

**EAST GRAND RAPIDS  
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING  
EGR COMMUNITY CENTER  
COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
6:00 PM  
MONDAY, JANUARY 11, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was held in the City Commission Chambers in the East Grand Rapids Community Center.

Carol Campbell called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**PRESENT:** John Arendshorst, Carol Campbell, Kate DeVries, Larry Fisher and Adam Rogalski  
**ABSENT:** Nick Abraham, Liz Mitchell, and Aaron Smith  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Fred Bunn, Shannyn Fasbender, Diane Ritzke, Pam Slater, Betsy Granstra, Astrida Molenaar, Carol Ors, Interim City Manager Doug LaFave and Diane DeBoer-Bunn

Public Comment:

Doug LaFave, Interim City Manager, recognized Fred Bunn's 30 years of service with the City of East Grand Rapids. He said Fred has been a fantastic ambassador both internally and externally for the City. He thanked Fred again for his dedication and service to the community. Fred thanked Doug for his words and recognized Doug's dedication filling in as Interim City Manager as well as overseeing the Public Works and City Services Department, he has done an outstanding job.

Presentation:

Carol Campbell presented Fred Bunn with a gift of decorated cookies and a card from the Parks and Recreation Commissioners. She thanked Fred for his years of tireless service. She commented he is a Legend in his field and will be missed but is very excited as he moves on with his next phase of his life.

Report of Commissioners:

Larry Fisher – He shared a funny story about a text he had received from Fred. Thanked Fred for his years of dedication service and said he will be missed. He will always have a place in East Grand Rapids.

John Arendshorst – Reported that at the January 4, 2021 City Commission meeting it was announced that the City Commission decided in recognition of Fred's service, both the tenure and the passion he has had for the parks and trails here in East Grand Rapids, the trails at Manhattan Park will be named "the Fred Bunn Trails". A plaque will be placed at the park designating this recognition.

Kate DeVries – Wished Fred all the best in his upcoming adventures and expressed so much appreciation for all he has done for the City over the years.

Adam Rogalski – Shared his appreciation and gratitude for Fred's years of service. He said Fred was an expert in his field and has performed at such a high level and all in East Grand Rapids have benefited from his hard work. Thank you again Fred.

## **Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2021 – page 2**

Minutes for the November 9, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made to approve the minutes for the November 9, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

MOTION: Kate Devries

SUPPORT: Larry Fisher

YES: Arendshorst, Campbell, DeVries, Fisher, and Rogalski (5)

NO: (0)

Interim Director of Parks and Recreation – Director Fred Bunn reported Shannyn Fasbender will be the Interim Director of Parks and Recreation. She has been appointed by Interim City Manager, Doug LaFave to fill this position until a permanent director has been named. The new City Manager, Shea Charles will most likely start in the first or second week in February and wants to be a part of the hiring process. Interviews will be scheduled after he starts, the new director will probably be named somewhere in late February or early March.

The Special Event Calendar was reviewed.

A request was made to approve the following Special Event Permits for the following events:

A. Gazelle Sports Gobble Wobble, November 25, 2021

B. Gaslight Village Tree Lighting Event, November 26, 2021

C. Blue Cross Resolution Run, December 31, 2021

Director Fred Bunn reviewed each Special Event Application

Gazelle Sports Gobble Wobble is a returning event held on Thanksgiving morning. It is a large event with approximately 1,500 participants.

A motion was made to approve the Special Event Permit for the Gazelle Sports Gobble Wobble to be held on November 25, 2021.

MOTION: John Arendshorst

SUPPORT: Kate Devries

YES: Arendshorst, Campbell, DeVries, Fisher, and Rogalski (5)

NO: (0)

Gaslight Village Tree Lighting Event is a returning event held on the Friday after Thanksgiving. This is an annual event hosted by the Gaslight Village Business Association and supported by the City and is a very popular event with approximately 1,000 people attending. A new tree was purchased this year.

A motion was made to approve the Special Event Permit for the Gaslight Village Tree Lighting Event to be held on November 26, 2021.

MOTION: Larry Fisher

SUPPORT: Adam Rogalski

YES: Arendshorst, Campbell, DeVries, Fisher, and Rogalski (5)

NO: (0)

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Blue Cross Resolution Run is a returning event scheduled for December 31, 2021. This is an annual event that attracts about 500 participants and is organized by Joe O'Brien with Classic Race Management.

A motion was made to approve the Special Event Permit for the Blue Cross Blue Resolution Run to be held on December 31, 2021.

MOTION: Kate DeVries.

SUPPORT: Larry Fisher

YES: Arendshorst, Campbell, DeVries, Fisher, and Rogalski (5)

NO: (0)

### Reeds Lake Trail wayfinding stencil concept designs:

Director Fred Bunn shared pictures of the new wayfinding signposts that were approved at the last Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting. The posts have been ordered and should be delivered in about six weeks. The posts will be installed by the Grounds Maintenance staff at the designated locations on the map.

Fred presented three designs for pavement stencils and a map with potential locations for these stencils. He asked the Parks and Recreation Commission to select a design layout for the proposed wayfinding pavement marking stencil for the Reeds Lake Trail.

Kate DeVries asked if more stencils could be placed on the northwest side of the trail as that side of the trail was sparse in stencil locations and since this is a branding opportunity, she felt it would be a good idea to add some locations along that side of the trail. Color of the stencil was discussed, and Fred mentioned it would probably be some shade of blue as the stencil needs to stand out on both a concrete sidewalk and a black asphalt trail surface. Other discussion included what steps would be taken if a stencil needed to be removed and how often the stencil would need to be re-done.

A motion was made to select Stencil Option #3 for the Reeds Lake Trail Stencil Concept

MOTION: Kate DeVries.

SUPPORT: Larry Fisher

YES: Arendshorst, Campbell, DeVries, Fisher, and Rogalski (5)

NO: (0)

### Report of Director

Director Fred Bunn reported on the following:

- **Wayfinding Project:** Fred reported that the maps along the trail will be updated as part of the wayfinding project and shared some pictures of the new maps. This will be funded by the Community Foundation as there was enough money left over after purchasing the signposts and stencils to included the new maps.
- **Spring Program Guide:** The 2021 Spring Parks and Recreation Program Guide is online, and we are currently taking registration. A new enhancement has been made to the online guide where hyperlinks are now on each page which when clicked on will now bring you to the registration process.
- **Wi-Fi Availability:** Interim City Manager Doug LaFave applied for a grant program to install WIFI at a portion of John Collins Park, Manhattan Park and Wealthy Streetscape.

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- **Skid Piers at John Collins Park:** The skid piers at Johns Collins Park will be re-clad with new lumber and hardware, they should look brand new come spring.
- **Historical Pillars:** The historical pillars located between Rose's and Waterfront Park have been refurbished as the caps were removed and replaced with limestone caps to match the caps on the Waterfront Park sign.
- **Parks and Recreation Commission:** The East Grand Rapids School Board has appointed Abby Sorota as the School Board Representative to the Parks and Recreation Commission. She will replace Mark Hessler.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43pm.

01/13/21