

## VERMILION PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Minutes of March 15, 2022 - 6:00pm

Roll Call: Kate Repola, Liz Elden, Tina Swinehart, William Warden, Bill Malin. Absent: Dennis Brudney, Jeff Keck

*Also, Present:* Marc Weisenberger, Parks Operation Manager; Chad Kuhns, Recreation Director; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Teresa Mayle, Council Representative. Mayor Forthofer - Guest

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Kate Repola, Chairwoman called the meeting of March 15, 2022 to order.

### Approval of Minutes:

**L. Elden MOVED;** B. Warden seconded to approve the meeting minutes of February 15, 2022. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### Correspondence:

#### Main Street Vermilion – Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)

Sarah Ross, Chair of the DORA Committee brought before the Parks Board an initiative they will bring to City Council later this year, which is the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area also known as DORA. She explained that DORA's are allowed for in the Ohio Revised Code since 2015 as a certain district within communities where you can purchase a beverage within a licensed establishment (a liquor or alcoholic beverage) and take it outside of the establishment and into the district. Since the time of inception, the best count of established DORA's in Ohio is 69 as taken from the Department of Commerce annual reports. She noted they are surrounded by DORA's in Vermilion.

She explained they work by being heavily regulated and in order to have a DORA drink, it is required they are purchased in the designated DORA cup, and the serving establishment writes the date and time on the cup, and once it leaves the establishment where it was purchased, then it cannot be taken into another licensed establishment. However, it can be taken into a retail shop should they choose to participate. Each establishment in the district would put a sticker on their window identifying that either the DORA drinks are sold there, or they're not welcomed. The boundary of the district is clearly labeled with signage.

On the handout she provided the members with the seven reasons listed on WHY DORA in Vermilion?

1. Placemaking
2. Economic Development
3. Population friendly environment
4. Pedestrian friendly environment

5. Compliment & improve programming
6. Tourism produce development
7. Support local businesses

She said these reasons tie together and it creates a culture and an experience focusing on pedestrian friendly. Anything they can do to make the town more pedestrian friendly, will give people a deeper connection and encourages them to spend more time and money in Vermilion. Pedestrian, shopping, and entertainment in a pedestrian friendly setting is the number one tourism activity in the world. They are trying to encourage and build Vermilion's tourism product and one thing they can sell is that Vermilion is pedestrian friendly. This encourages people to live and stay in Vermilion.

She said the Main Street Vermilion DORA Committee is proposing a seven-day a week district and the handout shows the boundaries, which includes 29 acres that includes five parks within it – Exchange, East Exchange, Main Street Beach, Friendship Park, and Rotary Park. They wanted to present this to the Parks Board first, so they are aware of the district they are proposing to get early feedback and actions to the program.

The DORA Committee is approaching this in four phases, which include Phase 1 – committed development and education, so they have been interviewing other DORA communities by asking them how they got started and what the impact has been. They have had nothing but positive feedback and have had zoom calls with five communities and interaction with others. K. Repola asked what communities they reached out to. S. Ross said they have spoken with Marietta, Wooster, Sandusky, Kent, and Port Clinton, but they're all over the state. K. Repola asked if the ones she listed are the closest to Vermilion. S. Ross said not the closest as they tried to focus on similar characteristics of Vermilion such as an artist strong tourism base and waterfront. For example, there are DORA's in Norwalk, Fremont, and Lorain, but they have not had the opportunity to talk with everybody yet. She said the ones they have spoke with have been responsive and a wealth of information about the process for them.

T. Swinehart asked if it was typical to have DORA's seven days a week, as she thought they were typically during events or weekends, or special designated times. S. Ross said they're typically either five to seven, and if they're not seven days a week, there five days a week aligned more with when retail is open, so if the retail has a lot closed on Monday and Tuesday, then they might exclude Monday and Tuesday. She believed Sandusky's is seven days a week (9:00am to midnight). Some areas start with a lesser schedule because you can always expand it. It is not usually just around events – it's consistent because you put it on all your signage. So, the dates and times stay the same for the year. T. Swinehart confirmed they would have permanent signage that designates this as a DORA area. S. Ross said yes, permanent signage at the boundaries. T. Swinehart asked what the signage looks like. S. Ross said it will look like a typical street signpost – the size may be slightly bigger than an 8 ½" x 11" paper, and it's pretty official designating the DORA boundary. She noted she has pictures she can share with the board members from other communities.

