

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES COMMISSION

Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018 – 7 P.M.

NOVI CIVIC CENTER – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 p.m. with Commissioner Dooley presiding.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

It was moved that the agenda be approved as amended by Commissioner Thomopoulos and seconded by Commissioner Joshi. Item D5 tabled.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Approval of Sept. 20, 2018 minutes.

It was moved that the minutes for September be approved by Commissioner Thomopoulos and seconded by Commissioner Staab.

Voice Vote

Unanimous

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Walkable Novi – Commissioners Muzzin & Thomopoulos
Commissioner Thomopoulos said the committee met earlier in the month to review updates and a final draft. There wasn't quorum, but those in attendance approved the plan for the proposed top 20 pathway and sidewalk improvements. Nine were carried over from last year's top 20 and six of last year's top 20 are budgeted for construction in 2019. Nine of the segments are included in the 2019-20 Capital Improvement Plan, so we can see the list is getting utilized by the engineering team. Four of the 20 segments are within a mile of the ITC Trail that's currently under construction, helping with that connectivity.
Commissioner Dooley asked what the level of engagement was with the committee? Commissioner Thomopoulos said there's good dialogue and there's been good audience participation the past two meetings. It performs well and she encourages residents to come.
- B. Novi Park Foundation – Commissioners Staab & Torimoto
Commissioner Staab said we met in October and again next Monday. Executive Director Rachel Zagaroli has been working on some alternative fundraisers we'll hear more about Monday night and we're starting to formulate plans for Pour on the Shore 5 this coming summer.
- C. Grants Committee – Commissioners Dooley & Pratt
Commissioner Dooley said they had a meeting this evening with robust discussion. A lot of great projects are being looked at, but Mayor Pro Tem David Staudt asked for a recap for some of the funding that has gone in our favor over the past six years. It was very informative.

Director Muck said there are some pending grants out there right now for purchase of the ITC Trailhead Expansion. We're waiting on the DNR for some items with that and have been in direct contact with the seller. We're hoping to have that property wrapped up by the end of the year. Staff have been working on a potential grant for next year for lighting diamonds 5 and 6 at Power Park. We're submitting soccer grants to the state soccer association for some additional equipment for our Bosco Fields that are awaiting construction. We're waiting to hear on our Rec Passport grant for the Tim Pope play structure reconstruction. Referring back to the grants received per year, we've received more than \$1.2 million in grant funding between acquisitions, equipment, programs and park renovations over the last five years.

Commissioner Dooley said all the committees that the commissioners sit on are always for the citizens first, whether it's the Parks Foundation, Walkable Novi or the Grants Committee. We listen. That's why we encourage you to come and let your voice be heard. We don't know what you're thinking unless you come and voice your opinions. Whether you sit on one of these committees or attend one of these meetings, we're always thinking about Novi first.

D. Parks Updates

1. Novi Ice Arena – Commissioner Thomopoulos

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she visited the Novi Ice Arena a couple weeks ago and participated in the open skate from noon-1:50 p.m. on weekdays. It's also available on the weekend and only costs \$3. There was a great group of people there, some who go multiple days per week, and there are even some social clubs that go in a couple days per week. It wasn't crowded, there was plenty of room to skate around and there are all skill levels. There are some beginners coming in on their lunch hour to get some exercise as it gets colder outside. There are two rinks at the ice arena. One is used for open skate and the other for the coaches coaching their skaters, which is impressive to watch. The lot and landscaping was very well maintained, the facility was very clean. The lobby when you come in has the rules posted. There's a seating area for changing into your skates and lockers to put your stuff in. There are some vending machines, but also concessions available on both levels. They're open in the evenings and weekends when the teams are in there. The central lounge area is quite large and there are windows on each side looking over the rinks. You can stay inside and watch people skating or teams. There's also seating available inside the rinks. Being a weekday, there were also families of athletes staying in the lunch area while the students are getting coached. When she talked to the families, one request they had was they wanted a microwave to heat up meals. In the locker rooms, which are locked, they would like cubbies for large bags. She also asked people skating around and they loved it and didn't have any requests or concerns. There was a very nice poster recognizing the families of Dan Weiss, Al Weiss, Roland Redner, John Cassella and Ray Maedel for giving the City the 18 acres of land to make the recreation facility possible. Commissioner Staab said the ice arena has come a long way. He asked if Total Sports was the manager? Director Muck said Suburban Ice managed it. Staab said that was the best decision the City and Parks and Rec ever made, since the first management team was lacking. There was a lot of controversy for the first couple years since it was a black hole between revenue and expense. Since Suburban got involved, it's come a long way.

