

## Minutes Manchester Recreation Commission

Thursday, February 8, 2018

The Recreation Commission met at 1:00pm on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at the Recreation Complex. Members present were Chair Prater Powell, Stan Rogers, Brent Parsley, Alderman Lana Sain, Parks and Recreation Director Bonnie Gamble, and Assistant Director AJ Fox. Absent were Leslie Brasfield and Leslie Trussler. Guests Billy Dycus and Brandon Wilder representing interests of Manchester Youth Football.

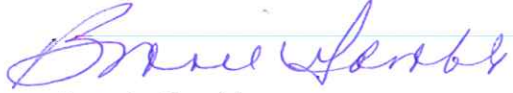
A motion was made by Brent Parsley and seconded by Stan Rogers to accept the January Minutes as read. Motion carried. Chairman Prater Powell invited Mr. Dycus and Mr. Wilder to speak about their concerns. Mr. Dycus was concerned about the lack of practice space for Youth Football because at present they practice between the Babe Ruth and Girls Fast pitch field in Fred Deadman Park. Last year balls were deliberately hit over fences to where they practiced. Mr. Dycus and Mr. Wilder were seeking a more protected practice area just for youth football. They had read about the donation of land for the possible dog park and wanted to look at this land. Mr. Dycus said he thought he could gather the resources to make this into a practice and possible game field.

Director Gamble thanked them for coming but said that the donated land is in a flood plain and that the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation would not give any permission to move large scale dirt/trees in this flood area. It is covered with trees and they is just a 30ft easement to the land. No parking by it would be possible. Instead she suggested the youth football league look to develop the one remaining soccer field in the Manchester Sports Complex. This could be their project to get it into practice field shape and would be a much better location because parking is there and the electrical conduit had already been laid out around the area. Mr. Dycus asked about how much did the grading cost on the practice soccer field just done and Ms. Gamble stated it was between \$36,000-\$38,000. Mr. Dycus and Mr. Wilder were interested in the space and Mr. Dycus said he would come back possibly to the March meeting of the Recreation Complex to present a possible plan.

Director Gamble then discussed the LPRF (Local Parks and Recreation Fund Grant) application due in April 2018. She had presented the estimated cost of the special needs playground in Fred Deadman Park, lighting 3 soccer fields with LED lights, and a prefabricated restroom building to the Board of Mayor and Alderman. The cost at this time was estimated at \$630,000 for the project but additional details were still needed. Ms. Gamble said Park Partners is committed to providing the 50% match for the playground. Also she presented that the funding in the annual budget for payment of the land purchase will end in July 2018. This amounts to \$80,000-\$85,000. If the City agrees to still leave this in the budget then \$160,000 could be budgeted towards the city match. The Board of Alderman voted to approve her applying for the LPRF with the playground renovations, LED lights for the soccer fields and restroom. She will go back to the March BOMA meeting for the actual resolution. Brent

Parsley made a motion to approve the preliminary budget for the LPRF and seconded by Stan Rogers. Chairman Prate Powell called for the vote and it passed. The next meeting of the Recreation Commission is Thursday, March 8 at 1:00PM.

Respectively Submitted,



Bonnie Gamble