



**CITY OF WALLED LAKE
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL: Arnold, Fernandes, Johnson, O'Rourke, Robertson, Linihan

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Assistant City Manager Jaquays, DPW Superintendent Ladd, Mayor Pro-Tem Woods, Deputy Chief of Police Kolke, City Manager Whitt

REQUESTS FOR AGENDA CHANGES:

Parks and Recreation Chairman O'Rourke requested to add two items of discussion on meeting attendance and Summer Festival food trucks.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**P&R 05-01-25 APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 10, 2025 PARKS AND
RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Robertson, seconded by Linihan, CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY: To approve the March 10, 2025 Parks and Recreation meeting minutes.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

DISCUSSION:

1. Spring Egg After – Action Report

Assistant City Manager Jaquays said the City's Spring Egg Hunt took place on Saturday April 19th at Hiram Sims Park and that it was well attended. Ms. Jaquays thanked the Parks and Recreation commissioners that were able to attend and help with distributing the eggs and welcoming visitors. Ms. Jaquays said the event included a petting zoo, pony rides, bounce house, obstacle course, magic show, free face painting, and free photos with the Spring Bunny. Ms. Jaquays said improvements for next year's event will be to

include additional event schedule signage to inform visitors of the event activities and a map of the park to indicate where each age category was located for the hunt.

P&R Commissioner Fernandes suggested having extra eggs to hand out for kids after the hunt if they were unable to collect. Ms. Fernandes said it was a well-attended event.

P&R Chairman O'Rourke thanked the Department of Public Works for their work in preparing the park and being a great team to work with. Mr. O'Rourke thanked Ms. Jaquays for her work in organizing the event. Mr. O'Rourke thanked Ms. Whitt for providing free face painting and commented that many kids had their faces painted.

City Manager Whitt said Ms. Whitt was the last activity to end and she stayed to complete all of those in line for face painting. Mr. Whitt said DPW Superintendent Ladd was the last to leave and thanked him for his work in closing the event. Mr. Whitt said the bounce house was very popular however, there needs to be additional volunteers stationed at the bounce house to monitor the usage. Mr. Whitt thanked Ms. Jaquays, DPW, Police Department and Fire Department.

P&R Commissioner Linihan suggested a First Aid Kit at the Welcome Tent.

P&R Commissioner Robertson thanked Council Member Casey Ambrose for being a friendly and animated bunny. Mr. Robertson said the Police Department did a good job of managing vehicle traffic.

2. 2025 Market Place Update

Ms. Jaquays said the Market Place held its Opening Day last Wednesday, May 7th. Ms. Jaquays said Opening Day was well- attended. Ms. Jaquays thanked DPW with their assistance in maintaining the grounds and tent set-up for visitors. Ms. Jaquays said Opening Day featured live music from Rich Rustad and thanked him for his participation. Ms. Jaquays said the next event at the market is scheduled for June 11th, the Summer Kick Off Event which coincides with the WLCS D last day of school. Ms. Jaquays said the Market Place was featured in the Metro Detroit Chevy Dealers online magazine highlighting local markets in the Metro Detroit area.

3. Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

Ms. Jaquays said City Staff held a meeting today to discuss public safety logistics and event logistics. Ms. Jaquays said the ceremony and parade are scheduled for May 26, 2025. Ms. Jaquays said the staging area will be at 850 Ladd; the parade procession will head East along Maple Road towards City Hall and finish at the Public Safety Campus. Ms. Jaquays said there will be a ceremony immediately after the parade to honor those who gave their all in service to our country. Ms. Jaquays emphasized that the parade and ceremony is not to be politicized and that it is a time to remember and honor those who died in service. Ms. Jaquays said the Walled Lake Honor Guard will be presenting the flags and colors during the parade and ceremony.

City Manager Whitt said there will be a military presence this year and the Walled Lake Honor Guard will be there. Mr. Whitt said direction was given to staff to contact the local military organizations. Mr. Whitt said direction was given to DPW to patch the parking lot at 850 Ladd. Mr. Whitt said the sidewalk from Maple to Ladd is being completed and utilized. Mr. Whitt said the Walled Lake Parade should be receiving some news coverage from Fox 2 News thanks to Maurielle Lue, local news anchor.

Ms. Jaquays said we will need volunteer help on Memorial Day to assist with vehicle management and setting up the staging area for participants. Ms. Jaquays said the parade will include about 40 participants. Ms. Jaquays said Casey's of Walled Lake will be announcing the parade floats.

4. Parks and Recreation Commission Attendance

P&R Chairman O'Rourke asked for clarification on P&R Commissioner Adams's attendance.

City Manager Whitt said Ms. Adams verbally resigned.

P&R Chairman O'Rourke said Ruth Du Fresne has expressed an interest in serving on the Parks and Recreation Commission and that he will advise her of the application process and submitting an application to the City Clerk.

5. Summer Festival & Fireworks Discussion

P&R Chairman O'Rourke said he spoke with the owner of the Bubble Shack and that the owners had some concerns with the competing food trucks and food vendors that are stationed along E. Walled Lake drive during the Summer Fireworks.

Ms. Jaquays said she can make contact with the owners to figure out a solution to limit any potential conflict with other food trucks.

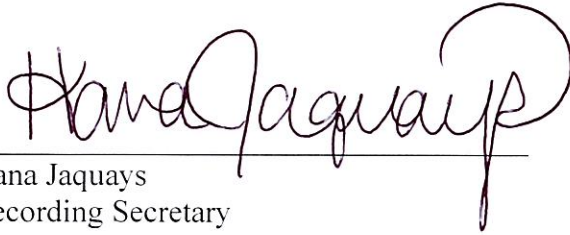
Mr. Linihan recognized Ms. Jaquays on receiving the Certified Parks and Recreation Professional certification. Mr. Linihan said there are two certifications in the field, and thanked her for bringing that professionalism to Walled Lake.

City Manager Whitt recognized Ms. Jaquays on becoming a Certified Michigan Municipal Treasurer last week after completing a three-year long program through the Michigan Municipal Treasurer's Association.

Ms. Jaquays thanked the Commissioners for their support and acknowledgement.

P&R 05-02-25 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8: 12 PM



Hana Jaquays
Recording Secretary

Dennis O'Rourke
Chairman