

Chelsea Parks and Recreation Commission
Chelsea City Office Meeting Room
Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024 9:00 AM

Minutes

Present: Personke, Angus, Kaminsky, Merkel, Castle, Thomson, Muldoon; Manager Colburn

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
 - Kaminsky moved to approve agenda, Angus seconded. Motion passed.
3. Approval of Jan 16, 2024 Minutes
 - Kaminsky moved to approve minutes, Angus seconded. Motion passed.
4. Call to Public
 - No public input
5. Presentation: Robert Ayotte from Michigan Botanical Society shared with the Commission the impact invasive species have on the quality of natural ecosystems. He hopes to build awareness in the community through education and outreach.
6. Old Business
 - a. Main Street Park Update: Manager Colburn gave an update noting that the City and MSPA are working through the brownfield issues. MSPA design group will present updates to the design to the City and the Community on Feb 6 and Feb 13, respectively.
 - b. Timbertown/Trailhead Update:
 - a. Much has come together in the last two weeks, Personke and Angus reported. The TimberTown Reimagined Fundraising Committee and Communication Committee are working towards the Feb. 20 kickoff.
 - b. A trailhead naming initiative was discussed. The Parks commission has asked the Chamber to facilitate, offering the Community 3-5 ideas on which to “vote,” with the Parks Commission making a final recommendation to City Council.
 - c. The Pathway to Renewal committee continues to look for the best way to renew the Mosaic.
 - c. Other Park Conversations: Public Works Superintendent Bollinger reported that his team has been doing tree work in Pierce Park. The sign kiosk for Pierce Park has arrived. Benches, picnic tables, and other things have been ordered for TimberTown Park. He also reported that the Dog Park gate had its timing revised so it locked more quickly after owners/dogs entered/exited.
 - d. Community Center Planning Group: No report.
 - e. Freer/Tinkle Property Update: Manager Colburn has an RFP out to take the barn down since it is in very poor shape.
 - f. 2023/2024 Budget Recommendations: Manager Colburn reviewed the Dec. 19 Work Session minutes and will use those to help shape the Parks 2024-25 budget. Angus noted that the Commission had also discussed a few new, smaller play elements, as well as some new plantings and tree replacement. Commission discussed the role of

connecting the parks through sidewalks and pathways fit into a large city connectivity plan. Also noted that it was recommended at the Dec 19 meeting that the green space located next to the Purple Rose Theatre become a DDA project.

7. New Business

- Merkel stated that the DDA could use a project to work on, and that because the DDA already owns the vacant Park St lot, this would be a good project for them to focus on.

8. Commissioner and Staff Reports and Announcements

- July 16, 2024 was selected as the date the City/Parks would sponsor a Rec-It Tuesday in partnership with Chelsea Area Friends for Recreation. Send ideas to Angus. To be further discussed in March.
- Thomson said that the Vet's Park Concession stand will be utilized this year and that the City will have to apply for a license from the health department. Thomson will follow up with Colburn.
- Colburn said that the City was approached by a group that wanted to present a healthy living/soccer program.
- Colburn will be working with the firm that is conducting the City ADA study.

9. Next Meeting: March 5, 2024.

10. Adjournment: Kaminsky motioned to adjourn, Angus seconded. Motion passed.