She explained the Mayor will take an ordinance before City Council and it requires a plan for the Department of Commerce that has a safety plan, a health plan, and they will lay out exactly what

the boundary signage will look like. G. Fisher asked if this would be a five-year agreement that Council would need to adopt. S. Ross said yes, every five years. S. Ross said it can be revised as it is all locally controlled, but five years is the required timeframe on when you have to review it.

Mayor Forthofer said City Council will have the overall say as to whether or not they will enter into this type of contract and what the boundaries are. He mentioned that Main Street Vermilion has done so much for the city in all kinds of ways, and any ideas should be respected and put up for consideration. The one issue he wanted to address as far as the Parks Board goes, is the idea of Main Street Beach and having alcohol down there. There are parks all over Liberty, but to walk down through the residential areas to Main Street Beach where there are always families, and the fact they are always trying to control alcohol at Main Street Beach anyway, this is something he thought the Parks Board would want to give consideration to.

K. Repola said if and fact this goes to City Council, could the Parks Board suggest to Council to exclude Main Street Beach. Mayor Forthofer felt the board could suggest anything they wanted. S. Ross agreed and said they would like feedback early on. They are highly anticipating a lot of questions when it comes to the rollout and they want it to be user friendly, and if this will be the general feeling, they can modify their application before officially bringing it to City Council, so they welcome this feedback. She said one thing to consider is Sandusky has seen success at their Jackson Street pier and how DORA really supports the programming, so it goes hand in hand with programming with spreading that spend and giving people time to stay longer. She can ask the committee to ask for specific questions to waterfront communities about how this goes. To be clear, it doesn't allow for anyone to bring their own alcohol. It's only in the designated cups from the participating establishments.

B. Warden asked what would prevent somebody with a cup from refilling it from their own source. S. Ross said the business that serves the drink is required to write the date and time on the cup when they serve it. It's not to say it's not possible, but not anymore or less possible than already bringing their own cup.

L. Elden mentioned she is familiar with Port Clinton's DORA and has read great things about it in that community – would this be somebody to talk to since they have a beach, but it connects to their commercial area differently than Vermilion's, as well as Sandusky as they may have more feedback. S. Ross said the committee can ask specifically about the waterfront.

B. Malin said he isn't sure he is as concerned about the beach because it is little more of an effort to get it there. People that are going to cause problems, if anybody, aren't going to stop at Touché' or something and buy the drink and take it down. They will start up earlier and by the time they get there, they're probably going to drink it anyways. He asked if the committee could send their map to the clerk electronically, so she can email it to everybody as it may be subject to change.

K. Repola said at a minimum the Parks Board would ask to specifically speak to other communities that have a beach and how it has affected the control of that area. B. Warden said whatever legislation is enacted it should have a sunset clause too – like after the first year or two they could evaluate it to judge whether the DORA has been helpful, or if it has created community problems as opposed to a five-year program or something you're locked into. K.

Repola asked if there are times during the day for the DORA. S. Ross said their proposed timeframe is 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

S. Ross asked the board members if they preferred to talk with a Parks representative from another community about the beach question, or would they prefer to get the information through her. L. Elden and K. Repola said they were fine if she collected the information.

S. Ross said their goal is to accomplish this in 2022, but they're not looking to rush the process, so they will get this information to the Parks Board before it goes to City Council.

