
8			77	285	77	108	77	118		
9			79	110	73	150	79	157		
10			77	57	76	76	83	254		
11			77	69	79	205	72	57		
12			76	60	85	207	78	66		
13			70	48	84	235	74	79		
14			73	119	80	151	69	71		
15			80	265	71	79	73	108		
16			87	206	68	27	81	139		
17			88	139	76	108	77	136		
18			81	99	78	142	78	107		
19			75	61	72	55	84	127		
20			69	58	81	214	84	160		
21			78	182	85	253	81	109		
22			81	189	90	301	83	136		
23	66	126	78	97	81	78	79	130		
24	76	265	78	71	74	94	77	109		
25	81	276	76	134	77	125	86	254		
26	84	336	79	152	82	155	90	248		
27	79	383	83	199	86	122	77	146		
28	69	78	88	298	66	59	74	105		
29	73	54	86	203	72	79	78	116		
30	79	146	86	198	73	91	86	184		
31	78	198			78	105	85	174		
TOTAL # 1862			TOTAL # 4158		TOTAL # 4186		TOTAL # 4299		TOTAL # 224	
			AVG ATTENDANCE: 144.40						AVG TEMP: 79.43	
			Max #: 383						Max Temp: 90	
			Mean #: 130						Mean Temp: 80	
			Min #: 27						Min Temp: 66	

TEMP	# of Days
60-69	7
70-79	54
80-89	39
90 & up	2
TOTAL DAYS	102

TOTAL ATTENDANCE **14729.00**



Parks Improvement Millage Fact Sheet

Overview

The City Commission has placed a request for a 0.75 mill property tax to be levied over 10 years to pay for improvements to the City's parks, including the park behind the Community Center and Gainsboro Park, on the November 2014 ballot. This would be a new special revenue millage that would be dedicated to paying for capital improvements to the City's parks, and could also provide matching funds for grant applications for recreation purposes. If approved, this new millage will generate approximately \$100,000 in revenue each year, over a period of 10 years.

Why Is the Millage Proposed?

In January of 2014 the Pleasant Ridge City Commission and Recreation Commission formally adopted the 2014-2019 Five Year Recreation Master Plan¹ which identified two major parks improvement projects: Improving the Community Center Park and Gainsboro Park. The two projects have an estimated total cost of \$1.2 to \$1.4 million, depending on options selected.

In May of 2014 the Pleasant Ridge Foundation awarded a grant in excess of \$130,000 to rehabilitate the Gainsboro Park shelter and to add a toddler-appropriate play structure and safety surface to the Park. The proposed millage would cover the remaining cost to improve the Community Center Park and Gainsboro Park per the recommendations of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

What Will The Money Be Used For?

The millage request would implement the action plan in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

The Community Center Park would be improved to create outdoor gathering space connected to the multi-purpose room, to construct a designed path and entrance to the park to make it more accessible, and to improve the existing play area.

Improvements to Gainsboro Park would be extensive, and would focus on creating a park that includes features and amenities that cater to all ages and users. The park would include both passive and active recreation spaces, walking paths extending the length of the park from Kensington all the way to Flynn Field, outdoor gathering space, and new play equipment for children.

Gainsboro Park Highlights:

- *New, secure fence along railroad*
- *Continuous non-motorized pathway*
- *Shelter rehab & secure access system*
- *New play structures and safety surface*
- *DPW site improvements*
- *Irrigation*
- *Improved lighting*
- *Covered picnic shelter*
- *Outdoor gathering/seating space next to playground*

A variety of funding sources are available at the state and federal levels to support this type of project, but those funding sources typically require matching funds from the community. Approval of the parks improvement millage would provide the City with a source of dedicated matching funds for grants.

Finally, if approved the City would accelerate funding for the park in order to have the improvements substantially completed within two years – by the fall of 2016.

How Much Will This Cost Me?

The total increase to your tax bill will be 75 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value. It would cost the average household about \$82 a year, or about \$7.00 per month.

¹ The Parks and Recreation Master Plan is available for viewing on the City's website – go to <http://cityofpleasantridge.org> and click on the November 2014 Millage Information link.