2. Power Park (Oct.) – Commissioner Staab

Commissioner Staab said he visited the park in October when there were still green leaves. He visited on a weekend and there was a lot of usage that day. The bridge that goes into the playground was well kept and maintained. Several places along the fencing had gaps between the chain link and the posts due to balls hitting them. There were people out using the diamonds for batting practice. There was a lot of good protection from errant foul balls. Flowers were still blooming at that point in time. There's a nice little picnic area near Diamond 2. Signage showed the different sponsors and naming folks helping us maintain the field. There's a Tom Holzer Field, who is one of our naming rights fields. Deep into October, it still had a lot of activity going around on it.

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

Commissioner Dooley showed two photos taken via drones and said it gives you an idea of how they're lined in 2018. It shows the condition of the fields. When you drive into the park, there's the famous ITC Community Sports Park sign. He wanted to make sure people were aware of how well marked it is there. It's an open area, but weather can be very different than it is a few miles away. If there's an emergency for any reason, the fields are well marked for emergency personnel. He said thank you to the families and players who come through Novi when we do the hot dog cookout. These folks are tireless; they're there at 7:30 a.m. and stay until the last hot dog is cooked. A lot of them are volunteers from the City of Novi. They help make our day and our park spectacular.

Commissioner Staab asked when the drone photos were taken? Commissioner Dooley said they were taken this year; probably in August. Staab said it's in good shape for August. Dooley said it was before the fall season.

4. Novi Dog Park (Sept.) – Commissioner Dooley

Commissioner Dooley said it's amazing when you go and visit the Novi Dog Park. The camaraderie, the true affection people have for each other and the socializing that goes on there. It's not just the people, it's the dogs. The condition was great when he visited in October. The activity was great. It was amazing to watch the dogs, whether it was a large dog or small dog, an AKC dog or mutt dog. It was amazing to watch. The key fob is still in place. It's a bargain, it's a steal what the City of Novi does to have an area for these pets to come frolic and have fun. Great amenities. It's a vast area with a lot of well-marked fields for small dogs, large dogs, trails. It's kind of hilly. It's incredibly well marked and there's areas for dogs who need to relieve themselves and there's bags out there. There's an area for small and timid dogs, but there were no timid dogs. They were all excited to be there. There's fresh water for the dogs. The metal bowls are there all the time and people will go out and clean them. They don't take them home or move them. Everyone makes an effort to keep the bowls clean. There's spots for leashes out there. All the dogs were playing at the same area. The dogs were amazing; they all wanted to come up and say "hi." They wanted to have their picture taken. He was talking to a dog owner who was living in Grand Rapids and they moved out here. They rescued a dog and didn't know anyone in the area. They heard about the dog park and joined. She found how quickly people wanted to be friends with her after she joined the dog park. She said, if not for the dog park, she'd be kind of lost in this city because she didn't really have any friends. It's become a socializing event for her and these friends have become lunch and dinner friends with her and her husband. She's now become part of a larger group of friends and it she owes it all to this dog park. He's sure there are a lot of stories like this when they bring their pets to the facility. She also mentioned an area in the large dog area where there's a gap in the maintenance gate near

the hinge where a smaller dog can get through. He suggested putting a plastic fence there to keep smaller dogs from getting out.

5. Rotary Park (Sept.) — Commissioner Pratt

MATTERS FOR COMMISSION DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION

A. Commission Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Elections

Commissioner Dooley said, at the September meeting, everyone had a chance to express interest in the different roles through the Commission. We have a quorum tonight and he's prepared to exercise voting unless anyone feels, because we're missing three commissioners, that we move to this vote to the December meeting.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she's OK with the four attending commissioners voting. Commissioners Joshi and Staab agreed. Staab said it's been well documented since September that they'd be doing it in October and that got delayed.

