

PARK BOARD

March 10, 2014

The March 10, 2014 Park Board meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kenneth Wessler, Chairman. Park Board members present were Jon Blackburn, Jack Leonard, Sharri Racheter, Rick Roberts, Kip Wentling, and Kenneth Wessler.

Others present included: Scott Washburn, Mayor; Randy Moore, Parks Manager; Tom Shumaker; Chris Byrum; Bryan Swartz; Pat Eyestone; Dick Eyestone; Bill Aubry; Marla Ritter; Nick Vaughn; Dave Dlubak; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The minutes of the February 10, 2014 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

Mr. Chris Byrum and Mr. Bryan Swartz, representing the Girls Fast Pitch Softball League, addressed the Park Board concerning proposed improvements to the ball fields in Harrison Smith Park. Mr. Byrum indicated that they would like to build dugouts on the east ball field and place roofs over the dugouts on the west ball field. There is an upcoming meeting with the Lions Club to determine if the Lions Club would be willing to do this work. Mr. Byrum also indicated that the League would like to place a concession stand/maintenance building at the east ball field. Rall's Supply is willing to sell the building at cost for \$3,713.00 and Mr. Byrum inquired as to if the City is willing to purchase the building. Mr. Byrum indicated that Mr. Dan Harris, Harris Electric, is willing to donate his time to install electric in the building and the League will pay for the materials Harris Electric uses. Mr. Moore indicated that as long as the Park Board has no objections, the Park Department would like to donate their golf cart to the Girls Fast Pitch League for their use.

A motion was made by Mr. Wentling, seconded by Ms. Racheter, to authorize the Girls Fast Pitch League to proceed with their plans for the construction of dugouts on the east ball field in Harrison Smith Park and roofs for the dugouts on the west ball field. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Wentling, to approve the purchase of a building from Rall's Supply for use as a concession stand/maintenance building to be located at the east ball field in Harrison Smith Park at a cost not to exceed \$4,000.00. Upon Roll Call, all member voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Leonard reported that the Winter Fantasy of Lights Committee met last week and it was reported that income for the 2013 event was down due partially to the park having to close on December 20 and 21, 2013 due to flooding. Mr. Leonard indicated that Mrs. Carolyn Frederick, WFOL Treasurer, reported at that meeting that the City's labor cost was down \$3500.00 and Mrs. Frederick attributed it to Mr. Matt Patchett, Park Department employee, and the way he works. Mr. Leonard indicated that the 2014 WFOL will be the 18th year the event has been held. Estimates for the repair of the roadways in Harrison Smith Park have not been obtained yet due to the weather. Mr. Moore will attempt to obtain estimates for these repairs and present them at the April 14, 2014 Park Board meeting.

Mr. Nick Vaughn addressed the Park Board and indicated that the Young Professionals group are looking for a venue to hold a music festival where alcohol will be sold and camping will be available. Mr. Vaughn inquired about the use of Harrison Smith Park for this event. It was noted that the City's ordinances prohibit alcohol in the parks and when the land for Harrison Smith Park was deeded to the City (as formerly the Village of Upper Sandusky) there was a restriction placed on the deed of the property that no alcohol would be permitted in that park. Mr. Vaughn inquired about the use of the reservoir for this event. Park Board members referred Mr. Vaughn to the Service Committee for this request.

Mr. Vaughn also inquired about entry to Water Works Park as he canoes and has in the past removed his canoe from the river in this park. Mr. Moore indicated that the decision was made to rope the entrance off to prevent bad things from happening in this park.

Mr. Bill Aubry addressed the Park Board concerning the municipal swimming pool. Mr. Aubry stated that the pool is a significantly under-utilized asset. Mr. Aubry indicated that parents are reluctant to drop their kids off at the pool and if the pool was family friendly and made more comfortable for parents with umbrellas or trees for shade and chairs then the pool would see more usage. Mr. Aubry suggested more water features be added to the pool to attract additional patrons. Mr. Shumaker added that the Village of McComb has a small pool with a water slide, 20' umbrellas, and reclining chairs, and the pool is always busy with people. Mr. Shumaker noted that the water slide was paid for by donations collected by selling bricks, and there is also a splash area at the McComb pool but it is not utilized nearly as much as the slide. Park Board members requested Mr. Moore obtain quotes on umbrellas and chairs for the pool.

Mrs. Marla Ritter addressed the Park Board and indicated that she is interested in returning as the Pool Manager for 2014 however she would prefer to work less hours this year and utilize an individual as an assistant manager more which would allow her to take a couple of days off each week.

Mrs. Ritter also indicated that a request was received last year to allow adults only to swim one evening per week for an hour after the regular pool hours.

Park Board members reviewed the Pool Rules and Regulations and no changes were noted for 2014.

The opening and closing dates and hours of operation for the swimming pool will be decided at the April 14, 2014 Park Board meeting, as it depends on the make-up days for the schools.

Admission prices for the swimming pool were discussed. Rates charged in 2013 for passes, daily admission, and admission during twilight hours were: Family (limit 4) - \$65.00 + \$10.00 each additional family member; Single - \$40.00; Senior Citizen (over 60) - \$35.00; Daily Pass - \$3.00; Out of County Family Membership (limit 4) - \$85.00 + \$10.00 each additional family member; Out of County Single Membership - \$50.00; and Twilight rates are \$1.50 per person for pool admission between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Blackburn, to maintain the same pool admission rates that were charged in 2013. Upon Roll Call, all members voted as follows:

Mr. Blackburn	-	Yes
Mr. Leonard	-	No
Ms. Racheter	-	No
Mr. Roberts	-	No
Mr. Wentling	-	Yes
Mr. Wessler	-	Yes

The Chairman declared the motion denied by a 3-3 vote.

A motion was made by Ms. Racheter, seconded by Mr. Leonard, to increase the price of a Family pass (limit 4) to \$75.00 + \$10.00 each additional family member; and increase the price of a Single pass to \$45.00; and maintain the remaining pool admission rates at the same rates that were charged in 2013. Upon Roll Call, all members voted as follows:

Mr. Blackburn	-	Yes
Mr. Leonard	-	Yes
Ms. Racheter	-	Yes
Mr. Roberts	-	No
Mr. Wentling	-	Yes
Mr. Wessler	-	Yes

The Chairman declared the motion carried by a 5-1 vote.

An advertisement for pool personnel for the 2014 swimming pool season was reviewed.

A motion was made by Ms. Racheter, seconded by Mr. Wessler, to authorize the advertisement for pool personnel for the 2014 swimming pool season. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kenneth Wessler, Chairman