

FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

November 16, 2021

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board occurred on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Parks Board Member in attendance were: Doug Meece, Gwen Ritchie, Leslie Besl, Scott Clark, and Dan Prior. A motion was made and seconded to excuse 4th Ward Representative, Paul Assum. The motion was opposed and Board Member Paul Assum was not excused. Staff members in attendance were Tiphonie Mays, Parks Director, and Cindi Kreke, Board Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the October, 2021 meeting. The motion was passed unanimously and the minutes were approved.

REPORT OF OTHER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS / AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Planning Commission:

Gwen informed Board members that the Planning Commission approved a shed store on Dixie Highway, which will allow the purchase of home sheds, as well as dog sheds. Gwen announced that changes have been made to their ordinances to clarify zoning sections. Planning commission approved an event center called "Bella Luna" located near the Tori's Station, attached to a retail center. A request was made by the Planning Commission to require down lighting in the parking lot.

Environmental Commission:

Director Mays reported that Environmental Commission will have a booth at the City of Fairfield Home Expo on March 12, 2022 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. The Environmental Commission Board met at Creekside this past month to work on pruning and cleaning up the park. Members were able to see the Living Legacy Program. Tim McClellan from Ground water contortion will attend the December meeting.

Cultural Arts Advisory Commission:

Dan Prior informed Board Members that the next meeting will be held in January. Cultural Arts Advisory Commission is still searching for more volunteers for Theater performances at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Dan announced that Artist, John Wiehe will present pieces that connect the past with the present in the Art Gallery beginning Friday, January 14, 2022.

School Board Report:

Scott Clark informed Board members that Bryan Walters, a teacher at the Fairfield Schools passed away. A Veterans Day luncheon was held and twelve veterans attended. Elections were held on November 2, 2021 and all members ran unopposed.

Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee:

Doug Meece reported that there was a 158% increase in golf in 2021. The new Golf Cart lease has been approved and the new fleet will arrive early 2022. Maintenance continues to work on tree removal and problem spots on the greens. North Trace golf course closed for the season on November 1, 2021.

City Council Report:

Leslie Besl reported that City Council elections were held and all members ran unopposed. Besl announced that Mitch Rhodus won the election for Fairfield City Mayor. Besl also reported that the Benzing Project next to Mercy Hospital was approved, as well as the new location for City BBQ located on Route 4 and Symmes. Besl announced that City Council renewed their partnership with Butler County Metro Parks.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Director Mays distributed and reviewed the monthly financials of year to date revenue and expenses with the Board members. Mays announced that Harbin Park overlook renovations have started for the overlook pavilion. Painting will be completed on the tennis and basketball courts at Oakwood Park this month. The Elisha Morgan Mansion's new outdoor awning was completed and the next step will be outdoor lighting and final additions. Mays distributed and reviewed the Parks and Recreation general operation funds that will be requested for the 2022 budget.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Scott Clark announced that the Chamber Board of Directors would like to potentially hold a networking event in June. The location of the event has not been made.

Meeting Schedule:

The next scheduled meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board will be held on Tuesday, December 21, 2021; 6:00PM at the Fairfield Community Arts Center 411 Wessel Drive, Fairfield OH, 45014.

Executive Section:

None

Adjournment:

The Parks Board meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Molly J. McGraw
Board Secretary