

## **FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2011**

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Chair Doug Meece called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM. Board Members in attendance were: Bob Breen, Dr. Stanley Goodman, Don Hassler, Doug Meece, Bob Myron, Terry Senger and Dick Wood. Staff members present were: Jim Bell, Parks and Recreation Director; Bob Schappacher, Parks Facilities Manager; Heidi Schiller, Community Arts Center Manager; Ben Strickler, Parks Events Manager; and Cyndi Kreke, Secretary. Also in attendance was City Councilman, Tim Meyers.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** Doug Meece presented out-going Parks and Recreation Board member and City Council Representative Tim Meyers with a plaque in appreciation for his years of service to the Parks and Recreation Board. Doug Meece introduced City Councilman Terry Senger, in-coming City Council Representative to the Parks and Recreation Board.

#### **MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the November and December meetings. The minutes were approved as presented.

#### **REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:**

**Operations Reports (October and November 2010):** Jim Bell reviewed the October and November 2010 operations reports for revenues, expenses, and participation/programming numbers from the Golf Courses, Community Arts Center and the Recreation programs (attached).

**2011-2015 CIP Review:** Jim Bell reviewed the 2011-2015 Parks and Recreation CIP proposal with the Board (attached).

**MetroParks of Butler County Maintenance Proposal:** Jim Bell reviewed a proposal from MetroParks of Butler County to assume the mowing responsibilities for the Great Miami River Bike Path and the Miami-Erie Canal Bike Path. During the MetroParks levy campaign, the MetroParks had pledged to assume the maintenance responsibilities for the bike/hike paths that pass through multi-jurisdictions, of which the Great Miami River path and the Miami-Erie Canal path meet that criterion. The Board expressed concern that the MetroParks did not have the finest reputation for maintenance of their

own facilities and wanted to assure that the paths within the City met the standards of Fairfield maintenance. Bob Schappacher said that he had reviewed the mowing specifications and was satisfied with the standards. The Board concurred that was should explore this proposal as a cost-savings measure and forward to City Council.

**Field of Dreams Project:** Jim Bell updated the Board on the Field of Dreams project and relayed that the fundraising team was nearing the goal, approximately \$1.2 M of the \$1.4 M project costs had been raised in either cash or in-kind donations and the project was scheduled to begin in the summer of 2011. The Field of Dreams project report is attached.

**Huffman Farm Property Update:** Jim Bell updated the Board on the Huffman Farm property and the on-going meetings with the family trust. Although the family trust was very impressed with the City's presentation, the transfer of the property would probably not occur until early 2012. The family trust had relayed the possibility of retaining an engineering/architectural firm to assist in the conceptual design of the project.

#### **REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Council Update:** None

**Planning Commission Update:** Don Hassler reported that the Planning Commission was reviewing several shopping center plats and the Patterson Boulevard senior housing project. The Commission was also discussing a proposed salvage yard on Tedia Way and a proposed fitness center (Planet Fitness). Mr. Hassler also reported on the progress of the Bypass 4 project.

**Environmental Commission Update:** Bob Breen reported that the City had received the Tree City USA award for 2010; but did not receive the growth award. Mr. Breen also reported that the Parks and Recreation Department had submitted an ODNR grant application for the EAB ash tree removal funds.

**Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Update:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

The Board adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM. The next monthly meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 5:30 PM, at the Community Arts Center.

Cyndi A Kreke  
Secretary

