

**PROCEEDINGS OF
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WEST BLOOMFIELD
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
West Bloomfield Police Department Training Room
West Bloomfield, Michigan
Special Budget Workshop for Connect Community Center
Wednesday, November 12, 2025
6:00 PM**

APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:43PM by Chairperson Brooks

ROLL CALL

Present:

- Chair Robert Brooks
- Secretary John Erich
- Treasurer Terrance Adams
- Commissioner Merv Aronoff
- Commissioner David Barash
- Commissioner Amy Mindell
- Commissioner Sally Wenczel
- Kurt Ryder- FRS- Construction
- Adam Gut- FRS- Construction
- Tim Gawel- HED- Architect
- Tracy Sweeney- HED- Architect
- Richard Houdek- GMA- Landscape Architect
- Tim Wood- Nowak and Fraus- Civil Engineering
- Laura Hester- LJH Development- Owners' Representative

Staff Present:

- Kelly Hyer, Executive Director
- Chris Frey, Parks Superintendent
- Ashley Stokes, Recreation Supervisor
- Meagan Tehako, Marketing & Events Manager
- Stephanie Smith, Finance Manager
- Carrie Manning, Recording Secretary

Absent: None

Public: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Welcome- Executive Director Kelly Hyer

Introductions.

Architecture and Interior Presentation- Tracy Sweeney from HED, led a presentation with images of the future Connect Community Center and how the interior spaces may look. The first floor would contain a multi-purpose room behind the lobby and a high school-size gym, suitable for basketball and pickleball. The second level would be where the lounge area would be for multi-generations to meet, play board

games, gather, and use for any number of activities. Above the gym would be the walking track and staff areas would be on the other end of the building.

Civil Engineering Presentation- Tim Wood, from Nowak and Fraus Engineering presented the details regarding stormwater treatment and processing. Maps were displayed showing the flow of parking lot runoff from the WBT Library down to the future location of the processor behind the Connect Community Center. The engineer answered questions from the Commissioners regarding the placement and capabilities of the water processor and how it worked. This will treat the runoff water for the entire RAC side of the complex. This will surpass all local standards and ordinances regarding the processing and treatment of the runoff water.

Landscape Architecture- Richard Houdek, from GMA, provided details regarding the wetland mitigation process. He outlined all the areas that are included in the mitigation and the plans for those areas. The landscaping surveys pointed out the high quantity of Buckthorn, a highly invasive plant species. The plan to eliminate the Buckthorn and replace it with native species plants will be a significant improvement in the wetland facing areas around the Connect Community Center.

Cost Update- Adam Gut and Kurt Ryder, from Frank Rewold & Sons, led a discussion on probable costs for the Connect Community Center. They reviewed updates and changes that have already taken place and the possibility and probability of future decisions that will have to be made. Along with Executive Director Hyer, they presented a list of items that should be included in these discussions. The items included features, materials, and items that could either be eliminated, rescheduled for a later date, repurposed from current inventory, or be replaced with alternatives. The Commission was asked to review the list for future discussion as well as for ideas, such as grant requests or donations from partners for the items included.

Discussion, questions, and feedback followed the presentations.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:09PM.

Reviewed by,
John Erich

(As a permanent record, an audio tape of this meeting in its entirety is on file and will remain at the Parks and Recreation offices where it may be heard.)