December 6, 2019

Honorable Mayor and Members of Council
Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

Dear Mayor and Members of City Council:

The next meeting of the City Council of Grosse Pointe Park will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, December 9, 2019 within Council Chambers. The tentative agenda is comprised of the following:

PROPOSED RECREATION COMMISSION ORDINANCE
Mayor Denner and Members of City Council will be asked to consider the proposed Recreation Commission Ordinance.

RECREATIONS COMMISSION APPOINTMENT/RE-APPOINTMENTS
Mayor Denner and Members of City Council will be asked to consider an appointment/re-appointments to the Recreations Commission.

TROMBLY SCHOOL RESOLUTION
Mayor Denner and members of City Council will be asked to consider a resolution regarding Trombly School.

FINANCE REPORT
Mayor Denner and Members of City Council will be asked to accept and approve the Finance Report and list of invoices for $5,000 and over.

Sincerely,

Nick Sizeland
City Manager
Ordinance No._____

City of Grosse Pointe Park

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK BY REVISING AND AMENDING CHAPTER TWO, ARTICLE III, OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK TO ADD DIV. 5 – RECREATION COMMISSION

THE CITY OF GROSSE POINTE PARK ORDAINS:

Section I. The City of Grosse Pointe Park Code of Ordinance, Chapter 2, is amended to add Division 5 as follows:

Recreation Commission.

(1) Intent. The Recreation Commission is to consider, report and recommend to the City Council, from time to time, on matters concerning recreation programs and facilities of the City of Grosse Pointe Park. The commission will only act as an adversary group, and does not have any regulatory authority. The creation of this Recreation Commission shall in no way be interpreted as diminishing the role, responsibilities, or charge of any currently existing board, commission, task force, or committee including, but not limited to, the Planning Commission.

(2) General.

(a) The Recreation Commission shall consist of eleven (11) members. One member shall be a member of the City Council appointed by the Mayor subject to approval by a majority vote of the City Council. A City Council member shall cease to be a member of the Recreation Commission if she/he ceases to be a member of the City Council. Nine (9) members shall be residents of the City appointed by the Mayor subject to approval by a majority vote of the City Council. A resident member shall cease to be a member of the Recreation Commission if he/she ceases to be a resident of the City. One (1) member shall be a member of the City Administration selected by the Mayor. The terms of the resident members shall be staggered so that 1/3 expire each year. Beginning with December 2019, three (3) resident members shall be appointed for an initial term of one (1) year to expire in December 2020; three (3) resident members shall be appointed for an initial term of two (2) years to expire in December 2021; and three (3) resident members shall be appointed for an initial term of three (3) years to expire on December 2022. Thereafter, such resident members shall serve for three (3) year terms.
(b) The Recreation Commission shall appoint, from among the resident members of the Recreation Commission, a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, and a Secretary. The Chairperson, or in his/her absence the Vice-Chairperson, shall preside at all meetings. The Secretary shall record true and accurate minutes of each meeting and file the same with the City Clerk within the time as provided by law.

(c) Regular meeting of the Recreation Commission shall be held at least quarterly and be open to the public. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson. The Recreation Commission shall determine its rules and order of business for the conduct of its meetings, provided that a majority of the members present of the Recreation Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all meetings.

(3) **Powers and Duties.** The Recreation Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) To advise and make recommendations to the City Council and City Manager on matters concerning recreation programs and facilities of the City of Grosse Pointe Park.

(b) To work collaboratively with other city commissions and committees which have responsibilities for specific issues.

(c) To hold public hearings on recreation programs and facilities issues and concerns.

(d) To meet with and advise the City Manager and any other city personnel involved in recreational matters.

(e) To create subcommittees and working groups to help conduct the work of the Recreation Commission, provided that a member of the Recreation Commission chairs each such committee and working group.

