

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Thursday, July 19, 2018 – 7 P.M.

NOVI CIVIC CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. with Commissioner Dooley presiding.

ROLL CALL: Dooley (Present), Thomopoulos (Absent), Joshi (Present), Muzzin (Absent), Pratt (Present), Staab (Present), Torimoto (Absent), Student Representatives Jooho Lee (Present), Alice Wou (Absent).

Commissioner Dooley welcomed new Commissioner Joshi to the Parks Commission and thanked her for her volunteerism. Commissioner Joshi said she's excited to be here.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was moved that the agenda be approved by Commissioner Staab and seconded by Commissioner Pratt.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Approval of May 17, 2018 minutes.

It was moved that the minutes for May be approved by Commissioner Pratt and seconded by Commissioner Staab.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Walkable Novi – Commissioners Muzzin & Thomopoulos
Director Muck said there was a committee meeting last week with Commissioners Muzzin and Thomopoulos both there. The seven-year status of the plan was reviewed and input was provided on the tier 1 and tier 2 sidewalk connectivity scores. There was discussion on bumping some scores up based on connectivity to parks more so than to shopping centers. An ITC Trail update was provided. Packets and information on Walkable Novi and the sidewalks are available on the City website.
- B. Novi Park Foundation – Commissioners Staab & Torimoto
 - 1. Pour on the Shore 7/27 Fundraiser Update
Commissioner Staab said the major fundraiser is next week. Tickets are available at the Novi Parks office. Director Muck said about 270 are sold as of today. The maximum target is 450. They go up every day, so he encouraged those interested to buy tickets now. Last year 45 tickets were sold at the door, but there's no guaranteed we'd be able to accommodate that again if ticket sales continue the way they are. Staab said, in the Foundation's infancy as an organization, their fundraiser was a golf outing that raised \$15,000-\$20,000 per year. Golf outings between April and September, there are a plethora in the paper such as the Novi News. President David Landry and Executive Director Rachel Zagaroli came up with Pour on the Shore and we've been able to secure local eateries and craft beers, as well as music and so on, in past years. This year has a different twist with two food trucks. Last year, we had some great food, but

it didn't last the whole evening. Over the years, we've match-granted many things at Pavilion Shore Park with the DNR grant to get that off the ground. We've made scholarships available for people to register for Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services programs who weren't able to afford that. We've also assisted in the upkeep of the Villa Barr property to bring it up to code and allow for an artist-in-residency program to go there. We've had some very great sponsors who have helped us quite a lot over the years. We've also done many things with different field improvements; for soccer we've teamed up with the Jaguars on many different fields.

Director Muck said, at Monday's Foundation meeting, Ascension Brewing's owner, Adam Czap, attended and discussed some potential long-term collaboration with the Parks Foundation and Ascension Brewery. It's great to have that local supporter and you'll see more come out about that soon.

C. Grants Committee – Commissioners Dooley & Pratt

2. ITC Trailhead Park Expansion Update

Director Muck said we did receive notice the grant application for the ITC Trailhead Park Expansion property has been approved for funding and acquisition. We have the corner of Nine Mile and Garfield Roads, which we acquired in 2017 to become the ITC Trailhead Park. That is our property now; signed and ready to go for future development. This was another parcel identified by the Grants Committee as a potential target for acquisition. The owner is still interested in selling that parcel of land, so last Monday at City Council, Council approved the final step of the project agreement so we can move on to the final stages of closing on this property. This is a little more than 20 acres. Neighboring parcel is owned by ITC Holdings and one thought when acquiring the properties was to be able to connect the two in the future. We had an initial conversation with ITC about this parcel and they were amenable to having further discussions about having a lease agreement with us so we can connect the parcels. Moving forward, if everything progresses, we should be able to close on the expansion property later this fall.

D. Parks Updates

Commissioner Dooley explained that the Parks Updates are reports given by the commissioners after visiting different parks around the city.