Director Muck said you're also at risk of December being light attendance so close to the holidays. Commissioner Thomopoulos asked if they turn the voting forms in to Muck? Muck said the process would be to take a minute to make your nominations, Manager Karen Kapchonick would gather those and we'd report them back later in the agenda here. You should have in your packet the appointment nominations. Chair, vice chair and committee elections are listed so you select one for chair and vice chair, and two each for committee elections. There's also a chart with the new park maintenance assignments, which was put together by Management Assistant Chris Jackett based on your interests. We tried to honor those as much as possible. Once you're done, Kapchonick can collect those. We can move on to some of the other reports and come back once those are tallied up to announce the results.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Administration Division – Director Jeff Muck

1. Lakeshore Park Update

Director Muck said a lot has gone on in the last couple months since we last met. On Oct. 8, City Council approved staff to enter into the final design and bid of the construction contract for Lakeshore Park, which will include a community building. It's going to be located at the approximate location of the existing building. At the meeting, we talked a lot about how this has been a long process with a lot of input from Council and the public. Some input examples we heard were to maintain the nature "up north" feel at Lakeshore Park, locate the building at the same site as the existing building and there were enhancements for cyclists and pedestrians throughout the park. We made it meet the demands of summer camp participants per the demands of summer day camp licensing. That means you need to have bathroom facilities, indoor shelter from severe or inclement weather and storage space for the camp equipment. We're also providing separate space for children with special needs within the building. We heard from residents to acknowledge Dodge brothers with reference to how Walled Lake got its name. We wanted to provide easy beach access for families and improve the tunnel to provide improved water runoff and security. Improve the parking lot to accommodate all users and allow for better accessibility for the handicap, as well as to improve stormwater runoff and water quality of Shawood Lake. Council was presented a conceptual and they discussed and

asked staff for a few more things to be added, including addressing the pedestrian pathway along South Lake Drive to put the path off the road and utilize some of the front of the park so it becomes safer and part of Lakeshore Park. We've also been asked to protect a bike lane into the park, so we'll be looking at how to protect that. A lot of discussion and emphasis on how to make sure the east boundary is fully enhanced. Another part of the motion was the addition of WiFi throughout the site and at the pavilion. Staff was instructed to go forward and it passed unanimously 6-0 and now we're back into design. There was a potential patio on the end of the building and Council directed us to place that on the southern end of the building for our residents. This is where we've landed. We've already been back to the architects to prepare bid documents and we anticipate going out to bid in December.

Commissioner Dooley asked the student representatives what they thought. Student Representative Lee said he thought the ideas and changes in the newly proposed design are really creative and convenient. Having the patio on the southern end may also be more convenient, it would be closer to handicap parking spaces.

Commissioner Dooley said he's a big fan of it.

Commissioner Staab said he's supportive of what everyone came up with and the give and take that went on through the process. He appreciates staff's perseverance to get to this point.

Director Muck said he thinks the reaction he's seen on social media comments has been overwhelmingly positive. We had a good compromise and Mayor Gatt or another Council member said we'd never find a design that would please everyone, but we were able to get to a spot where all the members of Council were able to approve it and incorporate as much as they could into the final design.

Commissioner Joshi said it's nice the kids will have a new building hopefully soon. Director Muck said we'll have more to talk about with the Pavilion Shore Playground. That ended up being part of this, as well.

2. Villa Barr Art Park Update

Director Muck said we did open the Villa Barr Art Park and had our opening ceremony on Friday, 10/12. As Commissioners Thomopoulos and Joshi mentioned, it was a little bit cold and wet. Rain really caught us by surprise, but we persevered and had a good turnout. We had the concert band play, all the Council members there, Friends of Villa Barr, everyone who was passionate about getting this park opened. We had nice speeches from Mayor Gatt and former Mayor David Landry. We unveiled a dedication plaque referencing David and Beth Barr, and planted a couple dedication trees in that area. It was just a great turnout.

Deputy Director Ringle said we anticipated a crowd and were pleasantly surprised at the number of people able to attend given the weather. It's a testament to those invested in Villa Barr and where we're going with it. We had a lot of people ask a lot of great questions not only about the future of it, but about the Barr family, the process of where we landed and how to get involved in the future. A lot of great questions from people indicating a willingness to get involved to move this forward. It was a really positive outcome.

Director Muck said he wanted to recognize those on the Parks Commission who were able to attend. Parks Foundation member Randy Balconi sponsored the refreshments, which was nice for the opening. Deputy Director Ringle was the

logistics for the ceremony and event and deserves a lot of credit for pulling that off and in the rain and cold.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said that park is really truly unique and different than any park you see in any other city nearby. It's truly disappointing the weather wasn't better because a lot of effort went into the park itself, which now we can enjoy, but the festivities of the evening. A lot of the staff was out there really cold; it was an unexpected cold. People were out there smiling and giving directions. It's a truly special park. If you have not been there. The spring is going to be the time to really see that place, especially as we add to the gardens. It's a special place to go, contemplate the art, take a short walk and see the park. She's looking forward to seeing the new artwork from the artist in residence.