Sandy Coe of the Chamber of Commerce said Main Street does wonderful things for the community. However, during the Festival of the Fish they sell alcohol, which is a huge fundraiser for the Vermilion Chamber, so if people are selling alcohol that are participating in DORA, this is in complete competition with the Vermilion Chamber in what they're trying to do, so she didn't know if DORA can be scheduled around events. She also asked who would be liable – who is liable if you're walking around with a bar-x cup, and they get hurt and stumble on the sidewalk. She said during Woollybear Festival the Chamber is adamant about not serving or having a beer tent because of the magnitude of people in town. There are 100,000+ people in town and they do not want to add to that congestion with people driving or drinking in such a short time span. She asked if they could go around certain dates and close down the DORA. S. Ross did not think they could close it down around certain dates, but she would definitely get specific feedback about large events. She said bike week in Sandusky would be a similar situation, but the way the users of DORA are designed – the beer tent is completely ingrained in the festival, where the DORA is one cup, so maybe they could walk from the bar to the festival, so she doesn't see it similar to the beach like as running back and forth, but she will get specific feedback about this from other DORA communities. S. Coe said she doesn't want people coming from a bar into their festival grounds, which is the downtown area. They have Exchange Park, Victory Park, and vendors set up and down Main Street as well, so if they're walking around their festival grounds with a cup of beer, then she doesn't see this as being very fair to the Chamber as trying to do a fundraiser where they are giving back their money to the community to help them. She said this would be competing against DORA at that time. Also, with the Festival of the Fish a few years back, they had it so there were beer stations, so people could wander around the festival grounds with their beer. She said they cannot go behind signs and they police it so much that they don't even allow them to go behind the craft vendors because they want to see what they're doing. She doesn't want people giving beer to a teenager or anything like that. S. Ross said she will get specific examples from other communities and their best effort will be directed in terms of coordination and marketing during those times. She said the proposed district stops at the tracks, so it would cover Exchange Park, but it would not cover Victory Park or that area. S. Coe said to confirm they cannot stop DORA during their festival if this is the case. S. Ross did not think so because of legislation, but they could ask local establishments to outline dates and times. She said the street signage would be up and the liquor license would still exist, but they can make every effort to not make it in competition. Mayor Forthofer asked what is it that DORA cannot be stopped for events – it's not like a state law or anything. S. Ross said they could not take down the street signage, but they could take in the cups. S. Coe said unless they add these dates to the street signage because every community is unique. Vermilion is extremely unique compared to Sandusky or Lorain because Vermilion is more of a Norman Rockwell setting. When

she looks out the window of the Chamber she sees kids running down to Sail Camp – it is a different atmosphere. K. Repola said this is something else that needs to be considered before it goes any further. Mayor Forthofer said the Parks Board can recommend to council anything they want. It is well within the purview of the Parks Board to say what they want to have going on in their parks during certain days. If certain days are a conflict, then they could discuss this.

K. Repola said before they set up specific boundaries, they should work together even if it goes to fruition. They need to see if it will be beneficial or compromised in some manner where it will not affect the Chamber’s very important fundraiser. S. Ross asked if they would prefer to hear from the festival organizers directly from other communities. S. Coe said from both – somebody that is similar to Vermilion, and she thought Port Clinton may be the closest. She said if you have Main Street beach and you’re walking down this is a long strip, but you have to look at all of this. She said first and foremost when they do any event, they look at the liability and who is responsible. She said they need to find a way to work around this and work together.

S. Ross said it is a mix bag of which business says yes or no to the DORA. Most communities have pretty consistent branding, so the logo on the cup looks exactly like the sticker on the door that says yes or no. The rollout would take a lot of communication and it will clearly state on their website and posters who is a yes or a no. S. Coe said she mentioned these concerns to the Chamber Board, and it is certainly their concerns as well.

**COMMUNITY EVENT GROUP USE PERMITS:**

Chamber of Commerce:

*National Day of Prayer – Thursday, May 5, 2022 – 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (Victory Park)*

S. Coe explained they team up with the Vermilion Ministerial Association, so this is a free community event, which will be by the gazebo in Victory Park. They have 50-100 people.

