

FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Chair Doug Meece called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Board Members in attendance were: Bob Breen, Dr. Stanley Goodman, Donald Hassler, Doug Meece, Bob Myron, and Terry Senger. Board Member Richard Wood was excused. Staff members present were: Jim Bell, Parks Director; Heidi Schiller, Community Arts Center Manager; Ben Strickler, Parks Events Manager, Bob Schappacher, Parks/Facilities Manager, Cindi Lewellyn, Recreation Manager and Cyndi Kreke, Secretary.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: Dave Padgett and John Ervin of the Fairfield Youth Baseball Association made a presentation to the Board regarding the 2011 FYBA season (attached). The report outlined the FYBA revenues/expenses, their capital improvements, the fee comparables to other youth baseball associations and the future needs of the program. The FYBA had 982 players registered for the 2011 spring/summer season and 325 players registered for the 2011 fall season. The Board thanked Mr. Padgett and Mr. Ervin for their report and dedication to the baseball program.

MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the regular Board meeting of October 11, 2011.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Operations Reports (September 2011): Jim Bell reviewed the September 2011 operations reports for revenues, expenses, and participation/programming numbers from the Golf Courses, Community Arts Center and the Recreation programs (attached). Mr. Bell noted that the recreation facility fund (golf course/aquatic center) expenses were down 5% and the revenues were down 10%. Mr. Bell stated that the spring/summer weather events had impacted the revenues within the recreation facility fund, with golf course rounds being down 20% from 2010. Mr. Meece asked Mr. Senger if the City Council was aware of the impact that the weather-related events have on the recreation facility fund, Mr. Senger thought that City Council was aware of such impacts. Mr. Bell stated that staff was continuing to investigate cost-savings measures to reduce any subsidy from the general fund to the recreation facility fund.

Huffman Park Project: Jim Bell reported that the Huffman Park Project was out to bid and that bids would be opened on November 21st. The staff would review the bids (base and alternates) and meet with the Huffman Foundation and Trust on December 1st. At that time, decisions would be made on which alternates to accept, etc. Mr. Bell stated that it would be necessary to have the Parks and Recreation Board meet earlier in the month of December, rather than its traditional 2nd Tuesday of the month (December 13th), due to the need to get the Board's recommendation to City Council prior to the last City Council meeting in December (December 12th). The Board concurred and scheduled its

December meeting for Tuesday, December 6th. Mr. Bell stated that he would send the Board a synopsis of the bids prior to the December 6th meeting.

Cultural Arts Advisory Commission's "Friends of the Arts" Award Program: Heidi Schiller discussed the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission's desire to implement an annual "Friends of the Arts" award; similar to the Environmental Commission's "Friends of the Fairfield Forest" award. Ms. Schiller distributed a draft of the nomination form (attached) and reviewed the proposed criteria. The Board concurred with the idea and asked that Ms. Schiller relay their agreement to the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission.

REPORTS OF AD HOC COMMITTEES:

City Council Update: Terry Senger reported that City Council had endorsed the Fairfield City School District's levy at the last Council meeting and that City Council had scheduled its review meetings of the 2012 Operating Budget beginning at its next meeting (November 14th, November 28th and December 5th).

Planning Commission Update: Mr. Hassler reported that the Planning Commission had denied the Kroger Corporation's request for a Kroger Fueling Station at the corner of Nilles Road and Pleasant Avenue; Kroger could appeal the decision or re-submit the project with the Commission's proposed changes. The Planning Commission was also reviewing a proposed pharmacy project, with drive-thru, at the LNC building on Nilles/Bibury Roads.

Environmental Commission Update: Bob Breen reported that the Environmental Commission was continuing to conduct its annual review of the Street Tree Ordinance and the EAB Management Plan. The Environmental Commission was also following proposed legislation in several states that would mandate that during demolition projects that a percentage of the materials be recycled. The Commission was also following the status of the Asian Long Horn Beetle infestations in Ohio and the use of predatory insects to eliminate the EAB.

Cultural Arts Advisory Commission Update: Dr. Goodman reported that the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission had met in October and discussed the up-coming arts season, the Light Up Fairfield events and art gallery exhibits.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

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

Cyndi A Kreke
Secretary