MINUTES

1. Call to order: Judi McCall called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

2. Attendance: Judi McCall, Mike Manning, Pete Savage, Delora Andrus, Paula Mintek, Rosie Hunter
   Also Present: Aaron Haskin, Joel Dye
   Absent: Cyndi Reed

3. Approval of Minutes from December 12, 2018: Paula, supported by Pete, motioned to approve the December 12, 2018 minutes. The minutes were approved.

4. Community Garden: The Commission discussed the future of the community garden at the intersection of Trowbridge and M89. Joel mentioned a member of the Lions Club said they may be interested in taking over the maintenance of the garden. Mike is a member of the Lions and will talk with them to see if that is something the club would like to do this season. The Commission will discuss this further at the March meeting.

5. Public Spaces Rental Policy: The Commission reviewed the rental policy and discussed if the stage should be available to rent like the gazebos and pavilions. They are recommending due to the mixed use of the Riverfront that the stage is not rented by the public.

6. Park Rental Fees: The Commission reviewed the current rental fees for the gazebos and pavilions. They are recommending the fees stay at the current rate, but the refundable deposit for the ½ day rental is increased to $50. This should encourage groups to clean up after their event. Pete, supported by Paula, motioned to increase the refundable deposit for ½ day rental to $50. The motion passed.

7. Cemetery Fees: The City’s cemetery burial fees were reviewed and compared to 9 other Michigan cemeteries. Delora motioned, supported by Paula, to recommend increasing the following burial fees:
Monday – Friday:

Full Burials

With Tent – Increase from $510 to $550  Without Tent – Increase from $420 to $450

Cremation Burials

With Tent – Increase from $330 to $350  Without Tent – Increase from $240 to $250

Saturday:

With Tent – Increase from $600 to $830  Without Tent – Increase from $540 - $730

Cremation Burials

With Tent – Increase from $408 to $490  Without Tent – Increase from $318 to $390

The motion passed.

After a discussion about grave decorations and flowers at headstones Rosie, supported by Delora, motioned to recommend the following cemetery rule; "Grave embellishments are limited to natural biodegradable elements only". The motion passed.

At a future meeting the Commission would like to discuss creating a new “Cemetery Rules” sign.

Comments:

- Shelly Baker and Traci Clawson have resigned from the Commission. Traci’s replacement from the DDA is Landria Christman. We have one vacancy on the Commission.

- Pete asked for a discussion about refurbishing some of the old fountains in the cemetery. The Commission asked for a map of the cemetery with the former fountains highlighted at the next meeting.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.