**B. Warden MOVED;** L. Elden seconded to approve the National Day of Prayer as described above. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Festival of the Fish – June 17 – 19 (Need permits from June 15 – 19 for park setup) – All Day (Friendship, East Exchange, Exchange, Victory Park, Village on the Green, Main Street Beach, and Harbor View)*

B. Malin said most people are not going to know what is happening at Main Street Beach for the West Pier and if anything is going to be restrictive or limited access, so anyone wanting anything for Main Street Beach has to know that there may be portion they cannot use. He said the city has not heard any details on timing for this yet. S. Coe said she did speak to the Mayor briefly on this and believed the Army Corp of Engineers is planning on the working on the West Pier beginning next year, and they may want access to the Main Street Beach. Mayor Forthofer said the construction is supposed to begin in 2023 and this year will just be analysis and core samples. S. Coe said they will also have the Comfort Station project, but this is not the first obstacle they have had to go through, so they will work around anything that comes their way as they are very

flexible. She said the Mayor keeps a good line of communication with the Chamber so they can plan accordingly.

**L. Elden MOVED**; T. Swinehart seconded to approve the Festival of the Fish as described above. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

*3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Music – 5/19, 6/16, 8/18, 9/15, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. to Sunset (Friendship, East Exchange, Exchange, Main Street Beach, Harbor View, Victory Park, Hanover Square, Village on the Green)*

*Sunday Concerts in the Park – July 10, 19, 24, 31, 2022 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (Harbor View Park)*

S. Coe said years ago they were approached by cottage owners as there was nothing to do on a Sunday to get people in town, so they started Concerts in the Park, which is free to the community, and which has been held at the Gazebo. For years, they have competed against the trains, so now that they have a beautiful view at Main Street Beach with the lighthouse, they were hoping they could move Concerts in the Park down to the lighthouse. She said the city has a beautiful natural amphitheater now with that slope.

K. Repola confirmed the Chamber is requesting to hold Sunday Concerts in the Park and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at Harbor View Park by the lighthouse. S. Coe said they are looking at handicap accessibility to make sure people have the ability to park to get their wheelchairs out to hear the music. They are checking into the electric for this area. S. Jordan said he mentioned to the board last month that there is a closed electrical containment at the base of the lighthouse that needs a little bit of work to put a GFI and outdoor protectant outlet there. They're not certain of how much AMP service comes into that, but this is a question they will ask. He said one outlet should satisfy everything they would need for 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday or Sunday Concerts in the Park. There is a different requirement that the Senior Sunset would need that has to be investigated. B. Malin asked if there were concerns with sun on the people – will they bring in canopies? S. Jordan said both events are well into the evening, so sun should not be a problem at the angle during that time of day.

K. Repola said they have done these events for years and she will lean to their expertise if it works in this location. She thought it was a beautiful place for a concert.

**L. Elden MOVED**; B. Warden seconded to approve the five 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday dates as described above. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

**L. Elden MOVED**; T. Swinehart seconded to approve Sunday Concerts in the Park at Harbor View Park. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED**.

*Woollybear Festival – Date to be Announced (Friendship, East Exchange, Exchange, Main Street Beach, Harbor View, Victory Park, Hanover Square, Village on the Green)*

S. Coe said they will have to wait to announce the date for Woollybear Festival until the Cleveland Browns schedule is announced. They usually look at the last two Sunday's in September or the first two Sunday's in October. She is pushing for October 2 but is waiting on the schedule to confirm.

**L. Elden MOVED;** T. Swinehart seconded to approve the Woollybear Festival at the date to be determined. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Prom to Dawn – Senior Sunset – May 24, 2022 with a rain date of May 26, 2022 – 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. (Harbor View Park/Main Street Beach.*

Colleen Rini representing Prom To Dawn (Senior Class Committee of 2022) said they would like to expand on their tradition of the Senior Sunrise, which currently is held at Vermilion High School. Due to what the students have been through the past two years, they are trying to bring life and excitement back, so they would like to add a Senior Sunset starting with the Class of 2022 at the Main Street Beach, which would show the collaboration and support of the school system from the Parks Board. They are requesting usage near the lighthouse to have a band from 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. on May 24, which is their last day of school. A rain date has been established for May 26. T. Swinehart asked what the band is. C. Rini said 'Action' and they have a full light show and it is all age appropriate, and they are really excited about it. They have performed at the Boat Club before, so they come highly recommended.