1. Power Park (June) – Commissioner Staab

Commissioner Staab displayed showed photos of the entrance of Power Park and the Tom Holzer naming rights sign. He showed photos of the grass when it was green in June and some premier girls fastpitch tournament games occurring when he visited one June afternoon. He showed photos of the playground the Parks Foundation helped fund. The concession area is a vast improvement from several years ago. The bathroom was well kept and the trash container was not overflowing. The mirror was clean and there was no trash on the floor. The canopies over the benches help protect from fouls balls and also to keep people cooler. Some of the sponsors for the tournament are also posted there at the tournament; such as Provident Dentistry, Waste Management and Spalding DeDecker engineering firm. It was a great day out at the fields and games were going on.

Commissioner Pratt said he went out there for a tournament and it was just amazing and fun. Being in parks and recreation, to see all that activity and action, and people enjoying it. It's nice to see. Beautiful fields, too.

2. Rotary Park (May) – Commissioner Pratt

Commissioner Pratt said Rotary Park is very well kept. The parking lot looked like it had been filled in and was very clean. The whole, entire park was very clean. Could not find a trash at all. The signs were very well to see when entering areas. At the one trail, there's nothing that says "no vehicle access" and one car cut right through there around the tennis courts. Besides a handful of cracks in the tennis courts, none of them had grass coming through them. Some of the cracks are starting to get wide. There were four people playing tennis and they wanted some sort of green board to play against. They said that'd be the perfect location. The nets were perfect. There's no label for the trail off the south end of the parking lot, but it's nicely groomed. Right where the other trail enters north of the tennis courts, there's no sign there if we are maintaining that. There's a few branches that are starting to crowd. And culverts in there are starting to rust. Director Muck said there's a potential water and sewer project going in at Rotary under the tennis courts. That's not happening now, so we're now looking at doing something on the north end of the park by Nine Mile. We haven't done any improvements to the trails on the north end in anticipation of those improvements happening. We should have more information on that later this year, but there are plans to enhance the trails at Rotary Park beyond that project. Pratt said there's no major issues with the playground and the mulch is where it should be.

Commissioner Joshi asked how old the play structures were? Commissioner Pratt said about five years old, maybe put up in 2013. Director Muck said he arrived in 2014 and they had just been installed.

Representative Lee said the road that goes into the park from the neighborhood to the south is inconspicuous. Suggested adding another sign for the tennis courts because there are sometimes problems with court availability at Novi High School and people don't know about the other courts available.

Commissioner Pratt said there used to be one big sign off Nine Mile and it went to two smaller ones. Director Muck said that was done because the big sign was in the right of way and causing some traffic vision issues. Pratt said it'd be good to have the park amenities listed on the Nine Mile sign. Pratt said the chain link fence has some sharp edges that need to be bent back down.

Commissioner Staab asked if the Rotary Club still maintains or assists with the park maintenance. Director Muck said yes, they've been waiting for water and sewer project. They're waiting on the county for it, but Rotary has indicated they want to be a part of the next phase of improvements at the park. We also want to connect the sidewalk to the tennis courts and make those more handicap accessible and enhance that whole area all at once.

Commissioner Pratt said he noticed the businesses' staff is walking there.

Commissioner Dooley said it's one of the most improved parks in Novi, by far.

3. ITC Community Sports Park (April) – Commissioner Dooley

Commissioner Dooley said ITC Community Sports Park is really the gem of our city for activities for all ages. When you come in off Eight Mile, you see the Novi baseline marker. It was in a different spot years ago, on the left side when you come in, but then it was put over near Pope playground. The Novi obelisk has an interesting history that talks about the rich heritage of Novi as it was a fruit and vegetable agricultural location. It talks about the railroad that went through Novi. That Tim Pope memorial play structure has gone through a few enhancements over the year and there was a lot of activity when he was there in May. There's a nice sheltered area for amenities that's permit-only when they

