

FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
April 16, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. Chairman Doug Meece called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Board Members in attendance were: Doug Meece, Don Carpenter, Gwen Ritchie, Dale Paullus and Christine Zboril. A motion was made and seconded to excuse members Craig Keller and Paul Assum. Staff members in attendance were Tiphonie Howard, Parks and Recreation Director; Brad Williams, Recreation Superintendent; Bob Schappacher, Parks Maintenance Superintendent; Heidi Schiller, Arts & Hospitality Superintendent and Cyndi Kreke, Board Secretary. Audience members in attendance were Cincinnati Off-Road Alliance representative, Alex Maier and Citizen, Jack Snyder.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Jack Snyder introduced himself to the Parks and Recreation Board. Mr. Snyder is a volunteer for the Parks and Recreation Department's Village Green Concert Series. Mr. Snyder requested that the Board look into providing a "dance area" at the Village Green venue. Many patrons who attend the concerts would like to have a dedicated area where they can get up and dance. Mr. Snyder suggested that an ADHOC committee be formed for this project.

Tiphonie Howard, Parks Director, advised Mr. Snyder that an ADHOC committee would not be formed. However, Ms. Howard stated that she would speak with the City engineers and discuss what would be involved with implementing this venture and the project would be revisited at the May meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chairman Doug Meece requested a motion to approve the Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes from March 19, 2019. A motion was made and seconded and the March 19, 2019 minutes were approved as submitted.

**REPORT OF OTHER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS / AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

**Planning Commission:** Dale Paullus reported the only issue discussed at the last Planning Commission meeting was Old Winton Fencing.

**Environmental Commission:** Gwen Ritchie stated this is a very busy time for the Environmental Commission. There will be an Arbor Day Proclamation at the City Council meeting on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Tree City Luncheon will be held on April 26, 2019 at the Yankee Trace Golf Club in Centerville Ohio. A tree planting with Duke Energy will occur at Huffman Park.

Ms. Ritchie also informed the Board that the Committee is still without a Chair at this time and there are 2 vacant seats.

**Cultural Arts Advisory Commission:** Staff member, Heidi Schiller reported for the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission. Ms. Schiller informed the Board that the 2019 – 2020 Performing Arts Series was booked. The Village Green Concert series for 2019 will begin in May. Ms. Schiller also stated that a Crossword Puzzle Tournament is being planned for November 2, 2019 at the Fairfield Community Arts Center.

**School Board Report:** Christine Zboril informed the Board that everyone at the schools is anticipating the nearing end of the school year. The Arts Fair for K through 12 and the High School Prom will be held in May. Graduation for seniors will be held at the Cintas Center on Saturday, May 25, 2019.

**Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee:** Doug Meece informed the Board that both golf courses are open and still showing significant turf damage from last year. Mr. Meece expressed his concern for the customer base that may be lost due to the courses being in rough shape. Mr. Meece questioned if staff was capable of getting the course back to premium playable conditions. Mr. Meece reported he would be playing Glenview and Blue Ash Golf Courses in the next couple of weeks for bench marking.

Tiphonie Howard responded to Mr. Meece's concerns by assuring him that staff has a plan in place. Ms. Howard stated the plan is realistic, based on budget and resources, and may take up to 12-18 months. Ms. Howard also reported staff has working relationships with vendors and other area superintendents regarding turf conditions.

**City Council Report:** None

**REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:**

There are four proposed names in consideration for the Dog Park Naming Contest. The names being considered are: "Ruff River", "FurField", "Woof River" and "Furry Field". The names are currently available online for voting.

Tiphonie Howard, Parks Director, proposed that a motion from the Board be made to restrict all drone activity in the City Parks until a Drone Policy could be drafted and implemented. The motion was made and seconded. All voted in favor to restrict drones until a policy could be put in place.

Ms. Howard stated that there were six candidates being interviewed for the Hospitality Coordinator Position. The interviews began today. Ms. Howard is hoping to have this position filled by June of 2019. The new Greenskeeper, Todd Dodge, began working in March.

Ms. Howard reported that the Dog Park on River Road is taking shape. After observing the clearing status of the site, Ms. Howard is proposing that a guard rail along the roadway be considered. Due to the funding needed by Police and Fire from the Capital Improvement Program, the Phase 1 of Harbin Park will be reorganized.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 6:56PM.

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:13PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The Parks and Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 7:15PM.

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Tuesday, April 16, 2019, 6:00 PM, at the Fairfield Community Arts Center.

Cyndi A Kreke  
Board Secretary