



**CITY OF ANN ARBOR – PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 19, 2008**

The regular meeting of the Park Advisory Commission was held on Tuesday, August 19, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located in City Hall, 100 N. Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:09 p.m. by Chair, L. Berauer.

II. Roll Call:

Members Present: (7) L. Berauer, B. Macomber, D. Barrett, J. Lawter, G. Nystuen, S. Rosencrans, T. Berla

Ex-Officio Members Present: (0) None.

Ex- Officio Members Absent: (2) S. Kunselman, M. Anglin

Members Absent: (2) S. Offen, J. Grand

Staff Present: (8) J. Straw, C. Saam, J. Nealis, J. Dehring, A. Kuras, D. Borneman, K. McKinnon, L. Bowen, C. Smith

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Commissioner Berauer** asked the Commission if there were any changes, there were none. The agenda was approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTARY - AGENDA ITEMS** (3 Minutes per Speaker)

**Christine Warren** expressed appreciation regarding the efforts that have taken place on renaming the Terhune Park. Ms. Warren also stated this park is small but has been marked with DAR markers due to the gravestones being there.

The improvements that have been made by the Parks and Recreations Department have been appreciated and the renaming of the park (The Terhune Pioneer Memorial Park) is fully supported. The interpretive text that gives the history of the park has been shared with Elaine Bater and should be placed in the park in the form of a sign.

**A - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A-1 Commissioner Nystuen** moved, supported by **Commissioner Macomber** to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2008 meeting with the noted corrections on page 5, lines 208 and 209. The minutes of June 17, 2008 were approved unanimously.

51 **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

52

53 **Presentation on the game of Petanque**

54

55 **Howard Ando** and proceeded to explain the game of Petanque.

56

57 Petanque is one of the fastest growing sports in the world. It originated in France and can  
58 bridge generations because almost anyone can throw a ball close to the target from ages 8  
59 to 88 and beyond. The size of the Petanque ball is approximately the size of a baseball; it  
60 weighs approximately 1½ pounds for an adult.

61

62 There are smaller sizes for juniors and even smaller sizes for the junior juniors. One of the  
63 advantages of this sport over other sports is that it can be played by many generations. If  
64 you have problems bending over to pick up the ball, there are devices to assist you.

65

66 Mr. Ando explained the concept of Petanque in depth, as his wife passed literature to the  
67 Commissioners.

68

69 Mr. Ando stated that he and his wife would like to propose to make a gift to the City of Ann  
70 Arbor. They would provide the funds for the construction of a Petanque facility in Ann Arbor  
71 if approved. Imagine your community playing together; think about being teamed with your  
72 granddaughter, or you and your spouse against your next door neighbors and making new  
73 acquaintances. This is a way of building community cohesion. They are seeking the Park  
74 Advisory Commission's endorsement for our funding of a public Petanque Court.

75

76 Our game is simple, it is played with the metal balls that were previously discussed, the  
77 target is thrown out and the object is to throw your balls as close as possible to the target  
78 ball. After everyone has thrown their ball, the scoring occurs (an example of the scoring  
79 was on the back of the handouts that were passed to the Commissioners).

80

81 Players over four generations can play. Even people in wheelchairs can play this game.

82

83 The name Petanque comes from the Patois of Southern France and basically it means feet  
84 together. It was invented in approximately 1910 from a more vigorous game so that even a  
85 very good player who was in an accident and became wheelchair-bound could play from his  
86 chair.

87

88 Pamela Simmons was kind enough to allow us to give a demonstration at the Senior Center  
89 at Burns Park. Seniors were very enthusiastic about it. The demonstration was videotaped  
90 by CTN and can be seen on Senior Moments at the end of the month.

91

92 The game of Petanque is being introduced into many schools. One of the examples shown  
93 on the Power Point presentation was an elementary school in Arizona where a professional  
94 Petanque player came to show how to play the game. The game was well received.

95

96 Mr. Ando showed his own personal court, also stating that long-time Ann Arbor resident,  
97 Elizabeth Payne along with three generations of her family enjoy playing the game of  
98 Petanque.

