

# PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay

April 18, 2016

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## MINUTES

### **ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Paul Schmelzer, Chair, Matt Cordonnier, Dennis McPheron, Greg Meyers, Gary Pruitt, Grant Russel, Mike Slough, Brian Thomas, Jeff Wobser.

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

Guests: Brent Finlay, Findlay YMCA; Sharon Van Heck, Co-ed Volleyball; Dan Clinger, Flag City BalloonFest.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Findlay YMCA Strategic Planning Update: Brent Finlay presented the conceptual design for the renovations to Findlay YMCA's two locations that came out of their strategic planning process. The plan calls for bringing the Findlay YMCA's child care program to the main campus, adding an indoor splash pad/lazy river, expand multi sport gyms, expand wellness areas, add indoor track, add teaching kitchens.

Request to Waive Fees-Coed Volleyball: Sharon Van Heck with Co-ed Volleyball stated that they were told that they would have to start paying the \$1000 Independent League fee plus \$100 Administrative fee for their summer volleyball league that uses the volleyball courts at Riverside Park. She stated that Co-ed Volleyball has been taking care of the volleyball courts for many years including purchasing sand, nets (approximately every three years), and boundary lines for the courts. They maintain the referee stand and repair the nets as needed. Nets that are purchased by Co-ed Volleyball stay up all summer long for anyone to use. The City tills the courts once a week. Van Heck stated that the team usually have sponsors that pay the team fee. She stated that most of the fees charged to players goes toward referees. The summer league has 61 teams. The City appreciates what the Co-ed Volleyball league has done for the volleyball courts.

Motion to reduce the Independent League fee by 50% to \$500 for 2016 for Summer Co-ed Volleyball provided the nets are left up, and pay the \$100 Administrative fee, by Wobser, second by Schmelzer. Motion passed 7-2. Slough and Pruitt are the dissenting votes.

Russel stated that in the future he would like additional information in order to make an informed decision on reducing or waiving fees. Need more notice for these requests. Slough stated that if an organization provided materials and services for the facility, why are we charging them to use the facility? Parks and Recreation should not be money making. The City should not overcharge sports organizations. Many sports groups help improve City facilities. Schmelzer stated that we are making sure that fields are available when they want to use them. The Independent League Fee is not much money split across the number of players in the league.

Request to Waive Fees-Flag City BalloonFest: Dan Clinger requested that the City waive the fees for camping at Emory Adams Park during BalloonFest. The campers are charged \$35 from BalloonFest and starting in 2015 were charged an additional \$50 by the City through the Vending Application. On average there are up to 10 motor homes that are part of the same club that camp at BalloonFest. Schmelzer stated that the City implemented the \$50 fee for motor homes parked/camped overnight at the Cube for softball tournaments. This fee is charged at any facility or location where people want to bring in motor homes for a tournament or event. Schmelzer stated that he is not inclined to waive the fee.

Motion to deny request to waive the camping fee of \$50 for the Flag City BalloonFest, by Cordonnier, second by Russel. Motion passed 9-0.

Parks and Recreation Ordinance: Auditor Jim Staschiak distributed copies of the City Ordinance relating to the Parks and Recreation Board and its financial responsibilities. He also distributed graphs of City debt as it relates to Recreation.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Recreation Department Report: Mansfield reported the Cube hosted the Bridal Expo, White Tails event, and MMA fight. The first tournament with Findlay Youth Baseball was held at the Marathon Diamonds this weekend. Backyard Mission Trip is scheduled at the Cube this Saturday. Hit Pitch Run is being held Saturday at the Marathon Diamonds. Ice will go back down next week with the first Public Skate on April 29. The ice will be down through June; will be off July/August; and will be back down starting in September.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel stated that they are working on the ballfields and mowing. They will start working on the pool taking care of maintenance issues. Assisting Shade Tree Commission with planting trees for Arbor Day at Millstream Career Center and NeighborWoods projects.

Short term projects include batting cages, electricity at dugouts, and ticket shelters at the Diamonds. Young Miss Softball reported that there are concrete issues at Swale Park. Parks Maintenance is already looking into and taking care of it. Lighting project at Riverside Park will be finished next year. Looking into motion sensor cameras that send an alert to Police Department in Riverside Park to help deter graffiti and other criminal activity

## **OTHER REPORTS**

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported that HPD held its Nature Comes Alive program with 5<sup>th</sup> grade Science students. 475 students participated in the program over the week and were able to experience the portable Planetarium. HPD has a full program staff now. The grant for the trails project has been submitted and should hear back in about six months.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for May 16, 2016, 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