

FAIRFIELD PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES
May 21, 2019

The monthly meeting of the Fairfield Parks and Recreation Board was conducted on Tuesday, May 21, 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, Christine Zboril and Paul Assum. A motion was made and seconded to excuse members Craig Keller. Staff members in attendance were Tiphonie Howard, Parks and Recreation Director; Brad Williams, Recreation Superintendent; Heidi Schiller, Arts & Hospitality Superintendent and Cyndi Kreke, Board Secretary. Fairfield City Staff member Jenny Dexter, Communications Manager, was also present at the meeting. Audience member in attendance was Cincinnati Off-Road Alliance representative, Alex Maier.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Chair Doug Meece greeted new Parks Board member, Paul Assum. Mr. Assum introduced himself and stated that he was excited to be working with the Parks Board. The Parks Board members and the Parks Staff also introduced themselves to Mr. Assum and their roles within the organization.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Doug Meece requested a motion to approve the Parks and Recreation Board meeting minutes from April 16, 2019. A motion was made and seconded and the April 16, 2019 minutes were approved as written.

Board member, Craig Keller arrived at the meeting at 6:05pm.

REPORT OF OTHER BOARDS & COMMISSIONS / AD HOC COMMITTEES:

Planning Commission: Dale Paullus stated that the Planning Commission approved a conditional use Church on Fairfield Business Way. The Planning Commission also approved Caruso's Ristorante & Bar on Dixie Highway (the old Spinning Fork location) and a Right of Way on Seward Road.

Environmental Commission: On April 17th, the Environmental Commission gave trees away at the Farmers Market. Gwen Ritchie also stated the commission replaced 3 trees and planted 5 new trees in the Memorial Grove at Creekside Park. At the Memorial Grove, the first bronze plaque has been filled and a second plaque has been ordered. Each plaque holds 60 names.

Ms. Ritchie informed the board that a new Chair for the commission has been appointed. The new Chair is Donna Faulk.

Ms. Ritchie reported that members of the commission, Diana and Vivian, have completed the planting analysis project at the Dog Park. Gwen and the commission would like to see the Izaak Walton tree planting program at the Dog Park or possibly one of the schools in the next year or two.

Finally, Ms. Ritchie stated that the commission will host the Tree City Luncheon in 2025.

Cultural Arts Advisory Commission: Staff member, Heidi Schiller, reported for the Cultural Arts Advisory Commission. Ms. Schiller said that the 2019 – 2019 Arts Series is winding down. This year, we had 7 sold out shows.

Brittany Theilman, new Community Events Coordinator, attended the last meeting and gave the commission a report on the upcoming concert series and events.

Ms. Schiller also reported that plans continue for the November 2, 2019 Crossword Puzzle tournament which will be held at the Fairfield Community Arts Center. The tournament will feature new puzzles by Will Shorts. Registration begins in August and costs 10.00.

School Board Report: Christine Zboril stated everyone at school is excited for summer vacation to begin and that graduation will be on this upcoming Saturday.

Golf Course Ad Hoc Committee: Doug Meece stated that Brad Williams and Tiphonie Howard will be giving a report on the Golf Courses later in the meeting.

City Council Report: Craig Keller stated that he was not at the previous Council meeting.

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Updates: The Fairfield Aquatic Center opens this weekend.

The Memorial Day parade will be on Monday, May 27, 2019.

The Miami Chapel Cemetery Historical Marker Unveiling Ceremony will be held on June 15, 2019 at 10:00am. Invitations will be going out this week.

2019 Goals and Objectives (Golf Maintenance & Operations): Ms. Howard presented the board with a list outlining the goals and objectives for the Golf Maintenance and Operations division as well as a fact sheet from Audubon International on "Naturalizing Shorelines". Ms. Howard reviewed these with the board.

Brad Williams, Recreation Superintendent, also distributed photos showing the conditions of the golf course and explained how staff working very hard to execute their plans for improvements. Mr. Williams reported they received several positive comments from the Chamber Outing which was held last week.

Village Green Dance Floor: Ms. Howard presented handouts (attached) displaying two location options for a dance floor at Village Green. It was agreed upon by the board that they preferred Option #2. The proposed dance floor will be designated by signage, stage tape and stanchions.

Marsh Fishing Lake Boating Regulations & Fees: Ms. Howard distributed the Marsh Lake Boating Procedures / Rules (attached) to the board for review. The board was asked by Ms. Howard to amend the 2019-04 resolution (Marsh Lake Fees & Charges) to include a 10.00 flat ramp fee. This fee would be charged to anyone wishing to launch their own vessel.

A motion was made and seconded to amend resolution 2019-04 to include this fee. The vote was unanimous in favor of adding the launch fee.

OLD BUSINESS:

Doug Meece asked Ms. Howard if she had an update on the Dog Park. Ms. Howard informed the board that the entryway to the Dog Park is being formed. The target date is still July depending on the progress of not only the Dog Park but the roundabout construction on River Road. Due to an accident over the weekend that resulted with a car rolling over near the entryway of the Dog Park, Ms. Howard would like to see the guardrail request implemented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Doug Meece explained to the board members that at this meeting the board needed to elect its officers for the upcoming year. The reorganization process includes electing the Chairman, the Vice Chair and a Secretary as well as appointing the ADHOC committees' liaisons.

Mr. Meece stated that he would like to continue to serve as Chair for the last year of his current term. He is up for reappointment next year. The Board concurred and a motion was made and seconded to elect Mr. Meece as Chairman.

A motion was made and seconded to elect board member Gwen Ritchie as Vice Chair.

A motion was made and seconded to elect Cyndi Kreke as Secretary.

All votes were unanimous.

ADHOC committee liaisons are as follows:

Council Representative – Craig Keller

School Board Representative – Christine Zboril

Environmental Commission Representative – Gwen Ritchie

Planning Commission Representative – Dale Paullus

Golf Committee – Doug Meece

The Cultural Arts Advisory Commission - VACANT

The summer meeting schedule was discussed. It was approved by the Board members to hold the next meeting at the Good Neighbor Park Shelter. Doug Meece and Gwen Ritchie stated that they will not be in attendance at the June Parks Board meeting.

Board Member, Don Carpenter informed the board that there will be a free concert on Sunday, May 26th from 1pm to 10pm at 6291 River Road. All proceeds from this event will go to the Joe Nuxhall Miracle League.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Board entered into executive session at 7:09pm.

The Board exited executive session at 7:16pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion for adjournment was made and seconded. The Parks and Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 7:20PM.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Tuesday, June 18, 2019, 6:00 PM, at Good Neighbors Park.

Cyndi A Kreke
Board Secretary