(f) To have all other powers and duties granted by the City Council by resolution.
RECREATION COMMISSION
APPOINTMENT/RE-APPOINTMENTS

1 Year Term

Michael J. Bannon, Ph.D.  New Appointment
Roy Edmonds  Re-Appointment
Gerry Schilling  Re-Appointment

2 Year Term

Larry Haggart  Re-Appointment
Michael Hindelang  Re-Appointment
Matthew J. LaBeau  Re-Appointment

3 Year Term

Stacey Jarvis  Re-Appointment
Robert E. Klacza  Re-Appointment
Martin McMillan  Re-Appointment
Draft Motion Regarding Trombly School 12-9-19

Move that Council approve the following resolution:

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the City of Grosse Pointe Park publicly states and repeats its serious concerns and objections to the closing of the Trombly Elementary School by the Grosse Pointe Public School System, as this facility is critical to the economic health and vitality of the surrounding neighborhood from Jefferson Avenue to Windmill Pointe Drive.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the announced closure of Trombly Elementary School will only serve to harm the surrounding neighborhood and cause further traffic congestion on Kercheval and other streets surrounding Defer Elementary School and Pierce Middle School.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Grosse Pointe Park supports and approves the analysis completed by a group of concerned residents and professionals that has been presented to the Board of Education in the following email communication from David Brumbaugh dated November 25, 2019:

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: David Brumbaugh <brumbaughdp@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Nov 25, 2019 at 00:50
Subject: Concerns with redistricting proposal
To: School Board <schoolboard@gpschools.org>, Gary Niehaus <niehaug@gpschools.org>, <abkek@gpschools.org>, Cindy Pangborn <cindypangborn@gmail.com>, Brian Summerfield <summerb@gpschools.org>, <leec@gpschools.org>, Christopher Profeta <profeta@gpschools.org>, Judy Gafa <gafaj@gpschools.org>, <weertzm@gpschools.org>, Michael Jon Dean <deanM@gpschools.org>

Good evening district leadership,

We have reviewed the draft redistricting plan and have profound concerns that it does not address our district’s fundamental problems, and (on several issues) only “kicks the can” for 2-4 years. On top of redistricting, GPPSS is taking on more than its limited resources can handle with the fifth grade transition, safe routes to school, closures, and more.

The district should instead focus only on the (immensely complicated) fifth grade transition to middle school, and related student safety issues. Growing elementary enrollment and a healthy fund equity give us the freedom to delay further complicating the fifth grade transition with with closures and redistricting. Instead, we should take our time to do each right -- and phase in other changes over time to ensure we effectively tackle these problems, while also minimizing disruption to our students, staff, and families.

KEY POINTS:

- The proposal still does not tackle our district’s problem with limited first floor elementary space, which will result in shortages at Defer, Maire, Richard, and Mason. Capacity numbers cited in the plan still assume the
space needed for K-1, 2-4, special needs, and enrichment programs is equal and interchangeable. Our group and many others have repeatedly warned the district against this error, but no change has been made in the district’s approach to building capacity.

- Under admin’s proposal, even in 2020-21, we estimate that 61% of all grade levels in the district will already be filled to 86-100% capacity—excluding every kindergarten class, and 4 of 5 grades in both Maire and Richard. When my kindergartner enters fourth grade—and the new enrollment “normal” set by her class has spread to every elementarygrade—in 2023-24, we will still have 54% of our elementary grade levels at 86-100% capacity, including every kindergarten class in the district.

- While admin has adopted a well-intentioned strategy of limiting disruption to students by implementing only a few (but large) districting changes, we almost certainly will have to undergo a second painful round of redistricting within 2-4 years. That will be substantially more disruptive than doing the right thing now.

If we adopt this proposal, this is what our schools will look like in 2023-24, when our kindergartners are in fourth grade:

- **Defer** will be at 89% capacity for kindergarten with no room to expand, and no space for both YS and ASD. Fourth grade would be at 94% capacity. Limited upper floor space would leave only two rooms to decompres fourth grade, and to house all four or five of Defer’s special ed and support rooms. (Open rooms: NONE)

- **Maire** would be at 97% capacity for kindergarten, with no room for ASD and YS. First, second, and third grades would all be at 86% capacity. There will be no room to expand on any level, and no room to house Multiage. (Open rooms: NONE)