99

100 Art Holtz a former NFL referee who resides in Ann Arbor also was shown enjoying this  
101 game.  
102

103 Petanque can be introduced very easily to anybody, and there is a continual level of  
104 improvement in skill that goes along with it. The other aspect of this game is that of strategic  
105 decisions, which makes an individual think about the response to an opponent's execution.  
106

107 Mr. Ando proceeded to explain in depth the fundamentals of the game by showing two  
108 teams at play.  
109

110 Mr. Ando stated that he and his wife are proposing a gift to the City to construct the facility  
111 and are willing to promote public awareness of Petanque. One benefit is that the game is  
112 fun and people want to try it, from even the wheelchair-bound and small children can  
113 execute the skills required to play this game. It is a generation-builder from those of the  
114 World War II era to young persons in the Google age.  
115

116 In summary it is a great sport for all ages. It is a sport that you can carry on and continue to  
117 improve at over a lifetime. Mr. Ando has consulted with the Park Planners and potential  
118 sites have been identified. The issue presented here is your endorsement so we can  
119 promote the project.  
120

121 **S. Rosencrans** asked for a description of what the proposed facility would look like as well  
122 as how much area would be required.  
123

124 **Howard Ando** explained there are five lanes and can be played between two individuals on  
125 opposite teams but each team can have between two to three people. The area needed is  
126 approximately 26 yards by 16yards; this would be larger than a tennis court but smaller than  
127 a basketball court. Excavation would take place, after this a fine limestone would then be  
128 placed down on top.  
129

130 There are two Petanque clubs in Michigan, one at Campus Martius Park in Detroit, Michigan  
131 and another in Royal Oak, Michigan.  
132

133 **Howard Ando** stated the court would be level to the ground and could be used for anything.  
134

135 **D. Barrett** asked if residents use their own balls to participate.  
136

137 **Howard Ando** stated some sets would be provided, and depending on the location there  
138 could be sets available for rent, but people would prefer to use their own set. Mr. Ando also  
139 stated he would talk to various business owners' about selling Petanque sets.  
140

141 **Jane Wilkinson** stated the sets are available on line.  
142

143 **L. Berauer** asked how the public awareness campaigns would take place.  
144

145 **Howard Aldo** stated he paid a company \$300.00 for a study to be done. If the response  
146 from PAC is positive, a web site could be created and other media could be used to  
147 promote the game.  
148

149 The promotion of this game has already taken place at Pioneer High School, resulting in  
150 twenty-six signatures of interest. A presentation has also been given at Recreation and  
151 Education as well. The Michigan Petanque Club and the Detroit Petanque Club offered to  
152 come and teach the game to those interested.

153  
154 **Jane Wilkinson** stated one on one speaking to neighbors will also be done to educate them  
155 regarding the game and with approval there would be a promotional day with the  
156 neighborhood.

157  
158 **Howard Ando** stated it would depend on the neighborhood, and would be presented to  
159 their sensitivity. The immediate neighborhood would be the place to start. If it is successful  
160 in one neighborhood, it would spread to other neighborhoods.

161  
162 **L. Berauer** stated this would be a wonderful recreational addition to the community, mostly  
163 because of the intergenerational play possibilities and also due to there not being many  
164 readily available recreational games for those who are in wheelchairs.

165  
166 **D. Barrett** stated it is very generous to come to the Commission and offer to pay for this  
167 recreational sport and he cannot see a reason not to do this.

168  
169 **S. Rosencrans** asked what the cost would be.

170  
171 **Howard Ando** stated approximately \$20,000.00, and being a retired employee with Pfizer  
172 there is a possibility with the appropriate arrangements, up to \$15,000.00 could be matched  
173 and gifted. Comfortable seating is also devised in the plan so a variety of people could use  
174 them.

175  
176 **Jane Wilkinson** introduced Mary Steflek Blaske and Marty Levie stating they are both in full  
177 support of this recreational game.

178  
179 **Mary Steflek Blaske** spoke in support of the Petanque Court and stated this project would  
180 bring the community together.

181  
182 **J. Dehring** spoke on possible sites for Petanque to be played. One suggestion was Burns  
183 Park since the Senior Center is located there. This sport could be an addition to their  
184 programs.

185  
186 West Park is another possibility since the master plan is being developed and it is centrally  
187 located. Another possible location would be the Southeast East Area Park. This park has  
188 space, which could be facilitated. If the plan moves forward then neighborhood meetings  
189 would also take place to help determine a location.

