

CITY OF BERKLEY
PUBLIC NOTICE
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
7:00 P.M. June 12th, 2025 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER

CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 PM

Present: Mike Kerby, Melissa Hammond, Betty Smith, and Andrew Boring

Also, present: Dan McMinn

Unable to Attend/Excused: J.D. Otto, John Nicolai, Dan Terbrack, and Ross Gavin

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved by Melissa Hammond, support by Mike Kerby

APPROVAL OF 5/8/25 MINUTES: Approved by Andrew Boring, support by Mike Kerby

PUBLIC COMMENTS: No public comments

BOARD BUSINESS:

1. Dorothea Pocket Park

- Road is closing this Saturday, between Coolidge and the alleyway. Volunteer day to set-up the space on Tuesday the 17th from 3-7. Taping the ground so the campers can paint the street.
- Opening “fun in the sun block party” on 6/21 from 1-4. Parks and Recreation will have things such as face painting, lawn games, character appearance from Bluey.
- Through 7/19 they will have other activities such as Yoga, Zumba, Bingo, nature table with Oakland County Park, Story Time in the Park (team up with the Berkley Library). Other items include physical media swap with CDs and DVDs, possibly a pet adoption.
- DDA will do a closing event on 7/19.
- As of now, this is a pilot program to see if feasible to remain permanently in the future.
- A lot comes down to cost with fixing the curbs to ground level.
- Melissa asked whether there is thought to do a pilot when the high school is in session to see how things flow. Dan stated the thought has been there. They have a had some high schoolers that have come to meetings and expressed that it would be nice to have the space.
- Section will be closed at Coolidge and right before the alley. Will put cement planters there to block the area off.
- Mike Kerby commented on how nice the 9 Mile area looks with the pocket parks.
- Mike asked whether the art space is utilized by the high school. The sentiment is that it is not widely used.

2. 5-Year Plan

- Proposal request occurred today. Due back 7/10 by 5 p.m.
- Recommendation to city council on August 4th.
- Public engagement including a survey will happen between early August and the end of October (a couple of public engagement sessions here).
- We will see a completed plan November 13th and we will take that plan to council on 12/1.
- Andrew inquired whether the city is looking to do a millage. Dan has not heard anything.
- Mike inquired whether the last 5-year plan had a dog park included. Dan was unsure. Mike commented that it would be an opportunity for the those who are interested in the dog park to come out to the community engagement sessions.

- Mike inquired about the facility assessment for the Community Center building. Dan indicated the findings included the building's bones are adequate, and a budget has been approved to do some interior refresh in the building (e.g., such as refreshing the meeting room space).

3. Community 1

- Dan indicated that money earmarked for the community center parking lot will be used to do a bathroom with locks/HVAC in back room/concession stand rehab. A company has come out to look at it. Timeline not set, but the initial process has started. Possibly fall/early winter completion so it would be ready for next spring, but not confirmed yet.
- Dad's Club is now in their permit window. Maintenance continues to be a high priority. The 3 parties (the city, Dad's Club, and school district) are meeting quarterly (and can be more frequently, if needed) so there is continued communication.
- Mike inquired about the concrete area with the patch that was discussed at the prior meeting. Dan said there is a project (CBDG) that will fix that area. Park paths will include more circular turns, and it will be done at that time.

4. Programs & Special Events

- Summer camp starts 6/16. Specialty camps start next week as well and are throughout the summer. First movie night is at Bacon Park and they are showing Dogman.

5. Senior Programming

- The new edition of the Berkley Times is available, and is the first edition that Josie has put together in her new role. A lot of the focus has been around getting people together to create community. Puzzle and donuts program is included.
- Also continuing the exercise class virtually over the summer.
- Dan is very excited to see where Josie takes the program.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- Andrew thanked Dan expressing that he feels Dan is doing a great job.
- Betty thinks things are going well, and is happy to hear we may be doing some upgrading within the Community Center building.
- Melissa thanked Dan for his responsiveness today when he was notified about graffiti on the playground equipment at the Tot Lot, as well as for the updates related to the field feedback from last month.
- Dan has been in contact with the company that sells the t-shirts for the Dream Cruise to see if there could be the opportunity for the community groups to be able to sell t-shirts as they had in the past. He does not have an update yet.
- Mike commented on the great work that has been done, and appreciated hearing about the field updates. He thanked Dan for all the work that he has done since the last meeting. It is very appreciated.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:52 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: July 10, 2025