

**PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

**Thursday, Oct. 19, 2017 – 7 P.M.**

**NOVI CIVIC CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. with Commissioner Thomopoulos presiding.

**ROLL CALL:** Dooley (Absent), Thomopoulos (Present), Bauss (Present), Jewell (Absent), Pratt (Present), Staab (Present), Torimoto (Absent), Student Representatives Jooho Lee (Present), Sanidhya Singh (Present).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

It was moved that the agenda be approved as amended by Commissioner Bauss and seconded by Commissioner Pratt.

**Voice Vote** **Unanimous**

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:** None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Approval of Sept. 21, 2017 minutes.

It was moved that the minutes for September be approved by Commissioner Pratt and seconded by Commissioner Bauss.

**Voice Vote** **Unanimous**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. Walkable Novi – Commissioners Bauss & Thomopoulos  
Commissioner Thomopoulos said the status is the same as last month. The updated proposal for Walkable Novi projects for next year is in the revision stage by staff before being released to the public next month.
- B. Novi Park Foundation – Commissioners Staab & Torimoto  
Commissioner Staab said he missed the 10/10 meeting. Director Muck said the net was just under \$15,000. Commissioner Staab said the next meeting is in November where discussion will focus on changes to the bylaws.  
Director Muck said most of the October meeting discussion focused on Pour on the Shore regarding food. In the past, local restaurants have been relied on to provide food donations, but that has been difficult to guarantee amounts for feeding 375-400 people. The Foundation will look for possibly one vendor to provide all of the food included in the price of the admission.  
Commissioner Staab said the Foundation is always looking for new folks to step up and become part of the Foundation, which has existed for 13-14 years. Provides matching funds for playgrounds and parks.
- C. Grants Committee – Commissioners Dooley & Pratt  
Director Muck said there was a memo sent out last week updating commissioners on the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grants for property acquisition, Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs grant for the Villa Barr property, and Michigan State Youth Soccer Association grants pending. Will provide updates as they're received. Will have a Grants Committee meeting in

either November or December. This is the time the committee typically gets back together because it syncs up with the DNR's trust fund cycle.

D. Parks Updates – Postponed to next month.

1. Power Park – Commissioner Staab

Commissioner Staab said pictures were taken 10/14 during rain. Was pleased with the conditions of the fields despite the amount of rain received. Checked the condition of the various trash receptacles and men's bathroom, and they were in good condition. One concern was some trash near one garbage at the concession stand, but it's already been addressed. One scheduled tournament was canceled due to the rain. Took some pictures of the pathway in the back of the park and sign from sponsor Tom Holzer.

Commissioner Bauss asked whether the concessions company would take the garbage with them in the future?

Director Muck said they would take it with them or inform City staff so parks maintenance staff can dispose of it.

2. ITC Community Sports Park – Commissioner Pratt

Commissioner Pratt said he walked the soccer fields and they're all in good shape. He said there were a lot of birds on the ball diamonds. He said the trail was coming along very, very well. Most of it is formed. The basketball and tennis courts are starting to show their age, but there were 15-20 kids out playing pick-up basketball. The playground is in good shape considering it's a wooden structure. It looked like some painting to the shade structures and additional mulch were put down. Asked whether additional stone would be put in the parking lots before next season?

Director Muck said, every spring, new gravel is added to the parking lots.

Commissioner Pratt asked how many years ITC has left on its naming rights?

Director Muck said he believes ITC still has two years on its naming agreement.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked if there was a plan for the wooden structure?

Director Muck said there is one scheduled in the CIP.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked whether it had to be replaced?

Director Muck said it does.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she took her kids there when they were little.

Director Muck said it has had a long lifespan and staff have been really diligent on maintaining it and removing items down to where it's now the minimum.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked whether it would be similar in terms of functionality.

Director Muck said the new playground could use new materials that mimic the existing playground. Will get into that more in 2019-20 when its scheduled for replacement.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she recalls it having a lot of fun, unique features other playgrounds doesn't.