190  
191 **C. Smith** stated the plan would be implemented similar to the Skate Park location.

192  
193 A site would be identified that would be suitable for neighbors and public input regarding the  
194 idea would be sought out.

195  
196 **B. Macomber** asked if this would be a pervious or impervious surface, and if storm water  
197 issues would have to be dealt with.

198

199 **J. Dehring** stated that there have been discussions on what was used in other locations. It  
200 would be a pervious surface, most likely similar to the stone used for accessible pathways, a  
201 limestone, based with sand to allow the drainage to move through it based on the  
202 information shared.

203  
204 **L. Berauer** asked if a Resolution should be drafted at the next meeting.

205  
206 **J. Dehring** stated yes, a Resolution similar to what was done for the Dog Parks.

207  
208 **G. Nystuen** stated this would be a very nice community recreational sport and believes it  
209 would be very successful, and the generous offer is appreciated.

210  
211 **L. Berauer** stated the public awareness campaign is also appreciated.

212  
213 **Howard Ando** stated there is a court at an acquaintance's home and the children love to  
214 play the game. It is a different game, which also plays a part in sparking interest.

215  
216 **Project Grow**

217  
218 **C. Smith** stated the presentation for Project Grow will go on the next agenda due to an  
219 emergency.

220  
221 **Golf Courses Update**

222  
223 **J. Nealis** spoke about Huron Hills Golf Course as well as explaining the slide presentation  
224 in detail to the Commissioners. J. Nealis mentioned several events that have already taken  
225 place this year, including the Herb Fowler Memorial Junior Championship which is a part of  
226 the Ann Arbor Championship Series that is sponsored by Miles of Golf. It is for children,  
227 male or female, seventeen years old and under. There was also an opening celebration  
228 tournament, which resulted in a very good turn out at the Golf Course. The annual Mother's  
229 Day event allows mothers to golf for free and another good turn out occurred.

230  
231 Another highlight of Huron Hills Golf Course is the Junior Golf Instruction. J. Nealis  
232 explained there are approximately 276 hours of the junior instruction program and it  
233 encompasses approximately one month.

234  
235 Huron is one of the few golf courses that has a very good instructional program with playing  
236 leagues attached to it. The beginners and intermediates are given instruction at the practice  
237 facility and then receive on-course instruction.

238  
239 There is an adult instruction program that is very popular as well.

240  
241 Starting in September there will be an interesting event called Night Lite Golf that will take  
242 place every Friday night. There will be special glow in the dark golf balls, as well as glow in  
243 the dark cups and pins.

244  
245 Numerous improvements have taken place at the Golf Courses. Food and beverage quality  
246 has been upgraded as well as the merchandise sold. With City Council approval there has  
247 been upgrades in the equipment used at the Courses.

248

249 Additional staff has been hired to enhance customer service levels and the clubhouse has  
250 also been greatly improved. We have improved the pro shop fixtures, and the exterior to the  
251 maintenance building has a new roof. The building has been painted and there are more  
252 flowerbeds at the entrance. New flooring will be installed after the season.

253  
254 J. Nealis explained the number of rounds for golf is up between 10 and 15% and that this is  
255 atypical across the country at this time – industry data shows the average course in SE  
256 Michigan is experiencing a decline in rounds played YTD.

257  
258 **C. Saam** stated approximately \$30,000 was used for marketing between the golf courses.

259  
260 **B. Macomber** asked since the marketing played a positive part in the 12% increase at the  
261 Golf Course, what would this increase translate into dollars.

262  
263 **C. Smith** stated the 12% growth in terms of the visitors resulted in revenue being  
264 approximately the same, due to the approval of reducing the fees at the Golf Course. The  
265 first priority, which has been successful, was to bring people in the door. The revenue will  
266 increase because patrons are likely to spend in other areas such as food, beverage and  
267 merchandise. The green fees were cut by approximately 25%, the revenue at the moment is  
268 holding steady.

269  
270 At Leslie Golf Course there are other opportunities for increased revenue even with reduced  
271 fees, such as the golf carts, as fees for those were not reduced.