- **Richard** would be at 100% capacity for kindergarten, and 89% capacity for first, second, and third grades. Three first floor rooms remain, but at least six would be needed to add K-1 grade capacity, to house planned Pre-K, and to compensate for the lack of south end YS/ASD noted above. This is the only south end school with upper floor space available for magnet. We assume the district will not continue unsafe uses of third floor space. (Open rooms: NONE)

- **Kerby** would be at 92% capacity for kindergarten. However, fourth grade would only be at 73% capacity, and 4-5 first floor rooms would remain open, leaving Kerby significantly under capacity. Using one of these rooms to decrease kindergarten density would drop all of those classes to only 61% capacity. (Open rooms: 4-5x 1FL)

- **Monteith** would be at 93% capacity for Kindergarten and 99% capacity for fourth grade. The three rooms that remain only likely would be needed for additional Title 1 and support rooms after its receives 39% of students from Poupart, and substantially growing its enrollment. (Open rooms: 1-3x 1FL)

- **Ferry** would be at 89% capacity for kindergarten. However, fourth grade would only be at 71% capacity, and 3-4 first floor rooms would remain open, leaving Ferry significantly under capacity. As with Kerby, using one of these rooms to decrease kindergarten density would drop all of those classes to only 61% capacity. (Open rooms: 3-4x 1FL)

- **Mason** would be at 94% for kindergarten, and has no room for K-1 growth, nor YS, and would lose a first floor ASD room. One second floor room would be open, but like Monteith, it probably would be needed for additional Title 1 and support uses after receiving 61% of students from Poupaard, and substantially growing its enrollment. (Open rooms: NONE)
OVERALL IMPACT SUMMARY

- Defer, Maire, Richard, and Mason will be completely full
- Kerby, Ferry, and probably Monteith will be under capacity, with 3-5 open rooms each
- Another painful round of redistricting will be required to address this imbalance
- There will be no space to offer ASD and YS in nearly half of our elementary schools
- Multiage will need to relocate again, from Maire likely to Kerby or Ferry, due to space needs at Maire
- Throughout the district, there will not be enough space to house special ed and support rooms (LRC, SLP, OT, Title 1, etc) in most elementary schools
- There will be no elementary-based Pre-K on the south end, no space to expand satellite early education programs anywhere in the district, and the program will either remain constant or shrink to as little as half its current size.

Our district is trying to do many big things all at once -- too many things: a physical move of fifth grade to middle school, a curricular review of fifth grade to make it compatible with middle school, a socioemotional review of fifth grade to ensure students and staff make these transitions safely and smoothly, the closing of two elementary schools, the redrawing of district boundaries, a review of specialized elementary programs such as Magnet and Multiage, and long overdue work on student safety with regard to pedestrian and vehicular travel. Worse,Admin is short staffed, and it is impossible to do all these things at once with so few resources--especially as some of these complex problems leave little room for error.

We need to act on some of these tasks now, and the tasks we choose we need to do right. The safe transition of fifth grade from elementary to middle school is a massive undertaking on its own, made worse by long-simmering safety issues that will be exacerbated by this change. Our students’ educational well-being and very lives hang in the balance, as has been tragically highlighted by recent traffic accidents resulting in the serious injury or death of GPPSS students. If we fail to get this right, our students and community will suffer--but a well-executed fifth grade transition will restore public confidence in the district and pave the way for the other major changes before the district.

We strongly encourage the district to focus on the fifth grade transition and student safety, and do both right. Our healthy fund equity and strong enrollment in Kindergarten and Young Fives give us the flexibility to delay other questions and ensure we can successfully execute this major plan.

This breathing room also would give GPPSS the time needed to adopt an appropriate and effective closure and redistricting plan, and could seek to eliminate negative disruptions by phasing changes in over time. Phased redistricting has the dual benefits of freeing the district to do the right thing for the long-term health of the district, while also minimizing disruption on our students, families, and communities.