want to use it. The grills were clean and ash free. It's well marked in case people need to know what to do in case of storms or an emergency. Sizzling Summer was very prominent on the tennis courts and the courts were very well maintained. The signage has phone numbers predominantly displayed at the fields. Because of the location near where Oakland, Livingston, Wayne and Washtenaw counties meet, emergency services didn't know how to route the call. There were issues and the City of Novi stepped up with the signage and routing 911 to Novi. We had a bad spring, so there were a few issues with grass, but those have likely been taken care of since his last visit. The baseball fields had a lot of activity and were very, very well maintained. It was a very well attended event with multiple teams on multiple fields. It was very well maintained and there wasn't a crumb out there. The soccer fields were very well maintained. The kiosks are letting people know what is available throughout the city. There was also a library exchange box over near Pope play structure. Commissioner Pratt asked who maintains the library boxes? Director Muck said the library does, but parks maintenance installed them. Pratt said the one at Rotary had a crack in the concrete base. Commissioner Pratt said at Rotary Park, there's a sign that says "closed for the season" with dates, but the dates have been scratched off.

MATTERS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

A. Bike Sharing Programs

Director Muck said this came from some Park Commission interviews. Bike sharing are community bikes available for rent. There are a lot of different options, but you can book these via a phone app or kiosks. Some are docked, others are dockless. This is relatively new; four citywide systems were in effect nationwide in 2010 from what we've been able to research and determine. Now it's up to 55. That means about 42,000 bikes across the county. There are eight active agencies in Michigan with some type of bike-sharing program. Three of the most common brands are MoGo, Zagster and BCycle. In metro Detroit, it seems MoGo is mainly the one becoming the most prevalent. We tried to do some comparables to City of Novi. Battle Creek was probably the closest in terms of population. They had three stations and 12 bikes with a cost of \$20,000 to start up. Southfield and Dearborn are under Zagster and are slightly larger communities than us. Many of these have been funded by grants, Foundations, Friends or community groups. Not necessarily Parks Foundations or Friends of City Parks, but City foundations or health and wellness foundations. Costs we tried to consolidate, but you can see where some of the rates fall. They're paid by the hour or some communities have annual memberships. Five other communities started from 2015-18, including Detroit Grand Rapids, Jackson County, Port Huron and Oakland University. Just recently a week or so ago, the Royal Oak region announced a partnership for 2019 between Royal Oak, Ferndale, Berkley, Oak Park and Huntington Woods. They got almost \$500,000 through a federal Transportation Alternatives grant through Southeast Michigan Council of Governments. What we've been able to pull from their press releases is they're planning 150 bikes through 30 stations through MoGo, which is also what Detroit's using. They anticipate charging a daily pass of \$8, \$18 monthly and \$80 annually. You can see they designated some high-population areas, such as Beaumont Hospital, the Detroit Zoo and Kroger. What's most telling is you can see what a big region this spans, from Eight Mile to 14 Mile and Greenfield to I-75, which is

about 26 square miles. Those are the basics and we're not necessarily looking for any motion or action item, but this is because we've had a Council request saying Parks Commission might want to start talking about this. We figured we'd put it out and open it up for some discussion.

Commissioner Staab asked if we would maintain the bikes? Director Muck said no, they'd be maintained by the companies. We haven't had any contact with these companies, so we haven't investigated what the contracts look like or anything along that line. Muck said he doesn't know what they do in the winter, if they're picked up or provided.

Commissioner Pratt asked if we were looking at this as an amenity to the community, not for revenue; more as a turnkey operation where they'll maintain, operate and fix it? Director Muck said we haven't looked at it at all. This is the very first conversation we've had on it. Pratt said that's how Detroit moved in on it and put stops at the bus stops and got MDOT and DDOT grants to support it from there. Pratt said he was thinking in Novi where the locations would be at. Commissioner Dooley said Commissioner Thomopoulos had some comments that she sent in tonight since she couldn't be here and knew this would be discussed. Dooley said Thomopoulos wrote she's generally in bike-share programs and recommends Novi conducts a trial. She wrote, as previously suggested, bike shares for the bike shares should be made at Lakeshore, as most people don't have bike racks and therefore don't have a practical way to get their bike to the park. Having some bikes available for bikes and kids would be a way to allow them to experience this wonderful part of this Novi park. The same logic applies to ITC Trail.