Commissioner Joshi went back when there was no rain and it wasn't as cold to really enjoy it. It was really amazing. The park is really beautiful. It's an amazing park everyone should enjoy. People are very impatient trying to get by. She was coming from 10 Mile trying to get by and were wizzing past her on the shoulder.

3. Pavilion Shore Park Playground

Director Muck said this was a Council directive to the Parks' staff. It came out of discussions about Lakeshore and Council was concerned that, with Lakeshore and all that redevelopment, where would the kids have a place to play on the north side. Those residents are so used to having Lakeshore as a place to play and to have that beach. Lakeshore is going to be a construction zone, so City Council directed staff just three weeks ago that they want a playground installed at Pavilion Shore and, if at all possible, to do it before the Lakeshore construction started. In working with Council, we developed this design. The location is near the pavilion and bike repair station. There are a million options with playgrounds between colors and options and features. What we really wanted to pay attention to is sight lines. We didn't want to block lake views with tall towers and structures. We wanted features that were more rope based so they don't disrupt the sight lines of the lake when you're in the park. Part of that is not having hiding areas. Slides, tunnels and platforms we had some concerns about. Lighting spilling over into this playground and after hours activities, so we wanted to stay away from those structures, as well. We wanted to make sure to include structures 2-5 year olds and 5-12. The smaller structure is 2-5 year old based with a sensory table and the other is for 5-12 year olds. Swings are something important as we look at parks. We have an oodle swing similar to the one at Power Park. It takes up less space than a standard swing set because you don't have as large a fall zone. It's something multiple kids can play on at a time and its very handicap accessible. It's much easier to transition from a wheelchair on and off compared to a standard swing. That was definitely something we wanted to incorporate. There's a spinner all ages can use and also a wave board feature to tie that into the lake. Something that may not jump out to you right away is we paid attention to and were cognizant about aesthetics. We wanted to keep the natural beauty of the lakefront through stone, wood and bronze. Those are themes throughout the park, so the blues of this and the colors are going to blend in. Bright colors wouldn't be appropriate for Pavilion Shore. One thing we realized while designing it is the Fate of Empires sculpture at the park is that one of the spinners looks similar, so there's a tie in there between the medal and the sculpture. Muck brought this before Council Tuesday and it was approved unanimously with a lot of praise. A lot of it will be weather dependent, but we've already been in touch with our playground provider; Penchura. The POs have

been issued and this fall and early winter, we will, but everybody saw the snow today. Three weeks was the overall start to finish for approval.

Commissioner Dooley asked whether the ground needs to be a certain temperature to install? Director Muck said we're still good.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she likes this a lot and thinks it'll get used quite a bit. The location is great. It's near the restrooms in case the children need to use the restroom. There are a few benches nearby, plus some tables, where parents can sit and keep an eye on them. Director Muck said we could always go in and add new benches or features in around the playground.

Commissioner Staab asked what the price tag was? Director Muck said it was just over \$100,000 for the equipment and install. We actually saved some money by buying it through a purchasing contract that we have and buying it in the fall. We estimated we saved about 3 percent over what it would've been to do this in the spring.

4. Misc. Park Project Updates

Director Muck said the ITC Trail construction clearing and asphalt is on hold until spring. Our contractor will come through and do some cleanup of some of the equipment out there once the ground firms up. There will be some construction continued to be done during the winter for the boardwalk sections. They got a good start this fall. If the weather would have cooperated, we would've gotten further. We've already gotten some good responses on the trail. People are looking forward to having that fully open. The ITC storage and trailhead building is still under construction at ITC. He drove out yesterday to check the progress and that's still being worked on. Our Parks Maintenance team is eager to move in there and we know that'll be ready for the spring. Bosco Fields, our new soccer and multi-sport complex that'll be coming in at 11 Mile and Beck, had a preconstruction meeting Tuesday. We're fighting weather, but the contractor will put down some basic ground work, silt fence and have some equipment ready to go for the spring. Then we won't have to wait for frost laws to come off. You'll see some activity out there, but it'll be pretty minor. Winter is really setting us back on a lot of things. Something that also happened since we last met was Council directed and approved the purchase of the Bosco home property. It was offered up by the funeral home going in there, which the City purchased and it will allow us to enhance the area there at Bosco Fields. More to come on that as to the future direction of the property. It was a good direction to secure that property while we had the chance. We have now put out our RFP for the master plan. That'll be a large focus on this commission next year, as we're required to submit a new master plan to the DNR to continue to make us eligible for grants and to continue with our strategic plan and to keep us strategically focused. That has been put out and, as we select a provider who will work with us on that, we'll start scheduling a timeline of meetings and input sessions, and you'll all be involved with that.

