

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF ST. CLAIR SHORES  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
May 11, 2023**

**PRESENT:**

John Jonassen  
Lillian Bate  
Doug Damm  
April Heier  
Brian Loridon  
Shawn Nicholson

**ABSENT:**

Christine Harris  
Gerrit Ketelhut  
Mayor Walby

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Henry Bowman

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Ayla Klein

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETING APRIL 13, 2023**

**Motion by Ms. Bate, seconded by Mr. Damm to approve the April 13, 2023 meeting minutes**

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>NAYES:</b>	<b>None</b>
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>Harris, Ketelhut, Mayor Walby</b>

**DIRECTORS REPORT**

Mr. Bowman said the new playground at Veterans Memorial Park is going in now. It's a freighter themed playground structure and it will be a great addition.

Mr. Bowman said the opening day for softball will be a week from Saturday at 11 a.m.

Mr. Bowman mentioned a brief update on Beachmans field. He said the old Brys Park playground will be filled in next week. The new playground is really in a great spot. If you've been to Blossom Heath there are a lot of improvements there. They are finishing up the gate. There will be an arm that will come down and the gate will be able to be closed for after hours. They are doing the north sidewalk right now. The new picnic tables have been assembled.

Mr. Bowman mentioned that we have 6 co-ed teams.

Ms. Bate said one dropped out.

Mr. Nicholson asked Henry to explain again how the gate at Blossom Heath will work.

Mr. Bowman said we will have 2 gate guards. One gate guard's responsibility will be at the gate and the other will be working between the park and the pier.

Mr. Bowman said the tables on the pier have become fish cleaning stations and we don't want that, so we will be putting up signs.

Mr. Bowman said the gate guard will be allowing people with park passes to drive in. It will be something that will be adjusted. If you are non-resident, you have to park in front and walk down to the pier. We will be keeping an eye on it.

Mr. Jonassen said it is a novelty right now.

Mr. Nicholson asked what time the pier closes at.

Mr. Bowman said it will close at 10 p.m. He said the gate should open to let them out.

There was discussion about the pier.

Mr. Nicholson said that he feels that we need to have stricter rules in the beginning and loosen up the rules if we feel it's needed. He suggested putting up signs that the area is under surveillance. He said he is glad that we have a plan and that we will reevaluate as we go.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Bate asked if we can put picnic tables behind the backstops at Kyte Monroe.

Mrs. Heier said people will move them.

Mr. Bowman said he will check it out.

Mr. Nicholson mentioned that the new lighted billboard for Roseville and Eastpointe is nice and he suggested to check it out.

Mr. Jonassen said we talked about it and the City Manager at the time didn't like those kinds of signs.

Mr. Bowman said he thinks there's a sign ordinance issue with those types of signs.

Mr. Jonassen said we had a rolling sign at Kyte Monroe for a short period of time and it failed and we never fixed it. It would be a nice thing to advertise.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Bowman said the Kyte concession stand is open and they updated there.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Athletics – Programs, Facilities, Group**

#### **Soccer – Christine Harris**

**Baseball – John Jonassen and Brian Lordon**

Mr. Jonassen said baseball is well under way.

**Co-ed and Women’s Softball – Lillian Bate**

**Horseshoe Club – Lillian Bate**

**Hockey and Figure Skating – Shawn Nicholson**

Mr. Nicholson said it was a successful figure skating show.

**Lakefront Parks & Aquatics Facilities**

**Lac Sainte Claire Harbor, Pool, Aquatics – Doug Damm, Chairman**

Mr. Damm said the pool is looking good. He thinks the slide is a little lower or shorter than the previous one, but we’ll find out.

**Blossom Heath Park and Wahby Park – Lillian Bate**

**Veteran’s Memorial Park – Christine Harris**

***Neighborhood parks – April Heier***

Mrs. Heier said the skate park looks good. She said Brys goals need to be painted and the nets are ripped. The new path was super busy and the parking lot is full every time. She never realized how many people disc golf. It is muddy around the baskets and the new playground. The baseball diamonds need a little mix.

**Recreation and Instruction Programs**

**Senior Liaison – Lil Bate**

Ms. Bate said she thinks everything is going well at the Senior Center.

**Special Needs Program**

Mr. Bowman said the Special Needs Fundraiser Coney for Kids will be on July 19<sup>th</sup>.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION** - None

**OPEN DISCUSSION** - None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Mrs. Heier, seconded by Mr. Nicholson to adjourn the meeting.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.**

[THE PRECEDING MINUTES ARE A SYNOPSIS OF A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING AND DO NOT REPRESENT A VERBATIM RECORD]