Commissioner Pratt said that might be different than this. This is more of a commuter transport from point A to point B. What she's inquiring about would be more done by a vendor at Lakeshore where they could rent bikes, paddleboards, etc. Two options. Director Muck agreed and said mountain biking is completely different than this type of service. Even when you get into mountain bikes, the scopes of sizes or features, there's not a one-size fits all style. There's not any type of mountain bike sharing program we're aware of and you'd have to go through some sort of vendor. These are bikes you use to go to the store or a movie. The ITC Trail could be an option for that, but that's why we're having this discussion. Is that something we pilot from Providence Park Hospital down the ITC Trail once that's done? That's why we want to have this discussion.

Commissioner Joshi said she thought it'd be a good idea to start with something small and see how it goes before planning something on a bigger scale.

Commissioner Pratt said he sat on the Detroit when they were putting the MoGos in the Detroit area and he heard the pros and the cons. Some of the cons they talked about with the MoGo bikes was they didn't have big enough baskets because some of the Wayne State students were using them to buy groceries. They were trying to carry and ride with it and wanted some sort of saddle bags on the back of it. They're popular and keep popping up in the Detroit area. Commissioner Joshi said, as a physical therapist, she has to note everyone should be wearing helmets. Commissioner Pratt said MoGo does not provide helmets. Director Muck asked if there was any thought on the docking station versus the free standing? Commissioner Pratt said he's only seen docking stations in Minneapolis, California, Florida. He's never been to a free-standing one. He's used credit card swipe and apps.

Representative Lee said he's seen docking stations in Texas when he went for his competition last month. With their system, the city's sidewalks had specific paths and markings on the paths and sidewalks for bikes. For Novi, vendors would be a better option. With more isolated areas, even as Novi's growing, many of the sidewalks are designed for walking, not biking, and cut off in certain areas. Cars are much more preferable because there's much more traffic. Some areas ITC could have vendors and be effective. But areas like Providence is mainly designed for parking space and entry instead of walking path or biking. A lot of Novi is like that with the Town Center and other shopping centers.

Commissioner Pratt said that's a good point and there'd be a lot of up-front costs for labeling Novi as a biking community. They put a lot of money down Jefferson for that reason alone to put bike lanes down for MoGo. Pratt said he likes to see people get out and active.

Director Muck said it sounds like this may be something to take to the Walkable Novi Committee, since they don't just deal with walking, but all forms of moving around Novi. Muck said he saw the docking stations in Charlotte and saw the freestanding ones in Scottsdale, Ariz., and they're everywhere. That's something the City is going to want to really talk about if they want to get into this. They had yellow and lime green bikes in front of hotels and stores. Dozens of them. Would they want that or a docking station that is much more controlled?

Commissioner Dooley asked if one would be more feasible for the four seasons Michigan has? Commissioner Pratt saw Minneapolis and Detroit have docking stations, and MoGo pulls them out in the winter. MoGo is looking into fat-tire bikes, but they'd have to adjust their racks. Dooley said there could be additional liability in the winter.

Director Muck said he would take this to the Walkable Novi Committee for further discussion.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Administration Division – Director Jeff Muck

1. Park Project Updates

Director Muck said July is busy with parks projects. The Bosco Fields property is the collaboration between the City and Novi schools to build soccer fields and a cricket pitch at the corner of 11 Mile and Beck. We've been working with the school district and been very happy with their communication and willingness to work with us on that. We're in the engineering phase and are about 60-70 percent site plan completion. We plan to keep moving forward with that and we plan to get that to City Council before taking that out to bid. Our goal is still to break ground on that this fall so we can get a couple good growing seasons in before we use that.

Director Muck said The Novi Road cemetery and Knapp Cemetery, we did a recent study where we brought in a ground-penetrating radar study where they were searching for all the monuments and searching for marked and unmarked graves. It was a real interesting report we got back and we're diving into that with our GIS department because they've been working on mapping all of the graves and headstones. We already have maps on the website with more information, and that's just going to grow with this. One of the reasons we did the ground-penetrating radar project is because City Council wants us to make more improvements to the cemeteries. This would allow us to find out where those improvements could go. We'll provide you more information down the line

on that. We've left the flags in the ground as markings since the study was just done last week.