Commissioner Pratt said he still takes his daughters there, ever since they were little. It has a stage, seating and crevices where they can act out. It's a nice set-up and more of an interpretive-style playground.

3. Novi Dog Park (Sept.) – Commissioner Pratt

Commissioner Pratt said the majority of the stuff talked about previously, like the grass, was taken care of and it's impressive how long grass can be kept there. Went around tournament time and there was some parking confusion. Some people parked at The Sports Club of Novi. He doesn't believe there's currently a trail coming from the sports club.

Deputy Director Ringle said there is a trail.

Director Muck said the new townhomes development paid to have a trail paved from behind the ice arena and sports club.

Commissioner Pratt said he stopped to talk to 2-3 people and no one had trouble with evening shutoffs. They also said they like receiving a big tutorial before they receive their first key. They like that whole entire direction, who their sister city is and how the whole thing operates.

~~4. Wildlife Woods Park (Sept.) – Commissioner Torimoto~~

5. Rotary Park (Sept.) – Commissioner Bauss

Commissioner Bauss said he said he visited and the lot looked recently striped. He walked the trail and was astounded at the amount of birds and wildlife he's seen. He said there was a place where an old sign or bench used to sit on two 2x4s.

Director Muck said he believes that's an old bench that is within a conservation easement, so no improvements or replacements can be done without approval from the DEQ.

Commissioner Bauss said he looked at the tennis courts and there's been some cracking and ponding in some areas. He said there's a gravel path from the parking lot to the courts that doesn't really lead to an entrance. He said it looked like there had been some utility work there and some hydroseeding on the east side of the tennis courts that got onto the courts.

Director Muck said they did some well testing and this was part of that process.

Commissioner Bauss said the bathrooms were both clean and orderly. There's a pavilion and playground with a little library and the box was gone. Director Muck said they take those out for the winter. Commissioner Bauss said there's a road where people park there to take their kids to the play structure so they don't have to walk from the parking lot. He said there were people at the play structure and it was around dusk, so there weren't any tennis players.

Representative Singh asked if there were any plans to resurface the courts since they've been in their current status for a year or two.

Director Muck said the courts were fully resurfaced in 2013 and an acrylic crack filled was filled in 2015. He said those are the dark areas and the others are new cracks that have formed. He said staff met with a contractor last week and received a quote to refill, seal bond and tape those cracks at both ITC and Rotary's courts. He said staff is working to put those into the budget so they don't deteriorate further. The contractor said the courts are in good shape and not at immediate danger of falling apart, but they do need to be filled and addressed. Staff also talked to the contractor about being on a preventative maintenance schedule that we've never been on before where they come in August-September to refill any cracks that appear.

Representative Singh said the nets are starting to sag in the middle. He said it would be a good idea for future seasons for someone to go check on the nets every once and a while to tighten them. People aren't supposed to sit on the nets or hang on them, but they do.

Commissioner Pratt said it would be a good idea for the library to put a sign up saying the little library is removed for the winter. He said a lot of people would be at the playground and bring books back and think it was vandalized.

Representative Singh said there is a sign at one turn and there's another turn that's sharper.

Representative Lee said he drives that route every day and, in the winters, wishes there was a sign that said "slow down" because that turn is a lot sharper than it looks. If you're going fast in the winter, you could probably slide off. Asked if it was possible to put in a sign?

Director Muck said he could check with the roads department. They actually just put in some signage in reflectors up on East Lake Drive because there were some issues with that curve.