272  
273 **D. Barrett** asked about the irrigation at the Golf Course and if the pump has remained in  
274 working order.

275  
276 **J. Nealis** stated the pump is new and is in working order. Minor repairs have been  
277 managed.

278  
279 **C. Saam** spoke on the Leslie Golf Course and stated it just received a 4 ½ star rating in the  
280 2008 – 2009 Golf Digest “best places to play”. This is the highest rating Leslie has ever  
281 received.

282  
283 Events this year included the opening celebration, a Mother’s Day event, and the  
284 Championship series. We also try to host an event monthly to bring more people to the Golf  
285 Course.

286  
287 Leslie Golf Course has leagues and outings. The leagues are every Monday through  
288 Thursday evenings and have over 200 participants each week. The Course is closed to the  
289 general public everyday between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The Course is  
290 reopened to the general public at 6:00 p.m. for the twilight golfing. Additional league  
291 requests are coming in for the 2009 season.

292  
293 The alcohol permit is an incentive for the leagues to come to the Course. An increase has  
294 been seen for the outings as well.

295  
296 The number of rounds for golf is up close to 50% from last year, the weather has been very  
297 good and this has been a positive. More carts have also been leased to keep up with  
298 increased demand. The revenue is up 30% with food and beverage sales.

299 Weekend grilling started this year on Saturdays and Sundays and has had a very good  
300 response.

301  
302 **B. Macomber** asked if expenses have increased.

303  
304 **C. Saam** stated yes, expenses have gone up due to staff, new equipment and clubhouse  
305 improvements.

306  
307 The expense for new equipment was approximately \$500,000.00 and has enhanced the  
308 quality of the Golf Course. There is an increase of maintenance staff.

309  
310 Other improvements included our customer service with staff greeting everyone and we  
311 have course rangers to address any problems that may arise. This has changed the  
312 atmosphere to a very positive customer service experience. There will be a new patio and  
313 chairs, the parking lot has been repaved, flowers and wood chips have been added and the  
314 flooring will be replaced when the season is over.

315  
316 There are plans to hire a Director of Golf at Leslie Golf Course. The golf outings for the 2009  
317 season will be presented to area clubs and businesses.

318  
319 **G. Nystuen** stated the improvements look great.

320  
321 **C. Saam** stated there have been many positive comments.

322  
323 **D. Barrett** asked if merchandise sales have increased.

324  
325 **C. Saam** stated the merchandise at Leslie Golf Course has not increased as much as it has  
326 at Huron Hills Golf Course.

327  
328 **D. Barrett** asked if there are plans to increase the merchandise at Leslie Golf Course.

329  
330 **C. Saam** stated yes, the merchandise would be enhanced.

331  
332 **J. Lawter** asked why there are not golf carts at Huron Hills.

333  
334 **C. Smith** stated there are the safety aspects of crossing the street at Huron Parkway and  
335 the land on the back nine is very hilly and that there are space constrictions.

336  
337 **B. Macomber** asked if the new computer system could also track where customers are  
338 coming from.

339  
340 **C. Saam** stated she has not been able to analyze this information as of yet and will try to do  
341 that in the winter months.

342  
343 **G. Nystuen** asked if there are any special needs that have been identified.

344  
345 **J. Nealis** stated he would like to have carts at Huron Hills Golf Course, but this would have  
346 to be looked at in the future.

347

348 **C. Saam** stated the outing opportunities at the Leslie Golf Course could be improved by  
349 having a pavilion or some sort of structure built there.  
350

351 **S. Rosencrans** stated it is amazing that both Jason Nealis and Cheryl Saam have done  
352 such a wonderful job having come from non-golf backgrounds.  
353

354 **C. Saam** stated the Assistant Facility Supervisors who are very familiar with the Golf  
355 courses have been a very big help.  
356

357 **B Macomber** asked if one of the winter projects would be discussing a larger facility for the  
358 outings.  
359

360 **C. Saam** stated yes that would be a project that will be discussed.  
361

362 **B. Macomber** asked if solar panels for powering golf carts would be a possibility.  
363

364 **C. Saam** stated yes, this would be a possibility.  
365

366 **G. Nystuen** stated that the ads for advertisement on the AATA buses are wonderful to see.  
367

