



# MEETING MINUTES

## KENTWOOD PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

### MEETING INFORMATION:

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**Date:** Monday, October 8, 2018  
**Time:** 5:15 pm  
**Location:** Kentwood Activities Center (355-48<sup>th</sup> St SE)

### PRESENT:

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**Members:** Bob Coughlin, Mimi Madden, Dustin Moseley

**Staff:** Val Romeo, Parks and Recreation Director  
Lorraine Beloncis, Parks and Recreation Assistant Director  
Denise Dawson, Parks Programs Administrator

### ABSENT:

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**Members:** Olivia Jenison Bailey, Ed Kape, Wallace Massie, Trent Meyer,  
David Moore III, Kevin Small

### AGENDA ITEMS:

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#### 1. Update: Parks

- a. Old Farm Park (DNR Grant). Waiting for final scores. Park improvement plans include new restrooms, program room and A.D.A. compliant plaza area.
- b. Veteran's Park (Community Development Block Grant - CDGB) funds approved. There have been vision changes and MC Smith will be updating the Phases of the Master Plan. Discussed additional amenities. Staff will be analyzing the budget in order to make final decisions on the scope of the project.

#### 2. Update: ARCH

- a. The afterschool program ARCH is fully staffed for site coordinators. The new finger printing laws now take 15-45 days to complete.
- b. "National Lights On" event is scheduled for Thursday, October 25, 2018. The afterschool students will visit "Orchard Hill" Farm to celebrate.

#### 3. Wrap Up: Community and Special Events

9/15/18: End of Summer Food Truck Rally. Busy! Crowds were up this year. Weather was sunny and hot. Beer sales also up from last year.

10/6/18: Harvest Celebration – Farmers Market Last Day. Bad weather, thunderstorms. 1 vendor, 82 customers. Yearend final numbers are being compiled with surveys going out to vendors and customers.

#### **4. Upcoming: Community and Special Events**

- 10/20/18: Trunk or Treat (Full with 33 trunks, balloon artist, puppet show)
- 10/27/18: South Kent Community Expo
- 11/1/18: City Commissions, Boards and Volunteers Reception @ Library
- 11/10/18: Fall Fling Disc Golf Tournament @ Old Farm Park
- 11/17/18: Ugly Sweater Cross Country 5K
- 12/7/18: Tree Lighting Ceremony 6-8pm. Light parade, gift shop, band, city hall campus and library will have outside Christmas decorations this year.
- 5/17/19: "The Vibe" Gala. Deciding on a venue.

#### **5. Update: Recreation Programs**

- a. The newly combined Fall 2018/Winter 2019 brochure was mailed to over 17,000 Kentwood residents and past participants. It is working very well! Registrations have noticeably increased with many first time participants. Online registrations also remain strong.

#### **6. Commissioner Reports**

- a. Bob Coughlin: Participating in Trunk or Treat. Might be able to donate candy to the event. The Parks and Recreation Commission is struggling to get a quorum at meetings.
- b. Public Comment: Kevin C interested in Pinewood Park and its traffic issues. From May to September, overflow cars park on his street. If there are going to be added features to the park, there will also need to be added parking. Will there ever be ice skating in the park? Response: Pinewood Park is currently one of the city's nicest parks and is very popular. As the Parks & Recreation Department continues to update other parks, hopefully, it will take some of the congestion away from Pinewood Park. Way-finding signs and new park entrance signs are being planned in all city parks. Pinewood Park is scheduled to receive enhancements in the park master plan.
- c. Public Comment: Ruth & Justin VH are interested in adding a dog park in Kentwood. They found land for sale on 52<sup>nd</sup> St. that could be used for a future dog park. They also suggest Paris Park as a possible site for a dog park. They are available to assist in any way. Response: The Parks and Recreation Department is open to including an additional dog park in the city as we develop and update our park system.

Meeting Adjourned 5:59pm

Future Meetings:

\*Monday, November 5, 2018 at 5:15pm | Kentwood Activities Center (355-48<sup>th</sup> St SE)

Monday, December 10, 2018 at 5:15pm | Off Site (TBD)

10/31/18 LBVR