~~6. Villa Barr Art Park (Aug.)—Commissioner Jewell~~

**MATTERS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:**

- A. ITC Corridor Trail Presentation by resident Karl Migrin  
Resident Karl Migrin said he lives at 49450 Nine Mile Road, just west of Garfield. Has been watching process on the soon-to-be-purchased ITC Trailhead Park and thanked Director Muck for allowing him to give a presentation. After eight months of use, he was surprised some cracks had developed in the new pathway and brought it to Muck's attention. The contractor company came out and applied a new 1.5-inch topping that is holding up a little better. A tractor drove over the new asphalt three days later, which resulted in tractor marks that are beginning to crack. Migrin said the wood decking needs to be looked at closely for ITC Phase 1B from Nine Mile to 11 Mile. The wood standard was recently changed for treated-pressure lumber. He said the new standard is needed when going out to bid for the next phase. The contractor made some repairs and they held up well in the winter, including a plow driving over them. There's no horse riding allowed. Migrin said he's encountered two horse riders who said they weren't riding on the trail, but hoof marks were visible. He doesn't have an answer for them when they ask why they cannot ride horses on the trails other than to tell them to stay in Maybury.  
Commissioner Thomopoulos asked whether these were Maybury horses or privately-owned horses kept at Maybury?  
Resident Migrin said he's seen the riders come from a lot parallel to Garfield, on the Tuscan Reserve side, so either Maybury or maybe the vet that may treat horses. They go down Deer Run, onto the trail and somewhere over to Napier Road.  
Commissioner Thomopoulos asked if it was something they did before the asphalt was put down?  
Resident Migrin said he assumes so. There was a lot of horseback riding back then. He said the one rider he confronted, he told the police told him to call the police non-emergency line and she took off in a gallop toward Napier Road. He said the other problem he ran into were two-wheelers and four-wheelers, which he's isolated down to a home on Deer Run. The police are aware with pictures and the address of the home. The dirt biker acknowledged him with a one-finger salute, so he thanked him for that. Migrin said about two months he noticed under all the power towers except one had tall grass. It was around the Fourth of July and it'd be a perfect party area for someone in the Deer Run houses. Migrin let ITC and the Novi Police know what he saw in case they were doing any work. He said it appears it was cut low so they could do some repair work on an isolator on the top of a tower. Lightning may have taken a chunk out of one of those. It appears ITC cut the grass down. Migrin said some of the wildlife he's run into over the years include turkey vultures, who come down and group up on the tower. He's seen more honey bees coming in. He's a bee keeper and hasn't

been able to keep a hive for about 10 years. Other animals include northern flickers, garter snakes, a turkey vulture with a broken wing, a brown snake, coopers hawks (a protected species) and deer. Has seen two juveniles and a mother coopers hawk in his backyard. Has also seen a coyote, wild turkey, garter snake and a red squirrel. Migrin said he rode his bike from his house to ITC Community Sports Park. It was the first time he rode his bike in five years. He said, on the 21AA limestone, they did have the first base coat of asphalt over the area near Eight Mile, but the rest as crushed limestone was Ok to ride over. Migrin thinks, with good weather, it'd be done in about two weeks.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she would be excited if she saw someone riding a horse on the trail as long as they're not on the asphalt ruining it. She rode horses as a child. Asked whether we're OK with horses there?

Director Muck said, in their discussions with ITC, they wanted to keep it pedestrians and cyclists only.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked about the space along the side of the trail? Director Muck said it's private ITC property, so legally they are trespassing on ITC property and the City only has the easement for the trail and about six inches on either side of the trail. The horses cannot be on the trail itself, per City rules, and they cannot be on the ITC corridor at all.

Commissioner Pratt said it would also get complicated with a multi-use trail with bikes coming up behind horses.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said there used to be horses in at Lakeshore Park and they were all chased away. She said it's sad to see horses aren't welcome in Novi anymore. She said it's unfortunate, as kids on the trail would be excited to see a horse. However, with the park just south of Eight Mile, they do have plenty of trails they can ride on. Maybe that's the suggestion the next time Migrin sees them, along with not wanting damage to the asphalt or trespassing on ITC's private property that ITC doesn't want horses on either.

Resident Migrin said the police have been responsive, thanked him and followed up with the homeowner's they know of.

