

FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2010

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Chair Doug Meece called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Board Members in attendance were: Bob Breen, Dr. Stanley Goodman, Don Hassler, Doug Meece, Bob Myron and Dick Wood. Board Member Tim Meyers was excused. 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 Darin Newcomer, Chair of the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the May 10, 2010 meeting. The May minutes were approved as presented.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Operations Reports (April 2010): Jim Bell reviewed the April 2010 operations reports for revenues, expenses, and participation/programming numbers from the Golf Courses, Community Arts Center and the Recreation programs (attached). Mr. Bell commented that although the weather had begun to cooperate in April; the wet weather in May would reflect a decrease in May rounds. Mr. Meece commented that the weather in May had caused the cancellation of a weekend outing and the guaranteed tee times over the some weekends. Mr. Bell commented that although not reflected in April's report, the YTD rounds were down by approximately 2,200 rounds.

Rules/Regulations Update: Jim Bell commented that he and the Law Director had met regarding the Park Hours of Operation and the Village Green Campus rules/regulations update and would have the legislation completed by the July Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Mr. Bell requested that under new business, the Resolution 2010-003 be tabled until the July meeting. The Board concurred.

Community Arts Center/Performance Support Activities Report: Jim Bell reported on a series of Parks Board e-mails generated by a question to Boardmember Tim Meyers from an outside theater group questioning the technical support provided by the Community Arts Center staff for performances by the Fairfield Footlighters. Mr. Bell commented that the CAC provides the same level of customer/technical service to all clients; but that being said the CAC does give special care to our "regulars", those groups that perform or use the CAC multiple times per year, year after year, specifically the

Fairfield Footlighters, the Fairfield City Schools, the Sojourner Recovery Series, the Miami Valley Ballet and the Cincinnati Christian School. Subsequent questions which were generated by the series of e-mails were addressed in a report provided to the Board by Community Arts Center Manager Heidi Schiller (attached). Ms. Schiller reviewed the report with the Board that addressed concerns regarding the hours/transportation costs associated with productions, hours of travel to procure set materials/props, shared use of items, and a comparison of actual fees versus possible fees generated by the last four productions at the CAC. Boardmembers commented that providing “special care” to the regulars, was no different than the golf course staff providing “special care” to leagues, outings, guaranteed tee times, etc., which come back to the golf courses, year after year, week after week and was a good business practice. There was discussion on whether the Board should “put something in writing”, such as the City Schools have for levels of fees/rentals charges for school facilities depending upon the renter; but it was the consensus that the staff needed to have flexibility in dealing with these groups, since many times it’s a fluid situation. It was also mentioned that the current fees/charges resolution has verbiage that allows the staff the flexibility to negotiate with a client in order to be competitive. It was concluded that no additional rules/regulations were necessary. It was the consensus of the Board that the staff should continue these practices.

Miscellaneous: Mr. Bell reported that the Butler County Engineers office had requested that the driveway entrance to Black Bottom Park to be adjusted to better aid in “line-of-sight” issues. The City’s STR committee had also requested a re-alignment of the parking lot to better shield the Cincinnati well heads. Both of the requests were forwarded to Bayer Becker Engineers for the redesign of the plans. The project continues to await its final designation from the Army Corp of Engineers. Mr. Breen asked when the project would be out to bid and Mr. Bell replied that he’d think within the next 30-45 days.

Request for Executive Session: Mr. Bell requested an executive session to discuss acquisition/purchase of real estate; following the new business portion of the meeting. The Board agreed and a roll call vote was taken to hold an executive session for reasons stated by the Director. The motion was passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Council Update: None

Planning Commission Update: Don Hassler reported that the Planning Commission meeting for June 9th had been cancelled. The Commission continued to review the Patterson Boulevard development and had recently review a proposal from a church to purchase the Rt. 4 Skyline Chili building, south of Woodridge Boulevard. Skyline Chili was moving due to the difficulty in ingress/egress of the site.

Environmental Commission Update: Bob Breen reported that the EC was continuing to monitor the progress on the Memorial Grove pathway project and that the project was near completion. The EC would prepare a master plan for plant materials within the Memorial Grove, in preparation of donations of plant material.

Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Update: Bob Myron introduced Darin Newcomer, Chair of the CAAC. Mr. Myron reported that the CAAC had elected new officers and the agenda modifications were allowing the meetings to run more efficiently. Mr. Myron also reported on the up-coming Phil Nuxhall book signing at the Arts Center, and the up-coming Art Fair.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

2010 Board Committee Appointments: Chairman Meece and the Board discussed the Board appointments to the Planning Commission, the Environmental Commission and the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission. Mr. Don Hassler was appointed to the Planning Commission, Mr. Bob Breen was appointed to the Environmental Commission and Dr. Stanley Goodman was appointed to the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission. Mr. Bob Myron commented that he would assist Dr. Goodman with the transition to the CAAC, since he had previously served on the CAAC for two years,

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board recessed into executive session at 6:05 PM.

The Parks and Recreation Board reconvened the meeting at 6:15 PM and dismissed the staff. The Board then interviewed Mr. Paul Daeger for the vacancy on the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission. Following the interview, it was the consensus of the Board to recommend to City Council that Mr. Paul Daeger be appointed to the vacant seat on the CAAC. Mr. Meece would contact Mr. Bell to forward the Board's recommendation to City Council. The Board adjourned the meeting at 6:30 PM. The next monthly meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held at 5:30 PM on July 13, 2010 at the Community Arts Center.

Cyndi A Kreke
Secretary