B. Recreation Division – Deputy Director Tracie Ringle

1. Program & Services

Deputy Director Ringle said it just snowed, so that's timely with a lot of our holiday events coming up. Light Up the Night will take place 6-9 p.m. 11/30 here at the Civic Center campus. A lot of the same family-friendly favorites will be here as far as activities and games and entertainment on stages. We're going to have three food trucks this year based on the demand from two food trucks last year. A lot

of great interaction for our families, as well. We're changing up how families engage with Santa. It's one of the highlights of our event, so we're going to go into kind of a FastPass mode with Santa. So not standing in line and one parent engaging with the children. As you arrive, you go get a ticket for your return time for your photo. We anticipate that'll have people interacting with the other portions of the event. Another change we're making is with parking. We're working with the high school to have the 10 Mile lot available for parking, as well as the Taft Road lot adjacent to Fuerst Park. The library will be available for parking, as well as Faith Presbyterian Church across the street and we'll be using the crosswalk to move people across 10 Mile Road. We'll have our CERT members and PD assist in parking like a concert venue and we'll be filling the lots that way so people can get in off 10 Mile quicker and enjoy fireworks, Santa and all that good stuff. Cristin Spiller is the recreation supervisor that is the mastermind of Light Up the Night. She's done a fantastic job in funding the event, securing more than \$10,000 in sponsorship for the event. The event is funded solely through sponsorship each year. Some of those include ITC, Community Financial Credit Union, Diversified Members Credit Union, Family Self Defense Center, DTE, HAP, Novi Town Center, AirTime, Rosebrook Child Development Center, AquaTots and Sunbelt Rentals. Those are some of the businesses helping us have this event in Novi. Other holiday events include Novi Choralaires concert 12/2 at Church of the Holy Family and 12/9 at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Farmington. Information on both are available at cityofnovi.org and tickets are available at the door, as well as the Parks and Recreation counter. The Novi Concert Band will have their holiday concert 2 p.m. 12/2 here at the Civic Center. That's a free community event. We're having Lunch with Santa 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 12/8 here at the Civic Center. Tickets are available at cityofnovi.org for that event, which ties into "Elf Jr." the musical. Buddy will be here engaging our families 12/6-12/9 and tickets are available at cityofnovi.org. The first-ever Happy Pawlidays event will take place, which is a chance for furry Novi residents to take their picture with Santa. You don't have to be a dog park member, but your dog needs to be currently licensed in Oakland County. Registration for that on 12/16 is required in advance at cityofnovi.org. Skate with Santa is 12/23 at Novi Ice Arena. We have a lot of opportunities this time of year to spread the cheer and spend time with friends and family. We're excited about that.

Deputy Director Ringle said, circling back to Villa Barr, Patty Smith is our resident and she'll remain there through 12/30. She's been busy working on her art and how to engage the Novi community. She's working with Novi students and they'll be on the property 11/26 to do a walk through and learn about the art. And then Patty will be visiting the classrooms 11/27 to work through what they saw and process David's thoughts and how art came to be. That's a wonderful opportunity of Villa Barr and having the artist-in-residence program. We were also able to secure our next artist in residence. Her name is Jasmine and she's coming from New York. She's a poet, playwright and author. She also is looking at ways to engage the community and high school students and host things at Villa Barr in the winter. She is an author with published books and a really great resume. We have a committee of five people – Friends of Villa Barr, high school teachers, herself – who looked through the applications and choose Jasmine. We had a lot of great applicants and we're going to hold onto some of them for the next opening in the spring. Excitement is growing, the caliber of applicants is

going to grow and expand. Jasmine is a completely different art type than Patty. We're able to have writers and sculptors and expand.

Commissioner Dooley asked if she suggests getting to Light Up the Night early. Deputy Director Ringle said she does. The event starts at 6 p.m. and they anticipate mayor and Santa at 6:15 p.m. and seeing Santa starting around 6:30. Get there early to ensure you see Santa and fireworks.