Thank you for considering our concerns. I have excel models to support the above analysis, if you would like to discuss them in detail. Please reach out if you have any questions, or ideas/thoughts that you would like to share.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Grosse Pointe Park intends to fully and vigorously enforce zoning and related ordinances regarding any proposed future use of the property and building now known as Trombly Elementary School.
## November 2019

**Invoices over $5,000 for Review & Acceptance**

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<th>Date</th>
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<th>Description</th>
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<td>Dues for 911 Conference</td>
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<td>Great Lakes Water</td>
<td>Waste Water- Oct.</td>
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COUNCIL MEETING – NOVEMBER 18, 2019
7:00 PM

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Grosse Pointe Park was held on Monday, November 18, 2019, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following were present: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt and Mayor Denner

Also, present: Nick Sizeland, City Manager, Jane M. Blahut, Finance Director/Clerk, and Dennis J. Levasseur, City Attorney, and Steve Poloni, Director of Public Safety

OATH OF OFFICE
MAYOR
COUNCILMEMBERS

City Clerk presented the Oath of Office for the newly elected officials including Mayor Denner for a two-year term, and Councilmembers Vikas Relan, Michele Hodges, and Aimee Rogers Fluitt, each for four-year terms.

MINUTES – OCTOBER 28, 2019

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the minutes of October 28, 2019.

Councilmember Fluitt stated the purchase price for Joe’s Garage should be $366,000.00.

Councilmember Hodges inquired if the Purchase Agreement provided to Council is the same one discussed on October 28, 2019.

Mayor Denner stated the content of the contract is the same, however, there was an error in the numbering that was noted at the October 28th, 2019 meeting and has been corrected.

Councilmember Read stated a Buckingham resident stated a stop sign on the corner of Buckingham and Charlevoix was taken out by a vehicle, he was concerned about safety at the intersection.

Councilmember Levasseur stated minutes recorded must reflect date of meeting, those present, the topic discussed and Council action. He noted the Open Meetings Act does not require narrative be included in the minutes.

Motion by Councilmember Grano, supported by Councilmember Robson, to approve the minutes with the corrections noted.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

MAYOR PRO-TEM APPOINTMENT
Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the appointment of James Robson to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem for a two-year term. He noted Councilmember Robson is the longest serving Councilmember and has a long and distinguished public service career.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Read, to appoint James Robson as Mayor Pro-Tem for a two-year term.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

COMMITTEE RE-APPOINTMENTS
BOARD OF REVIEW

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the Board of Review Committee re-appointments for a three-year term.

They are as follows:

Margot Parker
Andrew Harr – Alternate Member

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Relan, to re-appoint Margot Parker and Andrew Harr, Alternate Member, for a three-year term to the Board of Review.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE RE-APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the re-appointments to the Beautification Commission for a two-year term.

They are as follows:

Lisa Kyle
Armen Gulian

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Hodges, to re-appoint Lisa Kyle and Armen Gulian to the Beautification Commission for a two-year term.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None
RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the Recreation Commission re-appointments for a two-year term.

They are as follows:

Robert E. Klacza
Roy Edmunds
Larry Haggart
Michael Hindelang
Stacey Jarvis
Matthew S. LaBeau
Martin McMillan
Gerry Schilling

Councilmember Fluit inquired what the process is for re-appointing residents to a committee.

Mayor Denner stated as long as the feedback from the administration and chair have positive feedback, the residents are re-appointed.

Mayor Denner stated the Recreation Committee has a few vacancies and wanted to announce solicitation of interest for the Recreation Committee. Appointments will likely be made at the meeting scheduled for December.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to re-appoint Robert E. Klacza, Roy Edmunds, Larry Haggart, Michael Hindelang, Stacey Jarvis, Matthew S. LaBeau, and Martin McMillan, and Gerry Schilling to the Recreation Commission each for a two-year term.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluit, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

PROPOSED COUNCIL ASSIGNMENTS

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the Council assignments to the various Commissions

**Beautification Commission**
Vikas Relan

**Recreation Commission**
Lauri Read

**Planning Commission**
Mayor Denner
Daniel Grano
Communications Committee
Lauri Read, Chairman
Aimée Rogers Fluitt
Vikas Relan

