

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay
February 22, 2022

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Rob Martin, Chair, Colin Earl, Jeremy Kalb, Josh Palmer, Gary Pruitt, Jim Seebald, Brad Wisener.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept minutes of the December 13, 2021, meeting, by Pruitt, second by Palmer. Motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Benching Phase II Update: Mayor Muryn stated that with the Phase II benching project as part of flood mitigation, the City and County are working together to develop a recreation benefit that can be utilized when there is no flood event occurring and would not be significantly damaged during a flood event, keeping in mind the deed restrictions that go along with the area. A request for qualifications was put out and seven firms responded. Strand Associates, a Cincinnati firm, was chosen. Will be meeting with them in the near future. The reason the City went with a design firm is that we don't know yet what will fit in the footprint. Once we know more will bring Parks and Recreation Board in to the discussion. As part of the project, we included the south side redevelopment of the River Walk and tying in the Anchor Park area, not necessarily included in this park project. As far as funding, the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation and Goodyear are interested in funding a portion of the project. Possibly looking at utilizing ARPA dollars. Will be working through Council for the approval of utilizing the ARPA dollars. Looking at using some of the ARPA funding for some direct infrastructure projects as well as other potentially other community improvement items.

Mayor Muryn also stated that she met a recreation complex developer to get more information with the discussions of the continuing need of indoor recreation facilities, turf fields, etc. to bring in tournaments and winter sports activities. See what has been done in other communities. As soon as get any information will come back to this group and share.

NEW BUSINESS

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Recreation Department Report: Mansfield reported that five additional softball tournaments have been scheduled at Emory Adams Park. Promoting fields and it is paying off. Public Skate 2021-2022 season has significant increase in attendance over the 2019-2020 season. Year-to-date attendance is 17,185 which is an increase of 2,598 over same time period in 2019-2020. February first two Saturdays FAHA Tournaments. In February 5 school groups end of January four school groups award parties utilizes dead ice time. Gliding Stars and Silver Blades are having their shows in March. These programs have not had shows for the last two years. Getting Marathon Diamonds ready for March 8 start date for University of Findlay baseball.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel reported they are finishing up the renovations at Shelter 15, continuing snow removal, Green Waste Site will open first part of April, doing equipment maintenance.

OTHER REPORTS

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported registration is open for Spring programs. Information can be found at HancockParks.com. Maple Sugaring will be held on March 12 from 9am-12pm, starting with a pancake breakfast followed by activities, displays, and demonstrations throughout the park all related to maple sugaring process. The first three Saturdays in May there will be boat trips starting at Liberty Landing to Blanchard Landing, self-guided trip.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for March 21, 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