

**Grosse Pointe Shores
Parks Committee
Minutes
Tuesday, May 7, 2019**

A Grosse Pointe Shores Parks Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, May 7, 2019 in the Council Chambers of the Grosse Pointe Shores Municipal Building, 795 Lake Shore Rd. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM by Committee Chairperson.

Roll Call:

Present: Committee Members: Chairman Joe Cipriano, Council Liaison Doug Kucyk, Kathy Mermiges,

Absent: Committee Members Ginny Rice, Tom Mellos and John Mueller (Excused)

Also Present: GPS Public Works Director Brett Smith, Brett Marshall-GPSIF, Public Safety Director John Schulte, Helen Bai Beautification Committee Chair

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of the March 12, 2019 Parks Committee regular meeting minutes on motion by Joe Cipriano, seconded by Kathy Mermiges and unanimously approved.

DPW Update:

- Brett Smith discussed the following topics:
 - Pavement completed to new gate house
 - Signage recommendation meeting for median, gate house and pedestrian walkway taking place Tuesday, May 7th
 - Gate arm to be installed the week of May 6th
 - Harbor water is turned on and had to hire a diver due to high water conditions
 - Bringing in sand bags for the break wall to be prepared for flooding into the park
 - Gate house projected to be open and ready for Memorial weekend

Tennis Courts working well and residents are very happy with them

Punchlist for tennis courts will be addressed next fall including gates not working properly and some sinking

Painted and striped the pool May 4th and on schedule to open

Bathhouse is prepped and ready to open

Framework for concession stand awning is ready to be completed before park is opened

Park passes applied for have been sent out to residents

Cameras are prepped and ready for installation May 11th

GPSIF /Beautification Update:

- Brett Marshall and Helen Bai discussed the following topics:
The tot lot is approved but due to rain, the installation is delayed until further notice; at least 2 weeks. I will take up to two weeks to complete. All equipment for the tot lot is available and ready to ship and all the contractors are ready and waiting
The pickle ball court will be addressed when the tot lot is complete, not sure if they will be moved or rebuilt in the existing location
Basketball court improvements will also be addressed when the tot lot is complete. New adjustable nets are suggested
The Beautification Committee is making adjustments to gardens based on water conditions and are removing gardens that are located near the Wilson Estate

Park & Harbor Rules Update:

- Joe Cipriano stated all rules for the Parks have been completed and are waiting on the Harbor committee to finalize any changes they want to make

New Business:

- Annual Pool Usage Request Approval-The ARC of the Grosse Pointes & Harper Woods:
The Park Committee has no issues with granting approval of the annual request. Kay Drake requested they keep their days but change the times to use the park from Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 3pm. Chief Schulte asked that he has prior notice to give the gate staff notice of entry

Public Comment – None

Committee Member Comments:

- Dogs in the Park: Doug Kucyk discussed the many issues that have come up over the issue of unleashed dogs in the park during the winter months and for goose patrol; excessive dog feces, patrol dogs charging residents and/or non-patrol dogs including one reported incident of a dog biting a four year old child in the face.

The Park Committee recognizes that most respectful people pick up the dog feces when their dog is leashed but the volume of unleashed dogs over the winter months has increased and has become overwhelming as noticed by park rangers, council members and other city officials to the number of feces not picked up creating a problem. When dogs are allowed to run the park unleashed, there is no control to pick up feces. The committee also recognizes the need to keep geese away on a daily basis as they become a severe nuisance and has become a headache to city officials as to what dogs are allowed to provide this service. After discussion, a motion was made and approved to recommend some changes to the rules and provide some framework to address the current issues.

Joe Cipriano made motion to limit the number of dogs approved for goose patrol-Dogs should have proof of training which will identify qualified dogs and provide better service and keep untrained dogs from creating a liability for the city. Set schedules and appropriate times for goose patrol such as, 7 to 8:30 a.m. and 7 to 8 pm 7 days a week during low park volume to reduce risk of unleashed dogs but not eliminate. Eliminate dogs in the park all year except for unleashed approved goose patrol dogs during scheduled hours which should stop the overwhelming dog feces. Motion approved by Doug Kucyk, seconded by Kathey Mermiges; unanimously approved.

Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

The Grosse Pointe Shores Parks Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m. on a motion by Doug Kucyk and seconded by Kathy Mermiges, unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted, Joe Cipriano, Committee Chair