Director Muck said Villa Barr Art Park has quite a bit going on that. Deputy Director Ringle, Recreation Supervisor Amelia Purdy-Ketchum, myself, and former mayor and Parks Foundation President David Landry were invited up to Crystal Mountain at the end of June. Crystal Mountain Resort has opened up a small, courtyard park called Barr Park. One of the centerpieces is a David Barr's sculptures that was donated when his estate was closing out; Equation. It was very nice. We posted some pictures of that and we will have additional video from that. It really highlighted the collaboration between Michigan Legacy Art Park, Crystal Mountain Resort and City of Novi. Former Mayor Landry just gave a great speech during part of ceremony on that collaboration. Michigan Legacy Art Park has been crucial in getting the Friends of Villa Barr group off the ground and starting the artist-in-residency program off the ground. They've been a wonderful resource for our staff. Farmington just had a dedication ceremony. They've installed three pieces of artwork that were formerly at Villa Barr Art Park that are now on loan to them for most likely two years. If you're driving through downtown Farmington and notice three sculptures, those are recognized as on loan from the City of Novi. That was nice, as well. Parking and pathway systems will be starting any day, most likely next week. Weather could have something to do with that. We're still anticipating a 10/6 opening of Villa Barr.

Director Muck said Lakeshore Park was presented to City Council in June and many of the commissioners were at the informational session at the Police Training Center. City Council directed City staff that they wanted more financial info on the options and also other options on location of the building, so we were not able to get a consensus on either of the two options. Council wanted more info on putting the building further back in the park, options of putting the building on West Park. We have to vet out those items and we don't have an updated timeline yet.

2. ITC Corridor Trail Update

Director Muck said construction for the Nine Mile-to-11 Mile segment should be awarded Monday night at the Council meeting. We got the bids in before City Council. We sent out about 55 letters to residents along this stretch about this project and ITC Holdings also sent out letters to some residents along the corridor who may have been using the corridor property and had lease agreements along the property. We are very close to starting that final construction and having the full five miles of the corridor complete. We don't have a timeline for final completion. There are a lot of wetland in this area, so there will be a lot of boardwalk in this area. If we have a really wet fall, that could delay some things, as well. We anticipate by spring 2019 this entire five-mile trail would be done. When this first came up in 2011-12, this was looking at a 2025 completion and now we're looking at 2019. Multiple City Councils have pushed this forward and seen the benefit of this trail. The light's at the end of the trail.

B. Recreation Division – Deputy Director Tracie Ringle

1. Program & Services

Deputy Director Ringle said fiscal year 2017-18 ended on June 30 and we've been keeping track of stats from year to year so we can see some trends. In a previous meeting, we had talking about sponsorship and the importance of that

and having that information available online. We had a 90 percent increase in sponsorship from 2016-17 to 2017-18. Tremendous effort by our staff and especially with Light Up the Night, which Recreation Supervisor Cristin Spiller led that effort. We have quality programs and our business community is seeing that and aligning with us in a positive way. It's a great revenue source for us and a great way for them to communicate with the community. Our youth classes and clinics had a 13 percent increase this year largely due to our dance program, which grew by 60 percent. Recreation Supervisor Amelia Purdy-Ketchum has done a great job adding dance programs, which we hadn't had two years ago and now we multiple with tap, ballet, jazz and a recital. It's a nice piece to have and a lot of students are younger and may want to try it out without being tied to a larger program. Summer day camps grew by 25 percent. A large number of those were due to cultural arts camps being added. Our dog park registration numbers held steady where we have about 800 members at the dog park, increasing tremendously since opening. Our shelter rentals increased. Lakeshore increased 10 percent from 2016-17 to 2017-18, and a lot of that has been from going from the tent option to the third shelter there. Our other park shelter rentals had a 40 percent increase at the other three parks that have shelters. Civic Center group rentals increased by 17 percent. Overall, across the board, we've had a lot of good strides in our program areas. A couple program areas we're keeping an eye on are some of our youth leagues. We've had a little bit of drop there and with some adult classes and clinics. While we've had increases in some areas, we've had decreases in other areas. Some of that we attribute to people shifting and age shifting, as well. What's great is we're able to see that right at our fingertips and adjust that right away instead of waiting a few years to see trends.