S. Coe said they will need liability insurance and the Chamber of Commerce has agreed to sponsor this event under their umbrella as a liability and will sponsor it every year as a tradition.

C. Rini said they will fundraise to pay for the band, and they will hire off-duty police officers to be there as an extra set of eyes. S. Coe said the Chamber has a backup plan if the rain date does not work for them. She said Cliff German has offered his establishment if a backup plan is needed.

S. Coe said if 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday gets rained out, then they would like permission to move it a week later because a lot of people get upset if they're missing out. K. Repola said they would need to check on that date with their parks calendar. S. Coe asked if she could email G. Fisher with the rain dates. G. Fisher asked her to email Jody Booker, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor who organizes the parks event calendar. Mayor Forthofer said she could email them to him, and he will make sure Jody gets them. T. Valerius said they would need to coordinate slowing the trains for any 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday rain dates. S. Coe said they are to be slowed, but she can remind Crystal in the police department.

K. Repola said if they need to establish a rain date, then they should contact the Mayor's office. G. Fisher said the Parks Board can approve the rain dates contingent upon approval from the Mayor's office in conjunction with the parks calendar date of events. K. Repola said they should check with the dates prior to establishing rain dates. *She asked the Chamber of Commerce to come back with established rain dates, so the board can give them official approval upon further consideration and exploration.*

B. Warden asked if there is an ordinance on noise. S. Jordan said the noise ordinance calls for a 10:00 p.m. ending of all music on weekdays (Sunday – Thursday) and Friday’s and Saturday’s it is 11:00 p.m.

**L. Elden MOVED**; B. Warden seconded to approve the Prom To Dawn Senior Sunset for May 24, 2022 from 7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m., with a rain date of May 26. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### Public Art Vermilion

M. Suszko said Public Art Vermilion is applying for a destination development grant through Shores and Islands, and they need a letter of support from the Parks Board just saying they support the inclusion of public art in the new development of the park.

L. Elden said as Marilou stated, they need a letter of support from the government entity. K. Repola said to apply for this grant do they need a specific location within Vermilion or could it be in any of their parks. M. Suszko said it can be in any park or any location at Main Street Beach. They have to apply for the money by the end of the month, but they have two years to be able to use it. K. Repola asked if they need to know which park the public art will be located at. M. Suszko said their goal is to have it at Main Street Beach and park. B. Warden asked how much the grant is for. M. Suszko said it is a \$25,000 matching grant. L. Elden noted the funds have been raised for the other half by the Anniversary gift that Main Street Vermilion wants to give. Additionally, Public Art and Main Street have met with Ted from the Edge Group about the possibility of the sculpture, and it is included in the plan. K. Repola asked if the work of art is completed in terms of what it would look like. M. Suszko said it is not as they are stilling coming up with a concept. It will fit into a specific location once that location has been decided. It is all part of what the development committee is working on with the parks.

K. Repola said as a member of the Main Street Beach subcommittee, she has received some concerns from that committee about a piece of public art going into the new Main Street Beach project. However, it is up to the Parks Board on whether or not they would like to see a piece of public art there. For the new members, she explained the Public Art Committee has come to them asking if this board is willing or would like to see a piece of public art in one of the parks, and they said yes. However, at that time, they were discussing different locations. From what she understands with the excitement of the new Main Street Beach project is they would look like to put that piece of art, whatever it might be, as a part of Harbor View/Main Street Beach. It is up to the board whether or not they feel it is the correct location for a piece of public art. There have been concerns to make that area too busy or too many items in that area, and that it should stay more of a monument to the Harbor View area. She said these are not her opinions, but this is what she has heard from members of the community that sat on this subcommittee.

