

## **FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

**MARCH 17, 2015**

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, March 17, 2015, at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Chair Doug Meece called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Board Members in attendance were: Bob Breen, Craig Keller, Doug Meece, Bob Myron, Debbie Pennington, Billy Smith and Rodney Spencer. Staff member in attendance was James Bell, Director.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None

**MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** The February meeting minutes were approved as written.

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

##### **Marsh Park/Martin-Marietta Property Update:**

Jim Bell reported that the city team conducted a meeting with representatives of Martin-Marietta Aggregates and The Kleingers Group to discuss the initial civil engineering related to the Marsh Park project and the strategic placement of the 40,000 tons of excess sand on the property in accordance to the requirements of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. The representatives of Martin-Marietta Aggregates shared that it was the company's intention to have all the ODNR requirements met and the property transferred to the City by the end of 2015.

Jim Bell reported that he had met with representatives of MetroParks of Butler County and there was still strong interest in a partnership in the development the entire Marsh Park/Black Bottom project. Mr. Bell hoped to have a joint agreement in place by the end of 2015.

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

**City Council Update:** Debbie Pennington reported that at a recent City Council meeting the Council had denied the Patterson Boulevard Senior Housing project; due to concerns of increased multi-family units in the city and of undue stress of senior housing on the Fire/EMS service. Mrs. Pennington also reported that the Historical Society had its spring programming agenda finalized and distributed the Society's latest newsletter. Mrs. Pennington invited the Board to attend the meetings.

**Planning Commission Update:** Bob Myron reported at a recent Planning Commission meeting the Commission had approved the Patterson Boulevard Senior Housing project and forwarded their recommendation to City Council; Mr. Myron commented that the Planning Commission had the same concerns as City Council, but felt a need of senior independent living units in the City outweighed those concerns. Mr. Myron also reported that the Planning Commission had granted a six month conditional use on the Dixie Highway/vacant Swifty Gas Station property, for a used car lot.

**Environmental Commission Update:** Rodney Spencer reported that the Environmental Commission did not meet on March 4<sup>th</sup> due to inclement weather on that date; but was scheduled to meet tomorrow evening, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Update:** Bob Breen reported that the Community Arts Center had received an Ohio Arts Council grant for the 2015-2106 season.

**Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee:** Doug Meece reported that the Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee had met in March; in attendance was Doug Meece, Rod Spencer, Brad Williams, Dave Hartman and Greg Morrow. Mr. Meece reported that the Phase 2 Irrigation project at South Trace was scheduled to begin, once the weather cooperated. The committee also discussed golf programming ideas to both enhance the game of golf and revenue

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

Jim Bell was excused from the meeting at 6:15 PM; since the Director does not participate in the Environmental Commission and Cultural Arts Advisory Commission interview process.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Environmental Commission and Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Interviews:** The Board conducted interviews for the vacancies on the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission and the Environmental Commission, in order to make their recommendations to City Council for commission appointments.

It was moved and seconded that Veronica Craig, Rita Rings and Adam Sackenheim be recommended to City Council for appointment to the Environmental Commission. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Judith Athey, Victoria Bailey and Darin Newcomer be recommended to City Council for appointment to the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission. The motion was approved unanimously.

Doug Meece would contact Jim Bell and direct Mr. Bell to forward the Board's recommendations to City Council for appointment to the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission and Environmental Commission.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2015, at 6:00 PM, at the Fairfield Community Arts Center.

Cyndi A. Kreke,  
Secretary