368 **L. Berauer** asked if the liquor license has caused any problems  
369

370 **C. Saam** stated there have not been any major problems.  
371

372 **L. Berauer** asked if you could only buy the liquor in the clubhouse.  
373

374 **C. Saam** stated the liquor could also be bought on the course, the entire course is licensed.  
375

376 **C. Smith** thanked S. Rosencrans for noticing the great job that Jason Nealis and Cheryl  
377 Saam are doing.  
378

379 **C. Smith** also stated he has been going to the courses for a long time and seeing the  
380 clubhouse completely full and seeing people enjoying the facility was very rewarding.  
381

382 **L. Berauer** asked how much longer could the irrigation system function.  
383

384 **J. Nealis** stated he could not give an exact date on how long the irrigation system will last. It  
385 has been repaired less than five times this season and these repairs have been minor.  
386

387 **C. Smith** stated with the pump being replaced there is more control over the pressure and  
388 the flow going through the irrigation system, resulting in less strain on the system.  
389

390 **J. Nealis** stated the irrigation system has three speeds and it does not have to turn on at full  
391 speed. By doing this, the system does not have as much pressure put on it.  
392

393 **D. Barrett** asked if a demographic study may be done on who is actually at the courses and  
394 if the patrons that are participating are from the immediate area or not.  
395

396 **J. Nealis** stated this information could be difficult to gather.  
397

398 **G. Nystuen** asked about the drainage recommendation that was supposed to be done this  
399 month.

400  
401 **L. Berauer** stated she thought the Golf Task Force would make a recommendation.

402  
403 **Colin Smith** stated he would check his notes and thought this recommendation did not  
404 have to be done until the 2010 season.

405  
406 **B. Macomber** asked if those funds were approved by City Council.

407  
408 **C. Smith** stated those funds were not approved by City Council.

409  
410 **PUBLIC HEARING**

411  
412 **B - UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

413  
414 **B-1 Capital Projects Update**

415  
416 Colin Smith stated the intent is to explain the Capital Project quarterly to see what  
417 projects are happening on a more regular basis.

418  
419 **Amy Kuras** spoke on this issue as well as explaining in detail the slide presentation to  
420 the Commission. A. Kuras started with the renovations for the Customer Service  
421 Center at Cobblestone Farm; there will be three Administrative Support Specialist,  
422 along with Jessica Black and Jeff Straw housed at this facility.

423  
424 There will be two individual office spaces, three common areas, matching furniture,  
425 newly painted walls and carpet. The office space where everyone is relocating was  
426 flooding and now has a rain garden and swales to help deal with this.

427  
428 **S. Rosencrans** asked if the new offices would be in the house on the Cobblestone  
429 Farm grounds or in the barn at Cobblestone Farm.

430  
431 **Amy Kuras** stated these renovations are taking place in the barn area.

432  
433 Bandemer Park improvements include the entry drive with plantings and a retention  
434 pond, more green space and separating the bike path from the road. There is new dirt  
435 bike jump course that is being used. The other new element is a disc golf course, which  
436 is continually being used and is a nice addition to the Park.

437  
438 Several game courts have been renovated this summer including Burns Park, Leslie  
439 Par and the Ellsworth basketball court. Seven or eight additional courts were color  
440 coated as well.

441  
442 **S. Rosencrans** asked if there would be improvements done at Mary Beth Doyle Park  
443 at the basketball courts.

444  
445 **Amy Kuras** stated there would be improvements made to Mary Beth Doyle Park.  
446

447 Work is being done to make the new restrooms barrier free at Olson Park and  
448 Bandemer Park.

449  
450 Improvements have taken place at The Leslie Science Center in the classroom space.

451  
452 **C. Smith** stated signs are being placed at different locations to specify that millage  
453 dollars were used to fund the improvements.

454  
455 **B. Macomber** stated the restrooms at Bandemer are great, but in the morning the  
456 restrooms are still locked.

457  
458 **Amy Kuras** stated a new agreement was made to open the restrooms in the morning.

459  
460 **G. Nystuen** asked what the hours are to have the restrooms open.

461  
462 **C. Smith** stated Parks Operations schedule for mowing the Parks are also tied into the  
463 schedule of opening the restrooms.