Commissioner Pratt said proper signage would also help.

Director Muck said they're at Deer Run and Nine Mile/Garfield.

Commissioner Pratt suggested posting something at Maybury Stables about the trail.

Resident Migrin said one other thing missing there is trash cans, especially at the Garfield Road entrance. He would not mind changing the bag himself. He also said possibly putting in a bench, which is within the ITC agreement.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said the trail will soon be very long. People may just want to stop and take a breather. Maybe at each mile road there could be a bench and trash can. Thanked Migrin for his insight and suggestions, and encouraged him to go to other parks and share insight on those, as well.

#### B. Reassignment of Parks Update Roles

Director Muck said this was previously tabled because all of the commissioners were not in attendance, which they are not again. Asked whether Commission wanted to follow the current calendar for now?

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked if there was anything the Commission wanted to do now? Maybe move everyone down on the spreadsheet? Asked Commissioner Staab for suggestions since he brought it up?

Commissioner Staab said he thinks it should be tabled and, when the November meeting is announced, it'll be known decisions will be made with who is there.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked whether Chris Jackett can remind commissioners prior to the next meeting that Commission will be making a decision on this in November and hopefully everyone can attend or else send comments.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### A. Administration Division – Director Jeff Muck

#### 1. Park Updates

Director Muck said residents will soon receive Novi Today with an article about Lakeshore Park. That article was written prior to the 10/9 City Council meeting where Council unanimously decided to table the resolution regarding the Lakeshore Park community building and revisit the scope of the project, including building and parking lot size. Council's goal is to provide a high-quality building for all Novi residents. The City will keep residents informed through cityofnovi.org, e-newsletters and social media. Muck said Migrin covered a lot of his ITC Trail updates. The rest of the pathway is expected to be paved within the next week and then they'll start working on restoration. The City is constructing a new 8-foot-wide concrete pathway along the north side of Eight Mile Road between Garfield and Napier. It will complete the entrance from the existing sidewalk in the City of Northville and the entrance to Maybury State Park. The contractor is nearly complete with the clearing and rough grading. Over the next few weeks, the contractor will be installing the aggregate stone base and pouring the concrete pathway. An early November completion is estimated. Muck said the 32-space Pavilion Shore parking lot addition to the existing East Lake Drive parking lot with new curb and gutter, asphalt pavement and sidewalk amenities is expected to be completed soon with connections to the park's sidewalk system. The contractor has completed underground utilities, aggregate stone base, curb and gutter. Final grading preparation for asphalt parking lot and concrete sidewalks is expected over the next week for 10/31 completion. Power Park spectator bleacher covers have started and are expected to take 2-3 weeks to install. This is phase 2 of last year's project with the benches and dugout covers. Will be timed well for the summer 2018 national tournament. The dog park was closed a few days for some annual maintenance. It included grass mats at high-traffic areas to protect seedlings from getting walked on. That area has had issues in the past being the first area dogs walk on and where other dogs run to when a new dog arrives. It has been successful in other communities and is expected to be a nice enhancement. Parks maintenance aerated the entire park using the multi-purpose ABI groomer. It can groom a ball field, groom an infield; it's literally five machines in one. It has saved a ton of time, effort and money. Muck said we believe Novi is the first city in Michigan to buy these machines. Parks staff are now constantly called being asked for recommendations and demonstrations. Using a slit-seeded, more perennial grass was added to the dog park. The fence lines are constantly being looked at, especially between the small and large dog sides. Some bare spots at the top of the hill were hydro-seeded. The trees were pruned. Mulch was added to trees that required it. Gravel added to areas, as needed. Parks maintenance began using a drone to monitor conditions for all parks. Dog park wasn't shut down for too long. Muck said Mayor Bob Gatt cut the ribbon on the revamped Fuerst Sisters Senior Citizens Wing yesterday. It was made possible by a donation by Rebecca and Jacob Fuerst's daughter, Ruby Fuerst. The farm was first purchased

in 1918 encompassed 160 acres that is now the Novi Civic Center campus and Novi High School. Muck said the City is real thankful for that donation. The rooms have new lighting and flooring.

