

# **PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

City of Findlay  
November 20, 2017

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## **MINUTES**

### **ATTENDANCE**

Members Present: Brian Thomas, Chair, Dennis McPheron, Shane Pochard, Gary Pruitt, Grant Russel, Mike Slough, Jeff Wobser.

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to accept minutes of the October 16, 2017, meeting, by Councilman Wobser, second by Pochard. Motion passed 7-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Riverside Park Rental Fee: Director Thomas asked the Board if a fee should be assigned to rent all of Riverside Park. Do we want to allow organizations to rent the whole park? If all the shelterhouses are rented the total cost would be \$950.

Councilman Wobser stated that organizations should pay the regular shelterhouse rate for the shelterhouses they use. Do not want to get in the business of renting the whole park.

Motion that no discount be given for rental of multiple shelterhouses at Riverside Park, by Councilman Russel, second by Director Thomas. Motion passed 7-0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Miracle League All Stars: Councilman Russel stated that the Miracle League All Stars Tournament will be held in Findlay in 2018. The local Miracle League has requested a match of up to \$50,000 from the City of Findlay for capital improvements to the Fields for All for the Miracle League All Stars Tournament. These improvements will include expanding the playground, adding shade structures, shelterhouses, ADA compliant bleachers, and additional bleachers. Councilman Russel was seeking input from the Board. It is good to take advantage of donation if the City is able to come up with the match. Mansfield stated that the playground is heavily used by the public at all times, not just during games/events at the field. Pruitt stated that the Board should be involved in any capital improvement conversations regarding the Fields for All.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

Recreation Department Report: Mansfield reported that she met with Rich Steiner with Findlay City Schools (FCS) regarding FCS starting to introduce Lacrosse into the middle schools. The City can help out with seeking grants and equipment needed. Dr. Jack Vivian met with the user groups. After meeting with the groups, with the current ice usage and requested additional ice usage, cannot justify looking into adding a second sheet of ice. The groups are not currently renting all existing ice time. Dr. Vivian has enlisted students at the University of Miami to assist with design work for upgrades that are needed. Dr. Vivian will be submitting a final report that will be distributed to the Board.

Parks Maintenance Department Report: Stoffel stated that they are monitoring the new grass at Rawson Park. Will be doing some maintenance at Skate Park in 2018 to include refacing and building up current structures. The City will need to make a decision of what we want to do with the Skate Park in the next few years. Councilman Russel stated that we need to find out the actual usage of the park. Councilman Russel also stated that the style of skate park we currently have is no longer being built. We shouldn't put a lot of money into the park for nothing.

Stoffel also reported that additional trees were planted in some parks and the cemetery. The grant money from Hancock Park District will go toward drinking fountains and additional trees.

## **OTHER REPORTS**

Hancock Park District Report: Pruitt reported that concrete contractors are working at River Landing and Centennial Park to excavate and frame walkways. Updating river parks by removing existing picnic tables and concrete pads and replacing with modern and ADA accessible amenities. One of these areas is a portion of Riverside Park. Need to have a discussion with City to follow through the whole park at Riverside Park for a uniform theme.

Pathways Group: Russel stated that Steve Wilson spoke to the Pathways group about the Blanchard River Greenway plan. The group brought suggestions to Wilson. Would like to see pathways on both sides of the river from Riverside Park to Broad Avenue. Russel stated that this group is looking to be more active and vocal.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for December 18, 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