464  
465 **B. Macomber** asked if the maintenance staff could commit to open the restrooms.

466  
467 **C. Smith** stated this idea could be looked into especially with the Parks that are used a  
468 great deal in the morning hours.  
469 There was an arrangement made at Gallup Park for the restrooms to be opened earlier  
470 in the morning hours.

471  
472 **G. Nystuen** stated earlier in the season there was a complaint regarding trash and  
473 since then the problem has been taken care of.

474  
475 **B. Macomber** stated the trash is very bad at Bandemer Park where the disc golf is  
476 played and suggested Adopt-A-Park could possibly help with this issue.

477  
478 **Amy Kuras** stated one of the issues is getting the trucks in that particular area to pick  
479 up the trash.

480  
481 **L. Berauer** stated user education should play a major role in the Parks.

482  
483 **J. Lawter** stated having a few trash cans to be accessible to the pathway might be  
484 sufficient.

485  
486 **T. Berla** suggested having more trash cans along the paved path to possibly help with  
487 the trash build up.

488  
489 **Amy Kuras** stated the trash vehicles are very heavy and the bike path cannot handle  
490 the weight. It would have to be a different type of vehicle that is not as heavy to pick the  
491 trash up in that particular area.

492  
493 **J. Lawter** stated the grand opening of the Swift Run Dog Park was a successful event.

494  
495 **J. Lawter** also asked if there are any plans for another Dog Park.  
496

497 **C. Smith** stated he is not aware of any plans for another Dog Park, but there is room  
498 for growth at Olson Park.

499  
500 **J. Lawter** stated there are other options for off leash areas.

501  
502 **C. Smith** stated at this present time there are not any discussions regarding another  
503 Dog Park.

504  
505 **S. Rosencrans** suggested placing a sign at Swift Run Dog Park to notify users that  
506 Olson Park can also be used.

507  
508 **B. Macomber** asked if the monitoring of the Dog Park has been looked into.

509  
510 **C. Smith** stated questions have been answered to who has jurisdiction of the Dog Park  
511 and it is the Ann Arbor Police Department.

512  
513 **B. Macomber** asked if Community Standards enforce the Dog Parks.

514  
515 **C. Smith** stated he would ask the proper parties and find out if Community Standards  
516 are able to do any enforcement in the Dog Parks.

517  
518 **L. Berauer** asked if Amy Kuras could discuss the time line of new projects.

519  
520 **Amy Kuras** stated the projects that are forthcoming consist of sidewalk repairs and  
521 replacement of sidewalks at Leslie Park on Pontiac Trail, Sugarbush Park sidewalk  
522 repairs and equipment at various parks that will be updated and or replaced.

523  
524 In terms of West Park, there was a meeting held in July 2008 and there will be another  
525 meeting held in September 2008 regarding West Park. Storm water management and  
526 increasing programming at West Park were some of the items discussed.

527  
528 **B. Macomber** asked if the list of upcoming projects take care of the backlog from the  
529 2007 – 2008 fiscal year project list.

530  
531 **Amy Kuras** stated some of the projects that are being completed at this time are from  
532 the last millage. Several other projects are from Fund 071 (the new millage).

533  
534 **C. Smith** stated there were existing projects in Fund 018 and other projects are out of  
535 the new millage (Fund 071).

536  
537 **L. Berauer** asked when the work would start for West Park.

538  
539 **Amy Kuras** stated not until next spring.

540  
541 **L. Berauer** asked how much money was set-aside for the projects at West Park.

542  
543 **Amy Kuras** stated approximately \$300,000.00. The retaining wall that holds up the  
544 side of the tennis courts will have to be replaced. The projects in West Park will be  
545 completed over numerous years.

546

547 **T. Berla** asked if the tennis courts in West Park would be resurfaced.

548  
549 **Amy Kuras** stated part of the problems with the cracking comes might result from the  
550 issues regarding the retaining wall so that will be addressed initially.

551  
552 **J. Lawter** asked if there were any news regarding the Skate Park project.

553  
554 **C. Smith** explained meetings have taken place to outline the legalities of the project  
555 and is ongoing.

