

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay
July 20, 2015

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Paul Schmelzer, Chair, Dennis McPheron, Bob Nichols, Gary Pruitt, Mike Slough, Brian Thomas, and Dave Trisel.

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

Guests Present: Audrey Tyzzer, City Mission; Patrick and Kristin Fagan, Knockerball; Bob Haygood, Arlington Coed Softball.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept minutes of the March 16, 2015, meeting, by McPheron, second by Schmelzer. Motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for Reduction in Fees-City Mission: Audrey Tyzzer stated that the City Mission is planning an appreciation picnic for donors and volunteers at Riverside Park on July 31. This event will be free and open to the public. All food and activities are being donated. City Mission is requesting that the City of Findlay waive the \$50.00 fee for the rental of the shelterhouse. Director Schmelzer stated that he will personally donate the \$50.00 to City Mission and then City Mission will be responsible to pay the City of Findlay Recreation Department.

Review Ordinance 145-Park and Recreation Board: Pruitt suggested that the Board review the ordinance that relates to the duties of the Park and Recreation Board. Director Schmelzer reviewed the Ordinance with the Board. The following is the narrative:

Ordinance 145.01

(a) Preparation and continuous update of a five-year capital improvement program for parks and recreational facilities development.

The City has a 5-year capital improvement plan in place city-wide that includes parks and recreational facilities. A copy of the plan will be made available to the Board.

(b) Establishment of policies relating to recreational programing, including the summer playground program and other activities fostered by the Recreation Department.

The Board has started to look at the fee and policy schedule annually. Will plan on the October meeting for review. Remove the wording "the summer playground program and other" from this section since the program is no longer in place.

(c) Development and continued review of a systematic park maintenance program, including recommendations relating to procedures, manpower and equipment.

This is an on going practice.

(d) Formulation of policies regarding the operations and management of the Riverside Park swimming pool.

Schmelzer reported that this has been done annually with the review of the agreement with the YMCA in March of each year for the operation of the pool.

(e) Formulation of policies regarding recreational use and related management of the reservoir system.

Water Treatment Plant gives input, will review in October of each year.

(f) Review and recommendation to Council on annual budget proposals for park and recreation related departments.

Will present budgets and review annually in October.

(g) Interview and make recommendations to the City administration concerning candidates for park and recreation related department head positions.

Schmelzer stated that the Board can be involved in the interview process, but the final hiring decision is an Administrative decision. Board suggested that they participate in interviewing two to three finalists and giving recommendations with the understanding that they are not the final decision makers.

(h) Adoption of procedures designed to maximize opportunities for resident input and to insure correlation of Board activities with Council, the School Board and City administration.

Park and Recreation Board meetings are public meetings.

(i) Formulation of policies regarding the operations and management of the ice rink facility currently known as the Hancock Recreation Center.

Need to update this section to remove specific names of facilities.

145.02 (b) Two members shall be appointed by the Board of Education, both of whom shall be members of the School Board, a representative of the School Administration, or an employee of the schools so appointed by the School Board. The second member to be appointed by the School Board shall serve for a three-year term.

Comments were made that the Findlay City School Board needs to appoint someone to the Park and Recreation Board that is able to attend the meetings on a regular basis. They are responsible for appointing two members of the Board. Currently only one member attends the meetings regularly.

Request from Arlington Coed Softball: Bob Haygood, on behalf of Arlington Coed Softball, requested use of Cooper Field and Rawson Field on July 25 for a fundraiser tournament that was originally scheduled in Arlington. They cannot play at Arlington due to the wet conditions of the fields. Haygood also requested that the field fees and usage fees for field lights be waived for this tournament. The tournament is being held to raise funds for a non-profit foundation. Due to the organization leveraging registration fees, the City does not waive fees. The fields are available at the regular fee. Motion to deny request to waive field rental and usage fees for field lights, by Director Schmelzer, second by Councilman Nichols. Motion passed 7-0.

Knockerball: Patrick and Kristin Fagan demonstrated their new venture, Knockerball. They are looking for green space to refer their customers for get-togethers and events that rent the Knockerball equipment. Suggestions are Emory Adams Park-East or the new football field out at the Cube in the off season. Field rental fees will apply.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Recreation Department Report: Draper reported that the National Team double header had a good turnout. It had to be rescheduled by one day due to weather and had 1200 people in attendance. Revenues are down due to tournaments cancelled or shortened due to rainy weather. The ice is down for the summer. On September 13 a women's expo will be held at the Cube. August 22 a flea market and craft show is scheduled at the Cube. Last weekend a girls tournament was held. The building at the football field is complete. Held a meeting with the ice partners. All available ice time has been scheduled. GLIAC girls tournament will be held at the Marathon Diamonds one more year. The University of Findlay will be changing sports conferences next year. A bid as submitted for a national youth tournament to be held in 2017.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel reported that they are mowing less due to the rain and wet conditions. Vandalism is high at Riverside Park. Shelter rental has been steady. Band Shell project, using funds from the Hancock Park District grant, is almost complete; waiting for dry weather to seal.

OTHER REPORTS

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported that the Hancock Park District implemented a new program, horseback riding instruction program at the University of Findlay Equestrian Center (UF). It has been very successful. It is led by an instructor from UF. All sessions have filled up. Looking to expand it to the outdoor recreation program. Working with Triple T Ranch to do a piggy back program in September/October. Working on expanding the Blanchard River Greenway Trail. Waiting response on request for an easement. Have started having issues at the Concert Series in Riverside Park. Have requested an officer be present at the concerts to control and minimize these issues.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for August 17, 2015, 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