Deputy Director Ringle said the department is going into a very busy week. This Sunday is the Festival of Chariots on the campus. It starts with a parade and ceremony at 11 a.m. and then the parade ends at Fuerst Park where they'll have activities at Fuerst Park. Big event and they expect 5,000-10,000 people to attend that. It's every year and does really well, so we're keep our fingers crossed for that event. Next Thursday-Sunday, we're hosting the 18U Northern Nationals tournament. We have 25 teams registered so far, with a few more trickling in. It's a smaller tournament. The 18U tournament is generally smaller than the 16U tournament, which we've had some of that in the past. It's still a positive for the community. We still have people visiting the community. We still have hotel stays, meals and so on. It's an opportunity for us to showcase our fields here. The evening following the Pour on the Shore next Friday, next Saturday we're holding our first-ever family luau, led by Amelia Purdy-Ketchum. It's a free event that'll feature Polynesian dancers and crafts and a pig roast. The pig roast has a fee of \$7, but the rest of it is a free event. We've had an overwhelming response on Facebook and we've added more to it based on those numbers. We're looking forward to that and are able to use the same set-up as Pour on the Shore. So one night is adult focused and one night is family focused. Our Sizzling Summer Art Series continues Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. July events take place at Pavilion Shore Wednesdays and in August we're back at Fuerst Park (note: August is at Novi Civic Center). We'll host a Maker's Fest on a Friday evening. We've added some events from last year, so that'll be very hands on for families to touch and take and learn while having fun, as well.

Commissioner Pratt asked whether staff receives a yearly report on the economic impact from events like the national tournament or Festival of Chariots where people come from all over? Deputy Director Ringle said we put one together our own, taking numbers that are justified through the national parks association through economic development where you're able to plug in the number of attendees and get the economic impact of that. It's a great question for Greg Morris to go back to USA Softball to see if they have a formula for how they run those, too. Pratt said the parking lots and every restaurant could be impacted when we're running the programs, so he's wondering what it is. Ringle said, for the 16U tournament, we've said there's \$1 million in impact.

C. Older Adults – Older Adult Services Manager Karen Kapchonick

1. Program & Services

Manager Kapchonick said the DIA is coming to Meadowbrook this Monday to do a presentation called "Behind the Scene." They bring some pictures and talk about some of the museum mysteries. It's an interaction with the residents that do attend. We have 18-20 people signed up for that. Thursday we have an ice cream social called Skits, Songs and Shenanigans being emceed by Kathy Crawford. We have about 45 individuals signed up for that. In the spirit of the luau community, we're also going to have a summer luau 8/2 that'll be supported by Rose Senior Living at Providence Park. We're very fortunate to have a lot of sponsors help us out on our luncheons. We have Tropical Steelpan music with Aaron Parrott 8/16 supported by Novi Public Library. A very traditional program we have celebrates 85 years and beyond that Brightstar Care has sponsored over the past 10 years. It's a birthday celebration for anyone 85+. Part of that program entails questions we ask those who are 85 or older and then we highlight them during the event. Going on to our lifelong learning, our last speaker series will be held next week on wills, trusts and ladybird deeds. This is a program that's grown over time and has about 20 individuals coming to that. We usually have 15 speakers come over the course of a season and it's a program that's very resource oriented in getting information to the residents. Thanks to Commissioner Dooley and Muzzin for their participation in the Memorial Day Parade. We appreciate your volunteering, especially with our veterans. Kapchonick said she was happy to report on transportation. There was a focus group a couple of months ago that was making some changes to the Older Adults Transportation Services. Some of those changes are extending the hours Monday-Friday to 8 a.m.-7 p.m. and Saturday to add an additional driver, based on need. As we continue on and have more individuals on Saturday, we'll add that second driver. And there will no longer be a fee to use the service if they're going within the City of Novi. There used to be a one-way fare of \$3, which is now a free fare. For those traveling outside the City of Novi, it'll still be \$5. Another addition to that is those businesses right on the border of Novi, such as the Meijer at Eight Mile/Haggerty, will not have a fee. That extends to the Grand River/Wixom area with Meijer and Kroger. Those two border areas will be free outside the City. More information will be forthcoming on that. Our exercise and fitness has another sponsor in Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, who will be providing informational sessions at our Novi Pathwalkers Tuesday mornings at Meadowbrook. On 6/26, the discussion was on "all the little things," which focused on stretching, use of the fitness station equipment and footwear. They did talk about the fitness equipment over at Meadowbrook. We have an