Councilmember for Finance
Michele Hodges

Ordinance Review Committee
Daniel Grano, Chairman
Lauri Read
James Robson

Personnel Committee
James Robson, Chairman
Mayor Denner
Michele Hodges

Public Safety Committee
James Robson, Chairman
Mayor Denner
Vikas Relan

Public Service Committee
Daniel Grano, Chairman
Mayor Denner
Aimée Rogers Fluitt

Real Estate Development Committee
Mayor Denner, Chairman
Daniel Grano
Michele Hodges

Michigan Municipal League Representative
Aimée Rogers Fluitt

SEMCOG Representative
Lauri Read

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Hodges, to approve of the Council Assignments as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None
GREEN SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the implementation of a Green Sustainability Committee.

Councilmember Fluit stated this is something that could really be expanded upon, for example recycling bins could be placed in our public spaces and parks and LED lightbulbs placed at City Hall.

Motion by Councilmember Fluit, supported by Mayor Denner, to create a Green Sustainability Committee.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

GREEN SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT

Mayor Denner presented the Council Assignment for the Green Sustainability Committee.

Aimée Rogers Fluit, Chair
Vikas Relan
Michele Hodges

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Fluit, to approve the Council Assignment for the Green Sustainability Committee.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

2020 COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration the 2020 Council Meeting dates as follows:

January 13
February 10
March 9
April 13
May 11
June 8
July 13
August 24
September 28
October 26
November 9
December 14
Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Read, to approve the 2020 Council Meeting dates as presented.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluit, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
PEG FEES

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration an amendment to the MOU for Peg Fees. He noted the current agreement expires December 1, 2019, and this amendment would extend the agreement for an additional three months.

City Manager Sizeland stated the Peg Fees supports educational and government programming. Comcast Cable and A.T. & T. pay their Peg fees directly to the service provider currently the War Memorial. He noted the Grosse Pointe’s and Harper Woods are not satisfied with the services provided by the War Memorial and collectively are requesting an RFP to other providers. The three month extension allows for a continuation of services until a provider has been decided upon.

Councilmember Relan inquired if the Grosse Pointe Public School System will provide these services.

Mayor Denner stated the Grosse Pointe Public School District will be considered and is expected to submit a proposal.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Read, to adopt the proposed amendment for a three-month extension to the current contract for peg fees associated with cable services to allow ample time to bid out the services.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluit, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION NO. 211

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration temporary traffic regulation no. 211 on Westchester be made permanent.

It reads as follows:

Pursuant to Section 22-UTC-153 of the code of the City of Grosse Pointe Park, the undersigned hereby promulgates the following temporary regulation for the control of parking on Westchester between Jefferson and Fairfax within the City of Grosse Pointe Park, County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

1. On the west side of Westchester between Jefferson and Fairfax, I direct the removal of all posted parking restrictions.
2. On the west side of Westchester I direct that the area from the south side of the south Jefferson crosswalk to a point 100 feet south of the south Jefferson crosswalk be designated
a No Parking at Any Time zone. I direct signage be erected in compliance with the Michigan Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices to indicate this restriction.

This regulation shall become effective this date and expire in ninety days unless made permanent by City Council. Done in the City of Grosse Pointe Park, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, this 17th day of September, 2019.

Motion by Councilmember Relan, supported by Councilmember Read, that temporary traffic regulation no. 211 be made permanent.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluit, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC REGULATION NO. 212

Mayor Denner presented to Council for consideration temporary traffic regulation no. 212 on St. Paul be made permanent.

Pursuant to Section 22-UTC-153 of the code of the City of Grosse Pointe Park, the undersigned hereby promulgates the following temporary regulation for the control of parking on St. Paul between Nottingham and Balfour within the City of Grosse Pointe Park, County of Wayne, State of Michigan.

1. On the north side of St. Paul from the west to east property lines of the property of Pierce Middle School, I direct the designation of a No Stopping Standing Parking zone.

This regulation shall become effective this date and expire in ninety days unless made permanent by City Council. Done in the City of Grosse Pointe Park, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, this 17th day of October, 2019.

