

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay
May 20, 2013

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Paul Schmelzer, Chair, Matt Cordonnier, Dennis McPheron, Bob Nichols, Gary Pruitt, Mike Slough.

Staff Present: Lu Draper, Matt Stoffel, and Kathy Launder.

Guests Present: Rod Warnimont; Will Welsh, Findlay YMCA; Jim Staschiak II, City Auditor; Tom Shindledecker; Holly Frische; Joy Brown, The Courier.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept minutes of the April 15, 2013, meeting, by McPheron, second by Schmelzer. Motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Maintenance of Diamonds: The Recreation Department and Public Works Department have been working cooperatively to get Marathon Diamonds properly prepared for use.

Additional Parking at Swale Park: An additional 100 space parking lot at Swale Park would be utilized on a nightly basis. This additional lot would provide the additional parking needed during tournaments as well.

NEW BUSINESS

Eagle Creek Skate Park: A request by Hunter Hoop was received to allow bicycles in the Eagle Creek Skate Park. Stoffel reported that the City had installed a gate specifically to keep the bicycles out of the park. There were issues with bicyclists causing accidents and damaging equipment. Eagle Creek Skate Park was designed for skateboards, not bicycles. There is a bicycle course that was built near Cooper Field that can be utilized by bicyclists. Motion to deny request to allow bicycle use in Eagle Creek Skate Park by Schmelzer, second by Nichols. Motion passed 6-0.

Riverside Pool: The Findlay YMCA requested that the City purchase umbrellas to be used at Riverside Pool for additional shade. Schmelzer stated that there are funds budgeted in the Capital Plan for purchase of umbrellas. Welsh stated that adding umbrellas for shade would encourage more people to visit the pool. Welsh suggested that the City purchase one to two umbrellas per year. The umbrellas can be used when the pool is updated. Motion to move forward with purchase of two umbrellas for Riverside Pool by Slough, second by Cordonnier. Motion passed 6-0.

Hancock Soccer Association: Schmelzer stated the Hancock Soccer Association (HSA) would like to modify its original agreement with the City to give credit for maintenance at Emory Adams Park for water consumption from field irrigation. HSA would like an increased credit in exchange for additional maintenance performed at the Park. Stoffel states that it is cost effective to have HSA perform the maintenance on Emory Adams Park and receive the credit. The additional maintenance includes all areas north of the parking lot. Revisit at the June meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Sale of City Property: Rod Warnimont has requested to purchase two parcels of City property south of Emory Adams Park that would connect his properties. He will use these parcels to move his cattle back and forth between his properties. Warnimont understands that if the City decides to sell the properties that it would be through a public bid process. Nichols stated that we need to talk with user groups of Emory Adams Park to get their feedback. Revisit at the June meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board.

Trackless Train Vendor: Dan Romick approached the City to request permission to operate his trackless train in Riverside Park for a fee. Nichols stated that the Law Director needs to review. Need to put a policy in place for operating various types of concessions in parks. If permitted, the vendor would need to sign the Food/Beverage/Retail Concession Agreement and pay the appropriate fee. Revisit at the June meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Recreation Department Report: Draper reported that the ice is down. Public Skate sessions have begun. A Learn to Skate Clinic will be held for the first time. There will be a 30 person limit for participation. They will build sets, design costumes, and perform a show during lunch time. After the show there will be a family skate. If this program is successful, the Cube will offer annually. An Adult Learn to Skate was offered for the first time with six people registered. A 53 team youth baseball tournament will be held at the Diamonds from May 31-June 2. There are several large tournaments scheduled at the Diamonds. There are tournaments scheduled every weekend through the season, including a 90 team tournament and the returning National World Series Baseball Tournament which has 60 teams registered.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel reported that the staff is getting the pool ready, preparing ballfields, getting Cemetery ready for Memorial Day services.

OTHER REPORTS

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported that the Hancock Park District will be holding a summer camp. Riverside Boat Landing will open this weekend. HPD staff is continuing to work on the new parks to be able to open for summer. The trails master plan project is continuing to move forward. A completed plan is projected to be ready in June and will then be ready to move to the next step.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for June 17, 2013, 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