## 2. Water Tower Property

Director Muck said this is something that was approved by City Council on 10/9. Council approved staff to proceed with the purchase of about 3.64 acres at Novi Road and Trans X Drive; the location of the Novi Special Water Tower. The City is considering this property for park use, to feed the Main Street development and others coming into that area. It's not necessarily limited to park use. Funds will be derived from the recent Capital Improvement Program millage that was approved by the voters. The property is unique. It abuts the Walled Lake branch of the Little Rouge River and also contains the privately-owned water tower. Although privately owned, the water tower often includes Novi artwork like the Novi Special. Staff are performing doing due diligence right now, looking at environmental assessments and the water tower structure. The proposed agreement allows the City 120 days to do a complete and full environmental assessment of the property before determining whether the City would like to close on it. The property is also unique in that it's subject to leases for cellular and wireless antennas located on the water tower. The agreement requires the current owner to provide those documents and the City can talk to those carriers after reviewing the documents, as there is revenue tied to those leases. The agreement, as written, requires the transfer of any interest in the leases to the City and rents from the current owner to the City as the purchaser. Muck said the contemplated purchase price right now is \$300,000, which is less than what is currently listed for sale. It has been on the market for a while. Depending on the City's due diligence, there may be additional due diligence on that price as we get into remediation. We're looking at this as an urban park setting. Lots of potential uses, but nothing set in stone. Would really enhance the Main Street area and the core of Novi for the future, and maintain that water tower.

Commissioner Bauss asked what would fall under the urban park classification? Maybe a skate park?

Director Muck said more of a splash pad or fountain, an ice rink during the winter, or something like The Bean in Chicago or artwork spread across that. Concrete structures like seating areas for people who want to have lunch. There's no room for sports fields or things like that. We've bounced around the idea of 1-2 pickleball courts.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked what the acreage was?

Director Muck said 3.64. The water tower is the center piece of it and maintaining that icon of Novi.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked if the water tower is privately owned separate from the land?

Director Muck said the tower and land would all come together as part of the purchase.

Commissioner Pratt said you could turn the water tower into a splash pad and joked the water could just dump out of it.

Commissioner Staab asked where the residential is around there?

Director Muck said it's not direct, but there's already residential behind the Michigan Beer Company and potential other residential coming into Main Street in the future.

Commissioner Thomopoulos asked if there was any walkway from the west side of Novi Road since this is hidden by the bridge?

Director Muck said there currently is not.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said you'd have to probably get north of the railroad tracks before you cross. It's exciting, nonetheless.

Director Muck said it has potential and Council is forward thinking.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said it's important to protect the iconic tower.

Director Muck said we have 120 days to decide, so he will provide updates.