Motion by Councilmember Relan, supported by Councilmember Read, that temporary traffic regulation no. 212 be made permanent.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluit, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

FINANCE REPORT – OCTOBER, 2019

Mayor Denner presented to Council the invoices exceeding $5,000 for the month of October, 2019 as presented.

The invoices are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bodman, PLC</td>
<td>Pros. Atty. &amp; retainer fee</td>
<td>$ 10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Build Safe                  Building Inspector – September          9,600
Great Lakes Water                Waste Water – September          151,000
Art Tucker Excavating            Water main break                 5,727
Great Lakes Water                Water usage – August               159,306
OHM Advisors                  DRI Gravity Flow Connection          5,293
Ford Motor Company            Pumper Truck – reimb. by bond            279,658
Cadillac Asphalt               Bishop/Kensington               164,081
Green for Life                  Recycling for October            11,564
Green for Life                  Rubbish for October               36,848
GP Clinton Refuse                     Refuse disposal – July, August, & Sept.          29,512

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Robson, to approve the invoices exceeding $5,000 for the month of October, 2019, as presented in accordance with Section 2.249 of the Charter.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluit, and Mayor Denner
NAYS: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Denner presented to Council the committee reports for the meetings since the Council last met.

 Beautification Commission:
 Councilmember Read presented an overview of the Beautification Commission meeting held on November 6th.

- New commissioners, Ann Billiu and Brittany Longworth were introduced and welcomed
- Commissioner and former chair Janet Peplin have resigned. The commission expressed gratitude for her services, especially her work on the awards ceremony
- Kim Clexton was elected chair, Lisa Kyle, vice-chair, and Shellie Hansen, recording secretary
- The commission discussed its interest in using the city website to publicize events once the new site is launched
- Brian Colter submitted the forestry report. This year 7 elm trees were lost.
- The commission will be awarding holiday decoration awards. Winners will be mailed a certificate and winning addresses will be published in the Winter Park Communicator

Councilmember Read read aloud a document prepared by Pat Deck, member of the Beautification Commission regarding William Balance.

William Balance passed away unexpectedly on October 26, 2019 almost exactly 31 years after he began service to the City of Grosse Pointe Park as a member of the Beautification Commission. He was the “Southern Gentleman” of the Commission. Born in Birmingham, Alabama, he spoke with a soft southern drawl and was always kind and gentle in his manners. In his professional life he held a doctorate in psychology. Following graduation, he worked in the mental health field in Alabama and then accepted a position in the University of Windsor Psychology Department where he worked from 1969 to 2001 (32 years) until his retirement. When he married Gwen Genter in 1971, he moved from Windsor to Grosse Pointe Park. He lived in Grosse Pointe Park 48 years and was a real asset to the community which he loved. He is survived by his wife and 4 stepchildren.
Bill was an accomplished gardener and an active member of the Men's Garden Club. He was extremely knowledgeable about plants and often knew both common as well as botanical names. Always anxious to learn more, he regularly attended the meetings of the Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan. His house had a uniquely landscaped yard willed with beautiful shrubs and trees. In the winter he and Gwen enjoyed the green house they added to their home which was a testimony to his love of plants.

He will be missed by the Commission for the special centerpieces he helped to create for our Beautification Awards programs. The cuttings for the centerpieces often came from his garden. He had a quick wit and a supportive and encouraging manner. He was also well known for the grilled salmon he brought to social gatherings. Our Commission feels his absence.

Recreation:
Councilmember Relan presented an overview of the Recreation Commission meeting held on November 6th at the Tompkins Center

- Halloween in the Park was a success, considering the rain. There were approximately 500 kids
- Chili Festival is scheduled for January 25th from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM
- Lavin’s Center will require new boilers that will cost approximately $65,000
- There are electrical repairs needed within the marina
- Ice rink is scheduled to open Friday, November 22nd at 4:00 PM
- Atrium sound system is not sufficient and needs some upgrades
- Next meeting is scheduled for February 2nd, 2020.

CLOSED DOOR SESSION

Mayor Denner requested that a closed-door session be held immediately following the regular meeting pursuant to Real Estate.