B. Warden asked her to elaborate on the reason for this public art. He recalled it was to celebrate Main Street’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. M. Suszko said for their 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, their plan was to raise money to fund a piece of public art that would be their gift to the city for the 20 years of service for Main Street. They have the portion of money raised and they want to pursue the destination development grant. They feel that public art creates interest in a community, and it brings



people to the community to explore and enjoy the art. It adds to the placemaking aspect as far as implementing a DORA program, so public art is about expanding what they have in Vermilion and creating an experience for other people. She will send the Parks Board their public art plan, so they can understand across the board what they're trying to do, not necessarily with just this one piece. B. Warden asked if they have \$25,000 + that they're willing to invest in the enhancement project. M. Suszko said there is money to invest in this. Public art is supported by the public, grants, and donations. It's typically not something cities are asked to fund. B. Warden said the goal is to enhance the communities appreciation and use of the parks.

B. Malin asked if they are asking today for the board to authorize a letter supporting them to say they will put a piece of art in a public park yet to be determined what the art is, and what public park it will be in. K. Repola said she is saying it will be the Main Street Beach. B. Malin asked in the letter does it need to specify Main Street Beach. M. Suszko said yes.

**T. Swinehart MOVED;** B. Warden seconded to express support of the Parks Board to support the public art at Main Street Beach, and to write a letter expressing such support for the grant. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

M. Suszko said as part of the grant, Main Street is composed of Main Street and their partner programs (Vermilion in Bloom, Shore Thing, and Public Arts Guild). They also want to submit a second grant for this destination development grant to help fund the seating at the parks. The plan falls for five to seven Adirondack chairs (commercial grade) that run about \$1,000 each, and they would like to write a grant for this and be able to support the inclusion of this seating, which means she could use a letter of support for the Parks Board as well.

B. Warden asked if Public Art is open to the identity of the artwork – does the Parks Board have any say in that? Mayor Forthofer thought anything that goes on a park has say from the Parks Board. K. Repola said 100 percent. M. Suszko said absolutely the Parks Board should be involved in this. Right now, the concept is that they are looking at sculpted frame that sits off to the side of the park, which won't block any view, but is a sculpted frame that people can use to take family or vacation photos that puts the lake in the background. The idea is that it will be on a swivel, so that if you want to put the lighthouse in the background you can do that on the frame too. Anytime with art, it can change as they move forward, but they will keep the Parks Board apprised. B. Warden said he talked with T. Valerius on a number of problems they have had at Main Street Beach over the last couple of months. One is the eventual elimination of the seating they currently have on the deck, along with unappealing but necessity of maintaining the pumphouse, which is EPA regulated. He thought it may be possible or they can compromise and use the pumphouse as the basis for a viewing deck that can be put on top of the pumphouse. B. Malin asked if this had anything to do with her request for Adirondack chairs. B. Warden said no, as this is just an introduced sketch and brainstorming to help solve problems, and it's trying to involve something that exists currently – something that could be a focal point of the beach and the Main Street concept of people going there and having something that is useful. He thought it would be an attractive addition to the beach and an improvement on the exiting structure, and a positive way to spend some money that would in fact be here for future generations as a place for people to gather. He wasn't certain it was possible, but it was a brainstorm on his part, but some of the biggest projects start with the smallest inspiration and he thought the city had an

opportunity with this and that it should be further investigated. He said if they want to call this the use of public art funds, then it could be claimed as Main Street Vermilion's contribution of 20 years, but he wanted to at least throw it out there. K. Repola said the concept would help with seating. B. Warden said it would solve a number of problems, but the idea is still being researched. M. Suszko mentioned that Brad Schultz is heading up this project and there is talk about what to do with this pumphouse to make it more attractive. B. Warden said he isn't interested in making it more attractive by putting an attractive New England roof on top of it that will not do anything other than make it look nice, but if you can have a usable deck on top of it, then people can actually stand up there and photograph the lake or get married. M. Suszko said she will pass along the drawing, which is awesome. K. Repola said if they can make this work, it would be great as it is a very interesting idea. T. Valerius said this is something he would have to talk to the water plant superintendent about and they would need to speak with the EPA in regard to attracting people to the pumphouse, and then there is a question of accessibility that he would have to talk to the building official about.