B. Recreation Division – Deputy Director Tracie Ringle

1. Program & Services

Deputy Director Ringle said fall programming continues to move along into the season. Unfortunately, we had to cancel last weekend's S'mores Run due to a monsoon. We gave those enrolled a chance to register for the new Monsters on Main event on Main Street in partnership with the businesses on Main Street. That'll take place 10/25 from 6-8 p.m. where you'll be able to trick or treating, do crafts, etc. The new non-inflatable movie screen will be there to enhance that, as well. We've had good feedback from the businesses to give them exposure to families. They're providing their own candy, which gives us the ability to focus on other aspects of the event. Registration is online and is required so we can have the proper amount of items available. Ringle said auditions for School House Rock Jr. children's shows took place. Shows will be 1/25-1/28 with two casts here at the Civic Center. We were able to grow from one cast last year to two casts this year and start a new program called Young Stars Theatre, that will take place now-December with a small show 12/15. That's for kids 4-7 years old with an interest in theater, but may not have the attention span or drive to compete with the bigger kids in a full-scale production. It gives them exposure at an appropriate level without distracting the kids in the bigger show. The Day of the Dead event celebrating Mexican culture will take place at the Civic Center 10/29 from 2-4:30 p.m. It's the third year and it's grown exponentially every year. We've added a costumed procession in the building and a live mariachi band. We have a Mexico Lindo Ballet Folklorico group that does programming here, teaches some of the cultural aspects and dance, meeting here on a weekly basis, and they are really the driving factor behind this. We appreciate them choosing us to host this regional draw event. Villa Barr Art Park parking and pathways are scheduled for spring construction. Staff is working on the plan signage and an entry sign, everything from bench and trash receptacles, etc. The Friends of Villa Barr are focusing on the artist-in-residence component of that property and looking at what sort of partnerships we'd need for that. Everything from lease agreements to everything along those lines. The next meeting between staff and Friends of Villa Barr is 11/13. The Novi Concert Band has a performance 2 p.m. Sunday at the Civic Center. We were able to work with the Novi Choralaires to purchase a new electronic piano. They take a piano with them off site. We were able to purchase one that was easily transportable and they've already been using it for rehearsals. Volleyball and basketball practices have begun. They started this week with a lot of students participating and those

taking place in Novi Community Schools' gyms. Those leagues are offered both in fall and winter.

C. Older Adults – Older Adult Services Manager Karen Kapchonick

1. Program & Services

Manager Kapchonick said the Throwback Thursday Sock Hop taking place during the last Commission meeting was well attended and all of the participants had a great time. Partnered with five other communities. Held the 10th-annual Health Fair hosted over at Meadowbrook Commons. More than 100 participants came and 54 flu shots were given out. A lot of Meadowbrook residents participate. Will be looking at other opportunities for the Health Fair next year that will include the flu shots. We had eight vendors who were very instrumental in making that event a success. The veterans day brunch will be Thursday, 11/9, at the Civic Center. Veterans can sign up through Older Adult Services through 11/1. Can register on website or by phone. There are currently 118 participants signed up; 89 are veterans. About 150 are expected to attend. Social Services Coordinator Sandy Fisher talked about the medical loan closet at a past meeting. In September, we had interactions with 118 people; the highest since it opened in 2004. About 60 is average. There's a greater need for individuals coming and getting medical equipment. Its Medicare open enrollment time through 12/9. One service we provide is one-on-one counseling for Medicare Part D. For many, it's a very confusing process. One of our transportation drivers volunteers his time to counsel on enrollment for medical part D. There are 50 time slots for an hour-and-a-half of counseling each. Contact OAS Office to set up an appointment. This week preparations began for the emergency generator. The cement pad is being poured for the transfer switch and we're looking at the trenching for the electrical cables. The generator itself will be installed probably within the next 4-8 weeks. We did run into a time problem with mother nature and in Florida and Houston a lot of the problems down there. We will not receive a generator for probably another six weeks. Then we'll have that hooked up and ready to go for any emergency we may encounter.

Commissioner Staab asked if it would arrive by 12/1?

Manager Kapchonick said more likely mid-December.

Commissioner Staab said the sooner, the better. The last thing we'd need is a December ice storm where the power goes out.

Manager Kapchonick said she'd prefer to have it and never have to use it.

Commissioner Staab said exactly. It's a great idea and long overdue. It was a wakeup call when we had the outage in March. It was cold, too.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

None

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Bauss said he was impressed to see the tools staff is using to maintain our parks; being innovative again, being one of the first organizations to use seeders and using drones now. There's a lot of things you don't see in the normal path of managing a park system. Bauss said he's disappointed in the Council's decision to table the proposal for Lakeshore. Hopefully we'll come together as a community and find a thing everyone can buy into that benefits all 60,000 residents of Novi. That property and location benefit everybody to its best use.

