

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

City of Findlay
January 23, 2017

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Paul Schmelzer, Chair, Matt Cordonnier, Dennis McPheron, Greg Meyers, Shane Pochard, Gary Pruitt, Grant Russel, Brian Thomas, Dave Trisel, Jeff Wobser.

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

Guests: Nate Riker, Bucks Unlimited; Emily Siefker, University of Findlay Circle K.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept minutes of the December 19, 2017, meeting, by Meyers, second by McPheron. Motion passed 10-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Rules and Regulations: Pruitt asked about Facility Fees on page 11. What is the definition of “significant variance”? The Rules and Regulations does not state any information about the 50% discount to nonprofit charitable groups. It is stated in the Fee Schedule. Discussion was held regarding the 50% discount for nonprofit charitable groups. Why not stick with the 50% discount for nonprofit charitable groups and not offer an option for any other discounts or waiver of fees. Currently there are no qualifications or objective criteria for waiving fees. There has been no consistency in the past when waiving fees. It is suggested to remove the words “minor” and “approval” in the last sentence of “Facility Fees” under “Permits and Fees” on page 11 of the Rules and Regulations. It should now read: “Variances shall be reviewed by the Safety/Service Director for referral to the Board.”

Motion to approve the Rules and Regulations with the modification on page 11, and further address the 50% discount to nonprofit charitable groups in discussions regarding the Fee Schedule, by Cordonnier, second by Schmelzer. Motion passed 10-0.

Fee Schedule: Meyers asked if all nonprofit charitable groups are eligible for the 50% discount, including ice events. Schmelzer stated that he is okay with taking the 50% discount for nonprofit charitable events off the Fee Schedule and have each group come before the Board to request the 50% discount. We can make the discount apply to shelter rentals only. Cordonnier stated that he struggles with allowing the variances. The fees charged are reasonable. Meyers stated that we should approve a Fee Schedule and stick to it and having very few criteria for exceptions.

Motion to amend Fee Schedule to state the 50% discount for nonprofit charitable events only applies to Shelter rentals, by Wobser, second by Schmelzer. Motion passed 9-1. Pruitt cast the dissenting vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Request to Waive Fees-Black Swamp Bucks Unlimited: Nate Ricker is requesting a waiver of fees totaling \$1,150.00 (Meeting Room \$150; Stage/Rizor \$400; Dumpster \$300; Day before set up \$300). This is the first year that the Black Swamp Bucks Unlimited is holding its fundraiser since splitting from the National Whitetails organization. They may not get as much participation this year due to not having the affiliation with the National Whitetails. They also do not the financial support that the National Whitetails had given them in the past.

Motion to waive fees in the total amount of \$1,150.00 (Meeting Room (\$150), Stage/Rizor (\$400), Dumpster (\$300), and Day before set up (\$300)) for 2017 and reevaluate for 2018, by Wobser, second by Schmelzer. Motion passed 10-0.

Schmelzer stated that Nate Riker or a representative of the Black Swamp Bucks Unlimited needs to come back to the Board after the event and give a financial report of the event.

Request to Waive Fees-The University of Findlay Circle K: Emily Siefker, member of Circle K, requested for fees to be waived for two hours ice time in the amount of \$240 per hour for a total of \$480. The event is raising money for Mercy for Kids. This is one of many events they plan throughout the year to raise money. This is the first year that they are holding an ice skating fundraiser.

Motion to waive half the ice time fee in the amount of \$240, by Schmelzer, second by Meyers. Motion passed 9-0-1. Russel abstained. Schmelzer stated that he will personally donate the other half of the ice time fee in the amount of \$240. Russel stated that he will split the \$240 with Schmelzer, each donating \$120. Wobser requested that the University of Findlay Circle K give the Board a recap after the event.

Lacrosse Proposal: Mansfield distributed a plan for a Lacrosse program in 2017. There are several programs leading up to the Spring Lacrosse League to gather interest in the sport and purchase equipment for league play.

Capital Plan: Schmelzer distributed the requests from the Parks Maintenance Department and the Recreation Department. The Capital Plan will be presented to the Committee of the Whole on Wednesday and will hopefully be adopted by City Council at their next meeting.

Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) State Bike Route: ODOT has designated bike routes throughout Ohio. One of the routes goes through Findlay. ODOT has had several discussions with the bicycle groups in the area. ODOT will place signage along the routes. ODOT has requested a Resolution from City Council approving the designated route through Findlay and allowing them to place the signs. They have reassured the City that this bike route should not affect the Transportation Alternative Plan (TAP) application.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Recreation Department Report: Mansfield reported that they have hired a new Assistant Recreation Supervisor. Her name is Mykal Imbrock. She starts January 30. Findlay Area Hockey Association annual tournament is scheduled for the first two weeks of February. The Recreation Summit is scheduled for February 21.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel stated they are working to improve the inside of the restrooms at the parks. Hancock Park District grant monies were received and will be used to repair the shelterhouse roofs at Riverside Park. Michael Reed from the University of Findlay is interested in creating a second Frisbee golf course at Swale Park. He will come to a future Board meeting to discuss.

OTHER REPORTS

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported that Hancock Park District received a grant to build a gazebo at Riverbend Park near the Brugeman Lodge. It should be complete by midyear. Seven new park entrance signs will be installed in 2017 and eight in 2018. This will update all signs in the parks.

OTHER BUSINESS

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for February 21, 2017, 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