outdoor four stations that they went out there and showed them how to use those four stations. Next Tuesday is called "Hydrate to Dominate," talking about proper nutrition and the purpose of drinking water and staying hydrated. The last one will be 8/28 called "Step it Up" on the focus of physical activity, regardless of your age or physical limitations. There's always modifications that can be done. Our goal is to keep people healthy, active and out there in the community. Commissioner Dooley asked about the 8/15 Older Adults Advisory Board listed on the calendar and how does one get involved with that? Manager Kapchonick said we are currently looking for an individual to participate in that. It's five members; four are residents and one is a member of the public library and one from Older Adult Services. All they'd have to do is contact Older Adult Services or Director Muck.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Maureen Zack of 359 S. Lake Drive said she was here to talk about Lakeshore Park. She asked to please keep the new building small to help maintain the natural "up north" feel of the park. She asked to please size the building for park purposes only; the kids camp, restrooms and changing rooms for the swimmers. Less is more. She said there's already too much traffic on South Lake Drive and she feels it's dangerous with the mix of cars, bicycles and pedestrians. She said a pedestrian was hit on 14 Mile Road near East Lake Drive last week. She does not want to see a repeat of that. She also asked to please keep the building off the hill at the front of the park because the front of the park is the nicest area of the park for picnicking, a view of the lake and catching a breeze off the lake.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Joshi said this was her first meeting, so she learned a lot. She had read a few of the previous agendas to keep abreast of what was going on and is excited. Commissioner Staab said he looks forward to further information on Lakeshore Park as it becomes available. He said he appreciates all the hard work and informative information tonight. All the activity going on in the city and the past results of the 2017-18 year and the economic impact of each program we offer as part of the overall engine of the city. Appreciates all your hard work.

Representative Lee said, despite his opinion on the implementation of bikes in Novi, Novi is definitely going in a different direction as it grows in size. It's synonymous with the Asian town you've heard from City Council. Novi does have the potential to become a biking community, but in order for it to have major changes such as Asian town or a biking community, it's going to take some time. Like Joshi said, it'll take some small steps to get there, but he thinks it's possible.

Commissioner Pratt said he agrees with everything student Lee said. It's been nice to hear him speak up today and Pratt thanked him for being part of the board and a little bit more active. Pratt said it amazes him every time that there's room and time to add new programs. In the ebb and flow, there are some programs that will be successful and some that will not. You guys do a really good job filling those holes and offering programs to the community. It's great to live in this community and have these programs for his kids to participate in and it keeps him here. Thank you.

Commissioner Dooley said he echoes all the comments and thanks everyone for being a member of this strong team. He wants to add the importance of supporting the parks in the City. You hear our presentations and hear the passions we have for the various parks we visit and comment on the good, bad and the ugly. Overall, we are very

blessed to have the parks we do. It's really a tribute to Director Muck and his department that keeps it truly jewels in the city. You see parks in other cities and he'd put ours against any of them. Dooley thanked audience for participation.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Staab and seconded by Commissioner Joshi.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Dooley at 8:17 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: _____

Jay Dooley, Chairperson

Shelley Thomopoulos, Vice Chairperson