

FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2009

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Chair Carol Oler called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM. Board members in attendance were: Carol Oler, Bob Myron, Don Hassler, Bob Breen and Doug Meece. Board Members Preston Johnson and Tim Meyers were excused. Staff members present were: James A. Bell, Parks and Recreation Director; Heidi Schiller, Community Arts Center Manager; Ben Strickler, Special Events Manager; Cindi Lewellyn, Recreation Manager and Cyndi Kreke, Secretary.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Mr. Steve Jones, a member of the Fairfield Youth Baseball Association Board was in attendance to question the Board about the status of the Nuxhall Pavilion. He voiced concerns as to why the facility is still not operational. Jim Bell informed Mr. Jones that due to possible pending litigation he was prevented from giving an in depth explanation of the situation. The Board questioned Mr. Jones regarding FYBA's failure to provide the Board with an action plan for future funding of capital improvement projects; the Board has requested this information from FYBA at the end of each season. The Board also questioned Mr. Jones on whether FYBA had an actual concessions contract; since a previous FYBA Board President had relayed that he did not know the exact percentage of the gross concessions revenues that the Board received. Mr. Jones was unaware of any concession contract; Mr. Bell stated that he would forward a copy of the proposal form that the Parks and Recreation Board had used in the past to solicit concessionaires. Mr. Bell would also forward a copy of the agreement between the City and FYBA for the operation of the Waterworks Park facility; since Mr. Jones relayed that he was not aware of the agreement.

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING:

The minutes from the July 2009 meeting were distributed to the Board for review. The July 2009 minutes were approved as presented.

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 5:50 pm, to discuss pending litigation. The Board returned to its general meeting at 6:15 pm.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Operations Reports: Jim Bell reviewed the June 2009 operations reports regarding revenues, expenses, and participation/programming numbers from the Golf Courses, Community Arts Center and the Recreation programs (attached).

Aquatic Center Spray Park: Jim Bell informed the Board that the Spray Park project at the Fairfield Aquatic Center would be out to bid on August 14th; and opened on August 31st. The Board discussed having the September Board meeting on September 1st to review the bids, in order to forward the project to City Council at their first September meeting.

Black Bottom Park: Jim Bell reviewed the Bayer Becker Engineers plans for the Black Bottom project. The phase one portion of the project depicted in the plans included the initial parking lot, roadway improvements and river access point (boat ramp). The Board discussed the phase two portion of the project and its amenities (hike/bike trails, natural areas, and Dog Park, etc.).

REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES:

City Council Update: None

Planning Commission Update: Don Hassler reported on the demolition of Fair Plaza shopping center and Jim Bell reviewed the drawings of the associated park site related to the project (walking paths, pond and fountain).

Environmental Commission Update: Bob Breen reported that he was not present at the last meeting of the Environmental Commission.

Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Update: Bob Myron reported that the CAAC discussed upcoming events. They were pleased that the Art Fair had an increase in vendors this year.

OLD BUSINESS:

Environmental Commission Vacancies: The Board discussed the vacancies on the Environmental Commission. The Board agreed that if Council pushes the process of filling these vacancies back to the Parks Board that the Board will go to the list provided by Council. Carol Oler suggested that they have an evening of interviews with the candidates. Jim Bell stated that City Council was reviewing the filling of committee vacancies at the Goals Session meeting on August 29th. If the interviewing of the EC candidates was to be conducted by the Parks Board, it was also suggested that the interviews be held following a Board meeting.

September Dayz: The Board revisited their previous discussions regarding in changing of the activities that were initially associated with September Dayz. The Board discussed the conflicts with other area events, the lack of alcohol, carnival rides and gambling; which were several of the draws for the old Indian Summer Days. The Board felt it was better to focus on specific audiences with a variety of events spread out through the

summer and fall months; rather than have on event which tried to “please everyone”. Instead of the one major event, events such as the Village Green Cruise In, the Village Green Fine Arts Fair, the Concerts in the Park, the Symphony in the Park, the Heroes Ride and concert, and the Touch a Truck events were planned.

NEW BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

The Parks and Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM. The next monthly meeting of the Board is tentatively scheduled to be held at 5:30 PM on September 1, 2009 at the Community Arts Center. This is a week earlier than the regularly scheduled time.

Cyndi A Kreke
Secretary