

## **FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD**

### **MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011**

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Chair Doug Meece called the meeting to order at 5:27 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; Heidi Schiller, Community Arts Center Manager; Ben Strickler, Parks Events Manager; Cindi Lewellyn, Recreation Manager; and Cyndi Kreke, Secretary. Audience members in attendance were: Michael Starkey and Dave Padgett from the Fairfield Youth Baseball Association.

**COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:** Jim Bell introduced Michael Starkey, FYBA Vice-President and Dave Padgett, FYBA President. Mr. Bell, the Board and the FYBA representatives discussed the Pleasantdale Terrace/Waterworks Park parking complaint; which was received by the City and FYBA via a series of emails from a resident adjacent to the pedestrian access sidewalk into Waterworks Park. Mr. Bell stated that the issue was moot, since the matter had been resolved by the Public Works Department with the placement of several no-parking signs. Mr. Starkey stated that an email would be sent to all coaches, players and parents to remind those that park on Pleasantdale Terrace to be respectful of the neighbors.

**MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the April 2011 meeting. The minutes were approved as presented.

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

**Operations Reports (March 2011):** Jim Bell reviewed the March 2011 operations reports for revenues, expenses, and participation/programming numbers from the Golf Courses, Community Arts Center and the Recreation programs (attached).

**Nuisance Trapping Permits:** Jim Bell reported that the City had received a nuisance trapping permit from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to trap beavers that had relocated in the Rita Mae Drive, Muskopf Road, and Lake Michigan Drive area. The beavers had taken up residence in the drywell/storm sewer systems in that area and had been damaging trees in the neighborhood.

**Environmental Commission Interviews:** Jim Bell reported that David Colteryahn would be at the June Parks and Recreation Board meeting to interview for the vacancy on the Environmental Commission.

**Point Pleasant Park Basketball Courts:** Jim Bell reviewed a series of emails received from a city official regarding illegal activities that were supposedly occurring at the Point Pleasant Park basketball courts and the request that the basketball courts be removed. Jim Bell reported that the emails had been forwarded to the Police Department and that the basketball courts were under surveillance by the Police Department patrols and undercover division. The Board felt that the illegal activities should be curtailed by the increased Police Department patrols and that the removal of the basketball courts would just push the problems elsewhere with the park system. Jim Bell shared that the initial daily patrol reports from the Police Department did not detect the problems that were stated in the emails. Jim Bell stated that he requested that the Police Department increase their presence at the Waterworks Park basketball courts, since previously those basketball courts had been noted as a problem area.

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

**Council Update:** Terry Senger reported that City Council had approved the purchase of a backhoe for the Public Utilities Department and the existing backhoe would be passed down to the Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Senger reported that the contract had been issued for the Resor Road improvements between Pleasant Avenue and Point Pleasant Park. Also, the City had received confirmation from the Clean Ohio Program that it would receive its grant to assist in the funding of the Crystal/Banker FEMA home buy-out program

**Planning Commission Update:** Don Hassler reported that the Planning Commission would not meet in May due to lack of agenda items. At the previous meeting the Planning Commission approved an outdoor seating area for Richard's Pizza on Nilles Road and several outdoor sign permits.

**Environmental Commission Update:** Bob Breen reported that the Neighborhood Beautification/Re-Investment project was being done by the City again this year. The project goes into neighborhoods and removes/replaces trees that are on private property, but detract from the neighborhood, such as landscaping screens that were planted by the developer of a subdivision. Mr. Breen informed the Board that the ODNR/EAB grant was not selected for funding in 2011. Ben Strickler was contacting ODNR to get further information on the grant selection process. The Environmental Commission would be reviewing the EAB Management Plan at a future meeting.

**Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Update:** Doctor Stanley Goodman reported that the Fairfield Lane Library had requested/received informational brochures for the upcoming events at the Community Arts Center and Village Green Park.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Doug Meece asked if there was an update on the proposed Huffman Farm project. Jim Bell reported that the Parks and Recreation staff and the Development Services staff had a meeting scheduled on May 26<sup>th</sup> with the estate attorneys (Cors & Bassett) and representatives of the Huffman Foundation, to review a conceptual design commissioned by the foundation.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Doug Meece and Jim Bell reminded that Board that the Board re-organization was scheduled for the June meeting. At the meeting the Board would select its officers for the up-coming year, plus any change in meeting times/days.

Doug Meece reported that the Golf Professionals and the High School Athletic Department were working closely to prepare for the 2011 High School Golf Season. An issue has arisen with the school district's revised start/finish times as it relates to the golf courses' league times and the school golf matches. Staffs are working on this issue.

The Board adjourned the meeting at 6:22 PM. The next monthly meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, 5:30 PM, at the Community Arts Center.

Cyndi A Kreke  
Secretary