C. Older Adults – Older Adult Services Manager Karen Kapchonick

1. Program & Services

Manager Kapchonick said thanks to the City for recognizing our veterans last week. About 148 veterans attended the brunch. That was all made possible via sponsors. We had a presenting sponsor in Edward Jones, our associate sponsor was Community Financial and our supporting sponsors in O'Brien-Sullivan Funeral Home, Maple Manor of Novi, The Manor of Novi, Provident Dentistry, Sam's Club, Brookdale Senior Living and Kroger. Without their support, that would not have been possible. We also had the Honorable Stephen Morello, who is a U.S. Army retired. He delivered the veterans message for the day. She would also like to thank the Novi Concert Band, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 415, POW/MIA Committee of Michigan, the Novi Rotary Interact who are the students from Novi High School, in addition to the members of the Rotary Club of Novi. Their contribution and the program made the program very successful. Going on to the holiday spirits, we are doing a non-perishable food drive through Meadowbrook Commons, which will be held until 12/3. We're collected canned, dry and boxed goods to be donated to local food closets to help them out. Items need to be new, unopened, not expired and glass is not allowed. Anybody can drop those off in the lobby at Meadowbrook Commons. On to the Thanksgiving spirits, Moe's on Ten annually does a Thanksgiving dinner on the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving, so that'll be 11/21 from 3-8 p.m. They open their doors for people to come in and have a fantastic Thanksgiving feast. Although it's free, they do accept donations that go on to a charity. For the seniors interested in going and who have transportation limitations, they can contact our transportation services and we will provide transportation. We'll also do a shuttle from Meadowbrook Commons starting at 3 p.m. We find this event is well received. We have Novi elected officials and Novi staff doing the serving that evening. On 12/1 we have our Ringing in the Holidays spirits with an afternoon of holiday caroling starting at 1 p.m. That's sponsored by Enriched Life Home Care Services. Enriched does a variety of our programs, provides the entertainment and has a lot of their staff come out. Our annual holiday luncheon will be held on Thursday, 12/13, from noon-2 p.m. at the Meadowbrook Activity Center. That's sponsored by Wellbridge of Novi and the entertainment for that day will be Wixie Harrington, who has a great following among our residents. Commissioner Thomopoulos said, between the two of them, there's an amazing amount of activity going on throughout the month of December, so thanks for keeping the energy going through the end of the year. Commissioner Staab said she also has the "All that Glitters for the New Year" on 12/31. He's had the chance to attend that once or twice. Manager Kapchonick said Judy Klein does a great job with that to bring in the New Year.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Dooley called on Director Muck to go over the election results from the ballots collected earlier in the meeting. Muck said the Grants Committee is Dooley and Joshi, Walkable Novi is Thomopoulos and Muzzin, Parks Foundation is Staab and Torimoto, Vice Chair Thomopoulos and Chair Dooley.

Representative Wou said all the updates being done to Lakeshore are all very nice. She said a lot of students from the high school go there and hang out during the summer, so the improvements will make it all that much better. She asked if the Bosco Fields are being built near the barn at 11 Mile and Beck? Director Muck said the City is leasing the school space behind the barn to turn into field space.

Representative Lee said he's really glad to be back here after a month or two of not being able to attend and catch up on updates. As the transition between seasons begins, he's glad the quality of these parks is able to be maintained despite any potential upcoming problems such as quick weather changes or other conflicts. He's glad changes to Lakeshore Park can still be gone through with. With the newly selected committee, he hopes everything will be coordinated well for the next year.

Commissioner Staab said he'd like to commend the department and City Council for moving so quickly on the playground at Pavilion Shore Park. It seems like a real nice playground and is needed in that area of the city. Said he would also like to thank City Council and the department for bringing a resolution to revamping Lakeshore Park over the next year or so. That'll go to bid in December and shovels in the ground in spring time. Asked how long do you think it'll take? Director Muck said they don't have a final timeline yet, but he'll give an update when they get an estimated construction timeline. He said he's looking forward to hearing responses on our grants. We've got the Tim Pope Recreation Passport grant and he understands the chances of that getting approved are not high, but we always apply. That's why it's so vital to have that master plan updated next year and have it in pocket when we see something and we can participate. Also wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Joshi said she doesn't have much to add. It's nice to see everything coming up with ITC Trail, Pavilion Shore and Lakeshore.

Commissioner Thomopoulos said she wanted to thank those who serve and have served, and Manager Kapchonick and her team for putting on the Veterans Brunch.

Commissioner Dooley said he wanted to emphasize the importance of why the commission heads and department staff do what they do. It's all for you, for your friends and family who come and visit. We do take our jobs very seriously and do a great job going through the different parks the City offers to give you a better understanding of the jewels we have in our city. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Voice Vote

Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Dooley at 8:29 p.m.

DATE APPROVED: _____

Jay Dooley, Chairperson

Shelley Thomopoulos, Vice Chairperson