Motion by Mayor Denner, supported by Councilmember Relan, that a closed-door session be held immediately following the regular meeting pursuant to Real Estate.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluitt, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Dog Park:
City Manager Sizeland stated there have been three meetings held for the dog park discussions. Chad Craig, Supervisor of Parks & Recreation was also present.

City Manager stated there were approximately 25-30 people in attendance. He noted there are four separate proposed locations for the dog park and the criteria reviewed for each site will be safety, cost, landscape, and drainage.
Maintenance Garage – Windmill Pointe Park:
City Manager stated a maintenance garage for Windmill Pointe Park is being considered that would be located in the overflow lot to store equipment, and vehicles.
Parks and Recreation Master Plan:
City Manager stated Park and Recreation Commission discussed at the meeting the future development of a Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Welcoming new members:
Councilmember Read welcomed the newest members to City Council and expressed gratitude to former Councilmembers Clark, and Chouinard for their dedicated service.

TIFA/DDA:
Councilmember Read recommended the TIFA and DDA Boards meet at a time more conducive to residents who work during the day.

City Manager Sizeland stated the meetings scheduled for November are earlier, however, next years times will be scheduled later in the day.

Public Outreach Meeting:
Councilmember Robson stated the City Manager has held two public outreach meetings and they have been a success. This is an important and valuable new tool. This allows for individual residents to discuss individual issues.

Ethics Committee:
Councilmember Hodges stated she would like an Ethics Committee to be created to come up with the best policies and practices.

Mayor Denner recommended the City Manager, City Attorney and Councilmember Hodges meet and come up with some ideas for an Ethics Committee.

Councilmember Hodges expressed her gratitude to the residents of Grosse Pointe Park for voting her into office.

Next Energy Grant:
City Manager stated a grant from Next Energy will fund intelligent cross walks called Smart Cone, one at Somerset and St. Paul and one at Kercheval and Nottingham. After the initial year, the fee will be approximately $1,000. The first year is free.

Councilmember Read expressed her gratitude to Melissa Smith of Next Energy that administered the grant for the City of Grosse Pointe Park.

New website:
City Manager noted the new website will be up and running soon. The training session is scheduled for November 22, 2019.
Dog Park concern:
Resident of Grand Marais expressed opposition to the dog park at Patterson Park.

Planning Commission Council Assignment:
Resident of Pemberton recommended Councilmember Read be placed on the Planning Commission, noting she attends all the meetings.

Mayor Denner thanked him for his comment.

Former Mayor Theokas:
Councilmember Robson indicated former Mayor Theokas was in the audience and wanted to acknowledge his presence.

Closed door:
Resident inquired why the closed-door session does not elaborate on the topic and property.

Mayor Denner indicated a closed-door session discussion involves confidentiality.

School closing:
Resident of Trombley expressed urgency for the Council to apply pressure to the Grosse Pointe Public School Board for the closure of Trombley and Poupard. He read aloud statistics on enrollment.

Director of Public Safety Poloni stated he has been working with the Administration regarding “Safe Routes to School Grant” and pedestrian safety around the schools.

Councilmember Grano stated it appears the Grosse Pointe Public School Board is not changing their direction, noting the City needs to have a plan in place if Trombley school does actually close, including ordinances that would need to be developed, real estate development plan and public safety for the children. Trombley School is a GPPSS building, however, it is in Grosse Pointe Park and would need to comply with Grosse Pointe Park’s zoning rules.

Urban Renewal Foundation Initiative:
Resident stated the Foundation has not yet filed their tax forms; can the Council verify the amount contributed to date.

Mayor Denner stated there is no new information on this topic.

With no further business, the meeting convened to Closed Door Session.

The meeting reconvened to open door session.

JOE'S GARAGE

After a Closed-Door Session to discuss real estate negotiations.
Motion by Councilmember Grano, supported by Mayor Denner to execute the necessary documents to amend the Purchase Agreement as discussed in Closed Door Session.

AYES: Councilmembers Grano, Relan, Read, Hodges, Robson, and Fluit, and Mayor Denner

NAYS: None

With no further business the meeting adjourned.