556  
557 **C - NEW BUSINESS**

558  
559 **C-1** Renaming of Terhune

560  
561 **L. Berauer moved** to discuss the renaming of the Terhune Pioneer Cemetery  
562 to the Pioneer Memorial Park, **supported by B. Macomber**

563  
564 **C. Smith** stated the memo speaks to a Resolution to rename the Terhune  
565 Pioneer Cemetery to the Pioneer Memorial Park as the site does not contain  
566 human remains.

567  
568 **B. Macomber** asked if it would be premature to vote on the Resolution to  
569 change the name of the park.

570  
571 **L. Berauer** stated no, there is a Resolution before the Commission. L. Berauer  
572 also asked if once the renaming of the park is approved would the Resolution  
573 then go to City Council.

574  
575 **C. Smith** stated yes once the Resolution was voted on it would then go to City  
576 Council for approval of the renaming of the park.

577  
578 **L. Berauer** stated the hopes are that a plaque would be placed in the park  
579 explaining a couple of paragraphs of history so that people will understand  
580 what the park represents.

581  
582 **S. Rosencrans** asked that since we have Veterans Memorial Park, is the term  
583 Memorial interchangeable with the term of Cemetery.

584  
585 **L. Berauer** stated the term cemetery indicates actual human remains on-site  
586 and the term memorial does not, and it is to memorialize the people you are  
587 honoring.

588  
589 **L, Berauer** called for the Commission to vote on renaming The Terhune  
590 Pioneer Cemetery to the Pioneer Memorial Park

591  
592 **MEMORANDUM**

593  
594 **TO:** Park Advisory Commission

595  
596 **FROM:** Colin Smith, Parks & Recreation Service Unit Manager

597 DATE: August 19, 2008

598

599 SUBJECT: RESOLUTION RENAMING TERHUNE PIONEER CEMETERY TO TERHUNE  
600 PIONEER MEMORIAL PARK FOR PUBLIC CLARIFICATION

601

602

603 Attached for your review and action is a resolution to approve the re-naming of Terhune  
604 Pioneer Cemetery to Terhune Pioneer Memorial Park. This re-naming is significant to  
605 clearing up the misconception of this parkland. Terhune Pioneer Cemetery has long been  
606 viewed, by citizens, as a historic, non-operating cemetery belonging to the City. Where in  
607 fact, Terhune Pioneer Cemetery has no human remains buried at this site.

608

609 Terhune Pioneer Cemetery contains the gravestones of John Terhune, Sarah Vreeland  
610 Terhune, and Emily Whitmore. The stones were moved to this location from the cemetery at  
611 the corner of Packard and Burton Roads by the Daughters of the American Revolution  
612 (DAR) in the 1920s after the original burial site had fallen into disrepair.

613 At that time the remains were irreclaimable and no attempt was made to move them. Both  
614 the Ypsilanti Chapter and the Ann Arbor Sarah Caswell Angel Chapters of Daughters of the  
615 American Revolution have provided and confirmed these facts.

616

617 This parcel of land has always been treated as city parkland, however when recent  
618 renovations were made to the memorial cemetery it was discovered that long-time, adjacent  
619 neighbors believed that the gravestones truly marked the final burial site for these historic  
620 figures. They also conveyed to maintenance staff that the general public belief was that  
621 human remains did exist there.

622

623 Therefore, in the interest of general public knowledge and accuracy, is fitting to re-name  
624 Terhune Pioneer Cemetery to Terhune Pioneer Memorial Park.

625

626

627 The vote to rename the Terhune Pioneer Cemetery to the Pioneer Memorial Park was as  
628 follows:

629

630 **Ayes: (7) L. Berauer, B. Macomber, G. Nystuen, T. Berla,**  
631 **J. Lawter, D. Barrett, S. Rosencrans**

632

633 **Nays: (0) None.**

634

635 **Absent: (2) J. Grand, S. Offen**

636

637 *On a voice vote – **Motion Passed** – Unanimous*

638

639 **D - COMMISSION PROPOSED BUSINESS**

640

641 **E - REPORT FROM PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER**

642

643 **C. Smith** gave an update regarding the job vacancies for Huron Hills & Buhr Park and  
644 stated these positions will hopefully be filled by mid-to-late September.

645

646

647 **L. Berauer** asked where the Golf Director would be based.

