

FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 18, 2014

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, November 18, 2014, 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, Doug Meece, Debbie Pennington, Bob Myron, and Billy Smith. Board Members Rodney Spencer and Craig Keller were excused from the meeting. Staff members in attendance were: Heidi Schiller, Arts and Programs Manager; Bob Schappacher, Parks and Facilities Manager; Brad Williams, Operations Coordinator; Greg Morrow, Maintenance Coordinator; Dave Hartman, Golf Professional; and Cyndi Kreke, Secretary.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING: The October 2014 meeting minutes were approved as written.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Golf Operations Update:

Brad Williams provided an update on projects that are ongoing at the City of Fairfield golf courses. Phase I of the Irrigation Field Controller and Rotor Replacement Project at South Trace was completed. Mr. Williams stated that staff was very pleased with the quality of work done by the installation contractor and the minimal disruption to golfers. Staff is preparing for Phase II to commence in the beginning of 2015 and to be completed in the spring. Additionally, staff removed dead Ash trees on the course, removed 2 bunkers on Hole #1, painted the exterior of South Trace Clubhouse, and touched up North Trace Clubhouse and Aquatic Center Bathhouse.

Doug Meece shared his concerns with some of the bunker removal projects that are being implemented at the golf courses. Mr. Meece stated that he wants to keep the distinction between North Trace and South Trace by not removing all of the bunkers. He would like to see a more collaborative approach between Board and staff in the golf operations and feels that the quarterly meeting of the Ad Hoc committee will assist in this approach.

Mr. Williams and Dave Hartman concluded with new programs and ideas that are being implemented to increase interest and revenue such as the "5 for \$5."

OPRA Programming Award:

Acting Director, Heidi Schiller, informed the Board that the Department's "Passport to Fishing" program won an Ohio Parks & Recreation Association's Awards of Excellence award in the environmental/conservation programming category. The program was conducted by the staff Naturalist,

Sara Fehring. The award will be presented to the Department at the OPRA Annual Conference in February 2015.

REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES:

City Council Update: Debbie Pennington reported that the Fairfield Historical Society was awarded a \$547.00 grant from the W. E. Smith Foundation. Mrs. Pennington also stated that 10 city surplus vehicles were recently sold on www.gov.com.

Planning Commission Update: Bob Myron reported that at the next meeting of the Planning Commission, the Commission will be discussing a 119 Senior Housing Unit Development on Patterson Boulevard.

Environmental Commission Update: Rodney Spencer was not present at the meeting. Bob Schappacher reported that the Environmental Commission had a joint meeting with the City of Hamilton's Tree Advisory Board to discuss their individual achievements, as well as projects that in the future can be accomplished together. The two committees would like to revisit again in May, 2015.

Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Update: Bob Breen was not present at the last Commission meeting. No report.

OLD BUSINESS: Bob Breen stated that he would like to revisit the plans to expand the Bike Paths and trails within the City of Fairfield. Bob Schappacher and Brad Williams informed Mr. Breen that the December 8th meeting of the Parks Board will be a joint meeting with City Council. At this meeting, Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands, Indiana University will present the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Department Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Community engagement identified one of the key components of the plan to be improving and expanding trails and connections.

NEW BUSINESS: None

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 PM. The next regular meeting of the Board is scheduled to be held on Monday, December 8, 2014, at 6:00 PM. This meeting will be at the Fairfield Municipal Building.

Cyndi A. Kreke,
Secretary