

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay
December 13, 2021

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Rob Martin, Chair, Matt Cordonnier, Dennis Doolittle, Colin Earl, Josh Palmer, Gary Pruitt, Jeremy Kalb.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept minutes of the April 19, 2021, meeting, by Cordonnier, second by Councilman Palmer. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Review and approve Parks and Rec Facility Rules & Regulations: Mansfield stated that the only change is under Park Structures-would like to add "and Properties" to the heading and under "Defacement, Destruction, Removal" add "dig/excavate" due to significant number of people who metal detect in the parks and then want to dig up a find.

Motion to approve updated Parks and Rec Facility Rules & Regulations, by Earl, second by Kalb. Motion passed 7-0.

Review and approve Updated Fee Schedule: Mansfield discussed the changes to the fee schedule. Public Skate admission went from \$5 to \$6 per person; Combo Meeting Room rates went from \$40 to \$50 per hour and \$160 to \$200 per day; Learn to Skate pricing structure went from flat fee of \$40 to a per class fee of \$11; renegotiated with University of Findlay to account for additional field use, fee went from \$3125 to \$4875 per year.

Motion to approve updated Fee Schedule, by Councilman Palmer, second by Earl. Motion passed 7-0.

Benching Phase II Update: RFQ Phase II Benching was distributed last year. Make sure usable space. Primary purpose is flood mitigation but also usable recreational space. Included in the RFQ is the Riverwalk and Anchor Park areas. Wanting to continue to build out our park amenities and looking into this downtown area. Once we move to the proposal process, the Parks and Recreation Board will be involved in the discussions.

Trail Plan: We have been focusing on connections with greenway trail going to the east with the goal of connecting to Riverbend. We do have the previous Trail Plan that the Hancock Park District, City of Findlay, and Hancock Handlebars had put together. We want it to continue to keep in mind.

Capital Plan projects scheduled: Eastpoint to County Road 236 in 2022 or 2023; Howard Street to Broad Street 2023; County Road 236 to Riverbend Park in 2024.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Recreation Department Report: Mansfield reported that the summer tournaments went well. Continued to promote using all of the City's ballfields at our different park facilities to be able to host bigger and additional tournaments. In the past would use Diamonds and Swale primarily for Findlay Girls' Fastpitch and Findlay Youth Baseball. We have expanded that. Midwest Tournament Factory has been using Swale. Uncle Charlie's Tournaments out of Cleveland used all ballfields. Just trying to do a good job of marketing the other facilities. Out of state users are complimentary of our fields, even

Emory Adams Park fields that locally we get complaints on. Summer 2022, all of the Marathon Diamonds fields are booked, six tournaments are booked at Swale, and two booked at Emory Adams Park fields. Concessions are having high number of sales. Cube vending machines received \$1100 in revenue in one week. Point of Sale system is in place, and we are working out bugs with wireless connection. Hope to be able to take credit cards next year. Move With The Mayor walks were scheduled at different parks this year. First Lady Fran DeWine joined us on one of the walks that was held on the multi use path on County Road 236 leading to the Brucklacher Park. Play Ball event was held at Civitan Park. The University of Findlay baseball and softball players helped with event. Ice season going well. Public Skate is averaging 75-100 people more than in 2019. Attendance was 313 on Friday and 318 on Saturday. Have not had any issues with user groups.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel reported that all the parks are shut down. The Bandshell is done except the interior which will be done in the Spring. Worked with the Miracle League on a new Ultra Zip toy. It is an all ability zipline. Working on an upgrade of Shelter 15. Green Waste Site is closed for the season except for Christmas Tree drop off. We are in the process of grinding all the materials collected.

OTHER REPORTS

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported Oakwoods Nature Preserve wetland restoration project is finished. It was a \$1.4 million H2Ohio project. A similar project, Bright Conservation area will be finished about December 2022. This is a \$400,000 project also through H2Ohio. Blanchard River Greenway Trail improvements are almost finished. Striped four asphalt sections over the summer. Have been installing wayfinding signs and directional signs at 15 locations strategically placed along the route because it is a fragmented system along the 3.7 mile section. All signs will be installed by the end of January. Six message centers have been installed at strategic river park locations that include a large map of the greenway trail. Ohio Department of Natural Resources awarded Hancock Park District with a Nature Works Grant the maximum amount allowed which is \$128,850 that will go toward improvements at the Great Karg Well historical site. Thank you to the Mayor and the City for their support in applying for this grant.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for January 18, 2022, 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