

Regular Meeting  
Active Adult Center Advisory Board  
October 15, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Madison Heights Active Adult Center Advisory Board was called to order by Vice Chair Patton, October 15, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. at the Madison Heights City Hall Building at 300 W. 13 Mile Rd., Madison Heights, MI 48071.

Present: Bessler, Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Ratliff, Smith, Topping and Quigley.  
Also Present: Center Supervisor Cowan, DPS Director Ballantine, Councilor Wright and Recreation Supervisor Shiemke.  
Excused: Salley.

**19-01. Minutes.**

Motion by Ms. Mowry seconded by Ms. Juska-Svoba to adopt the minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2024.

Yeas: Bessler, Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Ratliff, Smith, Topping and Quigley.  
Nays: None.  
Excused: Salley.

**19-02. Meeting Open to the Public.**

None.

**19-03. Staff Report.**

Ms. Cowan updated the Board on trips and programs that are coming up including lunch and learns, trips, classes, parties, a couple upcoming fundraisers, an early Thanksgiving lunch and a meet and greet with a local human service agency (OLHSA).

**19-04. Maintenance Requests**

None. The City is still working with the contractor on punch list items.

**19-05. Budget Requests**

Ms. Cowan reported she emailed staff at SMART about the Mobility and Service Expansion Grant, but there was no word yet on awards.

**19-06. Unfinished Business.**

Ms. Cowan reported City staff will start using the new recreation software starting with November sign up on October 22. All patrons will need to create an online account regardless if they plan to sign up online, by mail or in person.

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This account can be used to sign up for AAC, Library and Recreation Department's programs.

Ms. Cowan reported staff will not be cooking a Thanksgiving day lunch this year, however WOMOW will be making a Thanksgiving lunch on November 13 and a couple who uses the AAC has offered to pay for everyone's meals. More info will be in the November newsletter.

Ms. Cowan reminded the Board about the City Manager's request from last month's meeting if the Board would like to sponsor a senior in need who is unable to pay their water bill. There was discussion and Board members agreed it was a good idea.

Motion by Ms. Juska-Svoba seconded by Ms. Ratliff to consider donating monies from the escrow account on a case by case basis to a senior in need of help with their water bill.

Yeas: Bessler, Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Ratliff, Smith, Topping and Quigley.  
Nays: None.  
Excused: Salley.

After the vote there was further discussion regarding donating monies this month and donating monies to a second organization since the Board did not choose to donate anywhere last month. Motion by Ms. Juska-Svoba seconded by Ms. Mowry to donate \$100 to the Animal Welfare Society in Madison Heights.

Yeas: Bessler, Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Ratliff, Smith, Topping and Quigley.  
Nays: None.  
Excused: Salley.

Motion by Ms. Juska-Svoba seconded by Ms. Quigley to donate \$100 to the Madison Heights Emergency Food Pantry.

Yeas: Bessler, Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Ratliff, Smith, Topping and Quigley.  
Nays: None.  
Excused: Salley.

**19-07. New Business.**

Ms. Cowan reminded everyone the Holiday Lights dinner and drive around would be on Tuesday, December 17. Everyone should meet at the AAC at 4 pm. We will go to dinner at Madhouse Grill first and then drive around to judge the lights. Spouses are welcome to attend as well.

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Ms. Cowan reminded the Board that we need to elect officers for the Board. Mr. Salley reported he would like to continue as chair, and no one else was interested in running.

Ms. Cowan also reminded the Board that we will take a group photo after the November 19 regular meeting.

**19-08. Treasurer's Report.**

Motion by Ms. Juska-Svoba seconded by Ms. Ratliff to approve the September Treasurer's report.

Yeas: Bessler, Juska-Svoba, Mowry, Patton, Ratliff, Smith, Topping and Quigley.  
Nays: None.  
Excused: Salley.

**19-09. Council & Administration Updates.**

Councilor Wright reported that City Council has been working on ordinances. He wanted to remind residents to be considerate of your neighbors and to work together on property issues including rats and if they have issues they need help with after that, to work with code enforcement.

Councilor Wright also stated the sanitation bid will go out again next year, and that the free trash can rollout was moved to after the bid.

Mr. Ballantine stated curbside leaf pick up starts next Monday and will continue until all the leaves have fallen or the first major snowfall.

Mr. Ballantine also reported the transition to Priority Waste has been going well, despite the early rough patches.

Mr. Ballantine reported that City Council awarded a \$500,000 grant for an upgraded heating and cooling system for the Police Station and should cut energy bills in half.

Mr. Ballantine stated the new band shell in Civic Center Park is finished.

Mr. Ballantine reported that there are new pickle ball courts in Rosie's Park.

Mr. Ballantine also reported that the five year Recreation Master Plan process is starting. They plan to ask all City Boards their ideas and once complete will file with the DNR.

The new Recreation Supervisor Brendan Shiemke (introduced prior to today's meeting) stated he is excited to work with Ms. Cowan and the AAC to

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collaborate on programs, and that we already have a few programs set up coming up in November and December.

**19-10. Adjournment.**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 pm. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

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Jennifer Cowan  
Active Adult Supervisor