**T. Swinehart MOVED**; L. Elden seconded to write a letter of support for the grant for the Adirondack chairs. Discussion: M. Suszko said 50 percent is the grant and Main Street would pick up the other 50 percent. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

*Daily Downward Dog Yoga – June 13 – September 5, 2022 (Main Street Beach)*

Maria Santoferraro of Daily Downward Dog Yoga said she would like to do Main Street Beach Yoga again this summer as this would be her 12<sup>th</sup> summer of offering classes at the beach. They are proposing yoga at Main Street Beach on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday's, which they have done the last few years from 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. The attendance depends on and can be anywhere from five to 40, but usually there are about 10 – 15 people that attend. It's donation based and she gives a portion of the proceeds back to the city as a donation to the parks board. She has submitted insurance to the mayor's office. In the original permit, she forgot she also does 'Full Moon' Yoga classes and in the past they have been done at Sherod Park. The dates would be May 16, June 15, July 13, and August 11 in the evening. She would like to put a sign down at Main Street Beach to promote the classes. She has done this in the past and she realizes there will be a lot of construction going on. She said last year her sign was removed, so she would like permission to put a sign up to help promote the classes.

T. Swinehart asked what type of sign it would be. M. Santoferraro said it's a small sign that is on a stand and she usually puts it in front the deck. K. Repola said due to construction she may need to be flexible as to where she will place the sign. M. Santoferraro said if it gets too noisy at Main Street, then she may ask the Parks Board if she can do the yoga at Sherod.

**T. Swinehart MOVED**; B. Warden seconded to approve yoga classes at Main Street Beach and Sherod for the Full Moon yoga. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **City Council Representative Report:**

T. Mayle reported that Ordinance 2022-15 reestablishing the salary for the head maintenance employee was approved by council for those changes. In addition, Ordinance 2022-16

reestablishing the rates for pool employees is on the council agenda for a second reading on April 4.

**Recreation Director:**

C. Kuhns reported they finished basketball season and are beginning to accept registrations for baseball and softball. The deadline is April 22, and the costs will remain the same from last year. The coaches pitch which is for 5–7-year old’s will be \$90.00 and the 8–15-year-old will be \$110.00, and any additional family member will add \$75.00.

**Service Director’s Report:** No report.

**Parks Supervisor Report:**

Marc Weisenberger reported on the ODNR Urban Canopy Tree grant they were awarded earlier this year, He noted Tree Commission members (Dana Corogin and Jerry Western) did a list of all of the trees in the parks they want to do in the spring, and then they will follow up with some other parks in the fall. They will concentrate this spring at Sherod Park for the majority. They are trying to keep them all in a geographical area to make it easier to water that many trees. They are looking at a broad scope of different types of trees. They are looking at 40 new trees throughout Sherod Park, one additional tree at Nokomis, one tree at East Exchange, one tree at Victory, and two additional trees at Village Green. In the fall, they will work at Showse and Main Street Beach if they’re ready for them at that point there, and West Breeze.

He said they obtained quotes for a new roof on the pool house and one quote came in at \$23,288 for the garland type roof. Therefore, they contacted a couple other companies that would use a different type of rubber roof. He said ADT’s quote came in at \$13,500, which has a 20-year warranty, and the money would come from the capital levy fund. He asked for Park Board approval, so they can have it ready for the upcoming pool season. B. Malin asked if there was available funding in the capital account. M. Weisenberger said they have planned for this, so yes. Another project would be to replace the garage door to secure the pool house and the cost would be \$700.00.

He said they applied through the Erie County Community Foundation for a grant that is geared toward job skills, training, and creating workforce in the county. They applied for \$4,200, and they were awarded \$4,217 to utilize covering the certification all of the lifeguards and trainers inhouse. Also, part of the grant covers the equipment that you need for CPR and First Aid. There is no match required on the grant.