Commissioner Staab said thank you for all the updates. Good information, as always. Said he really appreciated the opportunity to go through Power Park Saturday, even though he got a little soggy. Was very pleasantly reinforced at how good and maintained these facilities are even after a rough, long summer of using them constantly and so on. Mother nature has helped a lot, but he wishes the grass in his yard looked that good. Very well maintained and another jewel in the community. Looking forward to hosting the national tournament next summer in 2018. A lot of good activities going on in Older Adult Services with veterans day in November, the Medicare counseling program with one on ones. That's a real big benefit to people his age. They make it as confusing as possible and, as you get older, you worry about how it'll impact me. People work all their life and they don't want to evaporate all their savings paying healthcare costs. Back to Council's decision 10/9, Staab said he was also disappointed we were not moving forward with what was proposed and what we enacted and passed on as a Commission on Lakeshore Park renovation. Said he thinks it needs that 9,000-square-foot building up there. Said he can go back many years on this Commission and as a resident of the City representing maybe 30,000 people back then. But there's always been a need to not only upgrade the building, but the parking lot. That parking lot in the past has been a disaster. The design will make that park another jewel in our total system. Looking forward to getting it back on the agenda and making it something that can be embraced by all of Novi. Also want to thank Director Muck's department for the communication and information flow he's seen coming out as regards to that. Has always thought we've been very transparent and open as far as what we've wanted to do, even going as far back to when we ratified the millage in Aug. 2016. That was one of the earmarks to renovate and update and so on. Looking forward to the current building going away and having a new, special facility embrace all the needs of the City of Novi, as intended.

Commissioner Pratt said the communication coming from the Parks and Recreation Department is top notch. Appreciates how they communicate both social media-wise as well as from a Commission standpoint. Seconds was has been said about Lakeshore Park. Has a couple potential summer camp kids that need a location there. Hopefully some Novi graduates, as well. Will be looking at the beautiful space Lakeshore offers. Hopefully something nice comes about for Novi's entire residence and not just that area. Congratulated staff and told to keep up the good work. Appreciates it.

Representative Lee said he's really amazed at how easy it is to communicate the states of the park, including the first-hand accounts. Seems to be really accurate with the state of the parks.

Representative Singh said he was out for the last two months for a schedule conflict and another reason, but it's good to be back. It was a really informative meeting. Thanked Migrin for his presentation. Didn't know what was happening in that part of Novi at all. Didn't know horses were even an issue. There's not much he can do about it, but it's good to know the status of all the parks, even after a really harsh summer. A lot of kids from the high school and playing on every sports field you can imagine, so its good everyone knows how the fields are doing.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she wanted to thank the parks and rec staff for their updates. Pleased to hear we're putting an update in for our senior facilities given the unfortunate happenings in Florida. We need to do our due prudence to make sure our seniors are cared for. Glad to see that moving along. She said she is also excited about the water tower property. That has some historical significance and has the potential to be something exciting for the city. Thomopoulos she applauds the City Council decision from 10/9 about Lakeshore Park. She's grateful they listened to citizen input, respected

it and took the info to put a halt to the scope of that project. There are a lot of Novi citizens who go to that park, not just those in that area, who go because there are some natural features which are very much enjoyed: the beach, trails, sledding hill, cross-country skiing, and the mature trees and shade that provides for family picnics and get togethers. Thomopoulos said she thinks there is a need for a new or revised building, a bigger area for the camp kids to have a storm shelter. Bathrooms for the park patrons need a complete revamping or rebuilding. It needs to be larger and cleaner. Looks forward to working with fellow commissioners, parks and rec staff, and with City Council on incorporating citizen input actively into the design of what will eventually go into that facility. Hopes what that is will not detract from the natural features that people love in that park. Good meeting, everyone.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Pratt and seconded by Commissioner Bauss.

**Voice Vote**

**Unanimous**

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Thomopoulos at 8:22 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

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Jay Dooley, Chairperson

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Shelley Thomopoulos, Vice Chairperson