648  
649 **C. Smith** stated the person will be based at Leslie Park but will oversee the entire golf  
650 operations and each course has a head groundskeeper that will report to the  
651 supervisor on site.

652  
653 **B. Macomber** expressed concern regarding the preparation of the next budget,  
654 particularly as expenses from the previous year are down and asked what method will  
655 be used to calculate the overall increase or decrease in the budget.

656  
657 The concern is that since expenses were down due to vacancies, will this become the  
658 benchmark from which these calculations will be taken and possibly won't adequately  
659 reflect the Parks budget needs.

660  
661 **L. Berauer** stated this was a very good point and asked C. Smith if he had any  
662 concerns on that subject.

663  
664 **C. Smith** stated from his understanding they will be working from the budgeted  
665 expenditures from the 2008 – 2009 budget, for the fiscal year of 2010 – 2011.

666  
667 **C. Smith** introduced **Kelly McKinnon** (Community Services Financial Manager) to the  
668 Commission.

669  
670 **C. Smith** introduced **Jeff Straw** (Deputy Parks Manager) to the  
671 Commission.

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673 **L. Berauer** expressed gratitude to both Kelly McKinnon and Jeff Straw  
674 being on board. L. Berauer asked Kelly McKinnon how much of her duties  
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678 the duties for the Parks Department, Planning & Development and  
679 Community Development. So her duties for the Parks Department would be at  
680 least one third of her duties.

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682 **C. Smith** explained the Cost Center Reports to the Commission in detail, starting  
683 with last fiscal year for Fund 0010 (General Fund).

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685 On the target figure the expected cost to the General Fund was \$1,568,000.00 and  
686 we came in under at \$1,537,000.00, the revenues were a bit lower as well as the  
687 expenses.

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689 Page two speaks primarily to administration costs, there are facility rentals activities  
690 that should be seen in the next set of Cost Center Reports combined with  
691 Cobblestone Farm.

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693 In the revenue for facility rental, we were budgeting to see \$202,000.00 in revenue  
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701 their area of impervious surface – this money is reimbursement from the Stormwater  
702 fund for educational materials and rain gardens that Parks instituted. C. Smith stated  
703 he would have to obtain more information regarding Fund 0034.

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705 This is the first year Leslie Science has been a non profit, there will be a one time  
706 disbursement from the General Fund in 2009 of \$31,500.00.

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708 The position for facility maintenance which was filled by Matt Waldsmith is a millage  
709 expense and was expected to be filled by July 1 and did not get filled until October;  
710 this is why you see higher expenses in Administration at Cobblestone Farm. The next  
711 report will show Cobblestone and Facility Rentals merged together.

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713 **B. Macomber** stated it appears if there were the reorganization of statements done  
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749 **Also stating** the community is very pleased with the outreach centers.  
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799 **F - REPORT FROM MANAGER OF FIELD OPERATIONS**

800  
801 **G - REPORT FROM RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION**

802  
803 **H - REPORTS FROM RELEVANT COMMISSIONS, COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND/OR TASK**  
804 **FORCES**

805  
806 **S. Rosencrans** stated the watershed ideas that were discussed in June will be presented to the  
807 public at the upcoming public meetings

808  
809 **G. Nystuen** stated there will be three public meetings that are forthcoming.

810  
811 **I - PUBLIC COMMENTARY – GENERAL** (3 Minutes per Speaker)

812  
813 **J - CLOSED SESSION TO DEAL WITH LAND ACQUISITION ISSUES** (If Applicable)

814  
815 **K - TRANSMITTALS**

816  
817 **K-1** City Council Items Update

818  
819 **K-2** Park Project Update

820  
821 **K-3** Park and Recreation Events for July – August 2008

822  
823 **K-4** June 2008 Cost Center Reports

824  
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955 to the General Fund from the Enterprise Fund.  
956

957 **C. Smith** stated yes.  
958

959 **K-5** July 2008 Cost Center Reports  
960

961 **C. Smith** stated pool revenues are up close to 40% for this year through July.  
962

963 **L. Berauer** asked if there were any questions regarding the Cost Center  
964 Reports.  
965

966 There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner**  
967 **Macomber** moved, supported by **Commissioner Rosencrans** that the meeting be  
968 adjourned. The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.  
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