He provided the board with an updated community pool flyer in order to start promoting the hours, membership rates, swimming lessons, etc. This flyer is attached hereto and incorporated as part of the permanent record. He said they will put the flyer on the website and will give it to the schools. He said Dennis would work with the committee on putting the flyer out to the community. K. Repola said it looked good and once the board reviews it carefully, they will let them know if anything stands out.

M. Weisenberger said he received the quote for chlorine for 2022. Last year they paid \$185 per gallon, but this year it went up 20%, so they are at \$222 per gallon. Last year they used 990 gallons, so he rounded this off to 1,000 gallons, so it will cost \$2,200 in 2022 as opposed to \$1,800 last year.

Budget/Finance Subcommittee Report: No report.

Erosion:

M. Weisenberger said there are some preliminary potential funding sources, but he didn't have any specifics to report on at this time.

Main Street Beach Revitalization Project:

T. Valerius reported the project has been out to bid for two weeks, and they had a pre-bid meeting this morning and several contractors showed up asking various questions about the project. From what he understands, six contractors have picked up packets so far and the bid opening will be on March 24. B. Malin asked if he would be sending the board members an email on who the contract will be awarded to. T. Valerius said after the bids are opened they have to be reviewed and then an announcement can be made. He said once the bids are confirmed it will go before council in ordinance form for emergency approval, which should be early April.

K. Repola said a group went to the Erie County Commissions Foundation on Friday requesting a grant for \$15,000 and they received word this was approved. The subcommittee met and the Edge Group met with the Tree Commission. It was mentioned there was some timing questions due to the Army Corp West Pier, but they feel they are getting those answers.

Mayor Forthofer said with the help of the Western Reserve Land Conservancy, they are applying for \$125,000 of the State Capital Budget. In an effort to lobby for this, he met with Senator Manning, Senator Gavarone, Representative Miller, and Representative (inaudible) – all of whom have been to Main Street Beach and has seen the potential over the past couple of years, and are highly in support of it, so he isn't sure they will get \$125,000, but does feels strongly they will get something. This is mostly for the walking trails of the overall plan.

L. Elden asked if the \$15,000 from Erie County has a specific use. K. Repola said it is for general use within a new park (Harbor View).

Recreation and School Relations: No report.

Sherod Playground:

L. Elden said she is meeting next Wednesday with the subcommittee for the playground. M. Weisenberger said he received a second vendor bid and has met with them a couple times to have a comparison on the project to make sure they're getting a good playground for the amount of money they're spending. The vendor will provide him with the final proposal for review by

the subcommittee. Hopefully, by the April meeting they will be able to pick a playground project and get it moving.

Rotary Pool Fundraiser:

T. Swinehart said they had a zoom meeting, and she will be attending the Rotary meeting tomorrow to explain to the group what is going on with the pool. The Rotary has agreed to do a fundraiser again this year. Last year's fundraiser was a virtual reverse raffle. There are no specific details as of yet and they want her to make a brief presentation to Rotary. They have committed to the fundraiser, and she hopes they have another successful fundraiser, which they are hoping they won't have to continue to do into the foreseeable future. She noted their annual fundraiser will be Saturday, April 30 at German's Villa, and they are doing a reverse raffle which costs \$50 a ticket. Proceeds do support community projects – in particular, the community pool and 'Learn to Swim.'

West Pier Project: No report.

Vermilion Community Pool Subcommittee: No additional report.

Public Art Subcommittee: No report.

OPEN TO THE AUDIENCE: No participation.

NEW BUSINESS:

L. Elden MOVED; B. Malin seconded to authorize an expenditure out of the parks capital fund in the amount of \$13,500 for the new roof of the pool house through ADT. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. MOTION CARRIED.

T. Swinehart MOVED; L. Elden seconded to authorize an expenditure out of the parks operation fund in an amount not to exceed \$700.00 for the garage door at the community pool. Roll Call Vote 5 YEAS. MOTION CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

K. Repola adjourned the meeting upon no further discussion.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday – April 19, 2022 @ **6:00 pm** at the Vermilion Municipal Complex, 687 Decatur Street,  
Vermilion

*Transcribed by ~ Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk*