

**PARK BOARD MINUTES  
Foster Community Center  
October 13, 2021**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Zoe Ahlstrom; Kimberly Whitfield; Nate Scramlin; Kristi James

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rick Kibbey, Erika Poland; Mike Dombrowski; Brian Daniels

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation Director; Kellie Brown, Board Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:35 p.m.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA:** None

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Tabled to next month due to lack of quorum

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Ethics Training Video**

Whitfield confirmed she had reviewed the ethics training video as OCA requested annually.

**Election of Officers**

Tabled until next month due to lack of quorum. Ahlstrom stated she has been serving as president and Poland has been vice-president. Ahlstrom is interested in continuing the role, Poland is not. Dombrowski has stated he is interested in serving a vice-president. Are there any other board members interested in either position?

**Park Ordinance (River Trail Speed)**

Kaschinske asked, as a board, to look at motorized vehicles using the river trail and the speed limit for the trail. Currently, e-bikes are permitted on the trail, but only Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 is not permitted. Class 1 and 2 have a maximum speed of no more than 20mph and Class 3 is 28mph. Kaschinske reviewed the differences between the e-bike classes.

Certain areas of the trail are fine with this speed because there are clear site lines, however, other areas do not have the site lines. At this time there is no speeds posted on the trail.

E-bikes are not the only motorized vehicle on the trail, there are also hover boards, scooters, mopeds and ATV vehicles. Also, need to address e-bike use on the mountain bike trail. Everything goes to enforcement and what can be enforced.

Kaschinske stated at this time there is not ordinance language and if a speed limit were imposed on the trail, how would it be enforced.

Whitfield inquired with the violence occurring, could LPD enforce.

Kaschinske stated he is ok with LPD on the trail with bikes or motorcycles, but not cars and SUVs. Speed enforcement is also a low priority call for police.

Kaschinske stated when a call is made to LPD about vehicles on the trail, they need to know where the vehicles originated from and the drivers may want to engage in a chase.

Scramlin clarified what the board is being asked to prevent, vehicles on the trail or e-bikes.

Kaschinske stated the number one complaint is motorized vehicles at high speeds on the trail and he is looking for language regarding motorized vehicles. If this goes to Council, board support is helpful.

Whitfield inquired about the use of the digital speed signs.

Scramlin stated mopeds and ATVs should not be allowed on the trail and that should be posted instead of speed limits.

Kaschinske stated if speed signs were used, post lower than the 20mph or post language about slow down, safety and respect of others, etc.

Ahlstrom would like all non-motorized not permitted on the trail, however is there anything about equity if the only way someone can use a bike is motorized.

Kaschinske stated as long as it does not go faster than a mountain bike.

Discussion continued on types of incidents reported on the trail, difference between parks and preserves.

James stated she is ok with scooters (ie: Lime) and e-bikes on the trail, but not mopeds. Scramlin agreed.

Ahlstrom stated there are two parts; first is the river trail and second is the mountain bike paths. Can certain motorized vehicles be banned on the trail.

Kaschinske stated if it is gas powered, he has an issue. Language could be included to ban mopeds, ATVs, and snowmobiles. The other issue is technology is always changing, and in time, these could all be electric.

Scramlin stated all vehicles excluded except e-bikes and electric scooters.

Ahlstrom stated speed is the delineator and would like input or letter from Friends of the Lansing Regional Trail.

Whitfield wants to stress the safety of others.

Kaschinske stated he would check with LPD for enforcement information and LFD for injury incidents.

James inquired what other cities have done. Kaschinske stated he is waiting for information from Sterling Heights.

Scramlin stated the need to specify scooter and type.

## **UPDATES**

Turner Mini-Park is completed.

Bear Lake trail extension is open.

Mt. Hope Cemetery large Red Oak came down across trail, on guardrail and damaged headstones.

Maguire Fitness Park is installed and ribbon cutting is next week.

Southwest Town Square art is being installed and ribbon cutting is next week.

Beacon Park Arch and ADA swing are installed.

River Trail is closed east of Aurelius and should be open by the end of the year.

Halloween drive through at Frances Park is October 30.

Cambridge Trail construction begins and should be done by the end of the year.

Lansing School District backed out of the sale of the land by Fine Park.

Frances Park neighbors have requested a master plan; meeting scheduled November 18 to discuss. Board is invited.

Hunters Ridge the Lansing Eaton Neighborhood Association had misinformation they were disseminating.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted: Kellie Brown, Park Board Secretary

Approved November 10, 2021