

# PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay  
December 18, 2023

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## MINUTES

### **ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Jeremy Kalb, Matt Cordonnier, Dennis Doolittle, Holly Frische, Josh Palmer, Gary Pruitt, Jim Seebald.

Staff Present: Dave Honse, Lisa Mansfield, and Kathy Launder.

Guests: Christopher Aldrich, Findlay City School Board

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to accept minutes of the August 21, 2023, and October 16, 2023, meeting, by Councilman Palmer, second by Cordonnier. Motion passed 7-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Review and Approval of Recreation Fee Schedule: Mansfield presented the proposed 2024 fee schedule. Mansfield researched fees charged by other cities to make sure we are in line and are covering our costs. Fees for ice time have a minimal increase of \$6.00 and \$7.00; birthday party package is increased by \$15.00 due in part to a different vendor for pizza; rentals for shelters, bandshell, green space, parks, and overnight camper parking have an increase of \$5.00; and Findlay High School Hockey contract increase by \$7.00.

Motion to approve the 2024 fee schedule by Cordonnier, second by Councilwoman Frische. Motion passed 7-0.

Downtown Recreation Area Update: Kalb reported that we are waiting for Council process to move forward with the design phase of the Downtown Recreation Area. The Ordinance has been tabled and waiting for its third reading. If the Ordinance is not passed at the Council meeting on December 19, it will have to start over in the new year.

Fort Findlay Playground Project: Kalb provided an update on the Fort Findlay Playground project. He showed the finalized concepts and master plan. The consultant is reviewing the full park as part of a master plan to make sure whatever we do with the playground project doesn't affect the soccer field usage. Fencing will go around the full Fort Findlay Playground area, a catwalk is included across some of the play structures, softer play areas, a lot of shaded areas, nature play areas, one entrance/exit, all inclusive play areas, shelters, restrooms, include previous donor brick pavers. Final Master Plan will fine tune cost, what the features we want to look like, make sure structures are maintainable. Concerns raised that it does not look like our current playground. Kalb stated that the firm who we are working with who have extensive experience in designing playgrounds explained that families like to spread out and run rather than having everything compact.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Recreation Department Report: Mansfield reported 61 Public Skates were held from September to current with 6300 participants, which is down about 9 participants per public skate session. Added a tournament over the Thanksgiving break with Bowling Green High School. Silver Blades hosted annual figure skating competition event in November. Silver Blades had their holiday show this past weekend with Gliding Stars. Next week will be Findlay High School's holiday tournament that will be held here and in Bowling Green. Tournaments for the summer for 2024 are already booked at the Marathon Diamonds.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Honse reported the City was awarded a grant in the amount of \$22,000 from the Hancock Park District to redo the outside of the restrooms and electrical room at Riverside Park. Capital Plan for 2024 will include adding toys at West Park and Riverside Park near Shelter 15, paving Kiddie Koral parking lot and adding a basketball court in that area, reseal and stripe pickleball courts at Riverside Park, through the winter will continue working on the tennis court at Rawson Park and putting the fence up and seal when it is warmer, new ballfield lights at Rawson, working with Kalb on a project for restrooms at Rawson and adding one at Swale, and replace wood on walking bridge at Emory Adams Park.

## **OTHER REPORTS**

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported Litzenberg Memorial Woods improvement project has been delayed to February 2024 and will be done at the end of May, north side of the park will be closed during construction, south side will remain open. Great Karg Well Historical Site development has reached substantial completion in November, still waiting on safety features-bollards and railing, due to supply chain issues, once they come in will get installed and will add site amenities and signs. The Board approved the Strategic and Comprehensive Plan in October. This is a continuation of the 2014 plan which is to replace, upgrade and modernize the facilities that are aging. Will continue to do what have been doing the last decade. There are 18 multifaceted projects that will go well beyond 10 years. Another part of the plan is an in depth history of Hancock Park District planning and development over the last 53 years, a neat story of how the Park District got here from the beginning. It is on [hancockparkdistrict.com](http://hancockparkdistrict.com) if interested in reading it. Cooper Pond on County Road 144 adjacent to Oakwoods Nature Preserve is going to be donated to the Hancock Park District most likely in the first quarter of 2024 by Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. Once it happens it will become part of Oakwoods Nature Preserve. Preliminary plans are to retain most of the fence, but will breach part of the fence so a new trail can come through the wetlands to connect to it so people can have another destination within the park. There will be no public entrance from road. Mayor Muryn was instrumental in having Cooper Pond donated to Hancock Park District for Oakwoods Nature Preserve connecting Goodyear with Park District officials.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for January 16, 2024, at 4:00pm in the Mayor's Conference Room of the Municipal Building.

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Launder  
City Clerk