

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay
September 21, 2020

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Mayor Christina Muryn, Chair, Matt Cordonnier, Colin Earl, Gary Pruitt, Grant Russel, Ben Taylor, Brian Thomas.

Staff Present: Matt Stoffel, Lisa Mansfield, and Kathy Launder.

Guests: none

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept minutes of the February 18, 2020, meeting, by Cordonnier, second by Earl. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Pickle Ball Courts: Russel reported that he and Councilman Wobser met the members of the Flag City Pickleball Club at the courts. The courts are being used a lot. The club is very appreciative of the City installing the courts. They had a few concerns regarding maintenance items: low spots on the courts that gather water and is causing deterioration. Russel stated the we need to prioritize preventative maintenance in budget. This project is a success based on usage, upkeep of users, and continually having new people use the courts. Council challenge between Russel and Wobser and Hellmann and Slough. Stoffel stated that the low spot has already been address. The low spot is not in the field of play and is not a safety concern at this time. Russel inquired how long the surface should last. Mayor Muryn stated that she has asked all department heads to develop an asset management program for all assets. Earl stated that he is a user of the courts on Wednesday mornings and there are usually about 20-30 people utilizing the courts at that time. Russel inquired if Scouts have considered utilizing the courts as an activity. Earl said that they have had a den activity at the Pickleball Courts. Stoffel stated that the nets are removed from the courts typically in December for the winter season.

Strategic Planning: Mayor Muryn stated that she would like to keep strategic planning on pause until we know how the finances look next year. Council will also reconvene its strategic planning when appropriate. Mayor Muryn also stated that in December we should have an updated timeline on the benching project for the river.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Recreation Department Report: Mansfield reported Recreation Facilities were closed down by Health order on March 17, due to this, Silver Blades Ice Classics Show cancelled and Gliding Stars Ice Show cancelled. They were not able to host dry floor events so Black Swamp Bucks Unlimited, Courier Wedding Showcase, Loomis Brothers Circus all cancelled. Due to NCAA regulations the University of Findlay Baseball and Softball had to cancel their spring seasons. Findlay Girls Fastpitch and Findlay Youth Softball both cancelled their house league seasons. Findlay Youth Baseball waited to decide and guidelines changed that allowed them to have their season with a modified start and end date. Tournaments in April and the beginning of May had to be cancelled. The Governor put out responsible restart orders allowing for Baseball and Softball to start back up on May 25 and the first tournament was hosted on May 29 and we were able to add additional tournaments utilizing fields at Emory Adams. The ice arena did open over the summer in a limited capacity. By Governor's order there was no contact sports, but there could be non-contact practice with drills. This allowed us to have freestyle sessions for figure skating and Drills and Skills sessions for hockey limiting the number to 15 per session. During the down time we made modifications to add additional "Sneezguards" at our concessions at The Diamonds and The Cube and well as the front counter. The University of Findlay was able to start practices back up when they came back on campus in Aug and will finish the end of October. A few fall tournaments. Only allowed to play double headers due to new guidelines. Ice back on, not booked to full capability. User groups are starting out slow. Gliding

Stars has no ice scheduled until January. Due to restrictions, no public skates are being held. Have some out of town groups we are working with to try and book the open time slots we have.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel stated that mowing has been increasing and green waste site has lots of use. Parks are a lot busier during COVID time. Pool is closed and doing maintenance; blasted diving well to paint. Working with an Eagle Scout on his project at Ede Park. Worked with a citizen to install a bench at Rawson Park as a memorial for her daughter that overlooks the playground. Will be meeting with the new director at the YMCA with Paul Worstell and Lisa Mansfield.

OTHER REPORTS

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported that fall float trips are underway at the Zonta Landing at Riverside Park started last weekend and extending through mid-November so people can enjoy the fall color. Kayak or canoe trips start at 1pm on Saturdays and Sundays, required to register ahead of time, registration fee of \$10 per person, and can register online. After cancelling most of programming over the summer, fall programming is now underway, taking in to account all required safety protocol. New striping plan for Blanchard River Greenway Trail is being considered for next year. Concept has been shared with Matt Stoffel and Brian Thomas. Plan includes white lines on both sides of trail and intermittent or solid yellow line down the middle. It is supplemented with standard wayfinding Blanchard River Greenway Trail sign and additional signs helps direct users.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for October 19, at 4:00pm in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Launder
City Clerk