

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

March 8, 2007 – 7:00 PM

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD:

Fred Fleming called the March 8, 2007 Parks & Recreation Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALLING OF THE ROLL

Present: Fred Fleming, Ed Fousek, Mary Ann Higgins, Mary Ann Hupp and Rebecca Shimer.

Absent: Rebecca Shimer, Kyle Storsin and Brandi Klein.

Other Present: Kathy McConnell, Canalway Program Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Higgins moved to approve the January 11 meeting minutes, seconded by Mary Ann Hupp. **ROLL: Yes, ALL.**

Mrs. Higgins moved to approve the February 8, 2007 meeting minutes as amended, seconded by Mr. Fousek. **ROLL: Yes, All.**

Mrs. Higgins stated under Summer Recreation Program, it needed to be clarified to read "to spend more time with Canalway Programming."

OLD BUSINESS

Puffenberger Property:

Mr. Fleming stated he has an 8-1/2"x11" print of the master plan that they will make copies of the for Olde Canal Day Booth. He has a large print that he will mount on cardboard to have on display.

Off Leash Park:

Mr. Fleming stated the park will be locked up on Friday, March 9 and it will be around the first of May before they reopen it. He stated if they get seed on it on Friday, they will not have to worry about it. It was discussed to close the park at the onset of snow through May 1st.

Mr. Fleming stated he will check on the rules signs to make sure they are still posted. He stated they will need to look at a maintenance schedule for the year and possibly reseed in spring and fall.

Brick Donations: - No Report

Parks and Recreation Programming: Mrs. Higgins reported that the YMCA wants to do a full summer daycare/recreation program as they do in Jackson. It would be offered all summer long with full days. Individuals will be able to sign up weekly if they only want a couple weeks. The YMCA is undecided of the exact location at this point.

Ms. McConnell stated they are in need of a projector for movies in the park. Mrs. Higgins stated they would like to have a goal in place by next newsletter to be included. She would like to purchase a unit soon. She stated she is still hoping to get the award from the Hamburger Helper for the P.A. system. She stated the system is approximately \$1,500.

Tennis Courts: Mr. Fleming stated he had a request to hang a practice board. There was discussion on the fencing and the ability to accommodate the board as well as the wind. There would also be a possible issue of the noise factor. They will do further checking and discuss again next meeting.

Canalway Center: Ms. McConnell stated she gave Mr. Fleming her February report. OECA confirmed the Tour D'Towpath Event. The biking event previously started in Clinton. This year they will be starting and ending in Canal Fulton. They have three different lengths the bikers can choose. They are having Old Carolina Barbecue present. The event is Saturday, August 4, 2007.

She stated they have partnered with the library. On March 15 they are having the Johnny Appleseed of the Ohio-Erie Canal. He has written a book and has walked the entire length of the Ohio & Erie Canal. The library had indicated that they wanted to do more programs but had limited space. They will now be able to hold them at the Canalway Center.

She stated the panel committee information has been submitted to Ed Shuman.

She stated a letter has been sent to all Stark County Schools regarding the canal boat charters and invited them to come in May. They are developing four history trunks that a historian at our site can utilize with groups. Two of the topics include: Past Time of the 1850's and School Life.

They have started a partnership with the Canal Fulton Canoe Livery. Mr. Baker would like to develop a beginner's skill class. They have a local certified canoe instructor who is certified through the United States Canoe Association. Mr. Baker will provide all equipment. There will be a video training on safety and then they will go in the canoe for in-water training. It is a one day course.

Ms. McConnell has made contact with the school regarding the senior work day, S.W.O.R.D. It is a free outdoor chore service the senior class will be providing. Ms. McConnell has put flyers at the Senior Center, library and they have a news release in the paper. There will be eighty spots available. The instructor organizes the students in groups and they get work orders. Ms. McConnell stated she made the work order form which she will give to Ms. Ringler, Sr. Center Director, who will give to the students. Ms. Ringler is handling the registrations for the seniors requesting to have chores done. They will do outdoor chores only. The parents will then host an outdoor barbecue for the students at the end at Muhlhauser Park.

Mr. Fleming stated they need the procedures which would include the instructions for the reservation forms and fees.

Discovery Park: Mr. Fleming stated he talked to the Administrator to give her an update.

He stated he has the sign for the park. He stated where the dog is, the ODNR plaque will be. It will include that the property was donated by Schalmo Properties. Mr. Fleming faxed the information to Mr. Don Schalmo, who is currently in Florida.

Ms. Higgins asked Mr. Fleming to check with Cindy, Echoing Ridge Administrator, to see if they wanted to contribute for the sign. She had previously indicated they would like to help in some way.

Newsletter Items: - No Report

Budget: Mr. Fleming stated the budget is \$59,436.00. There was discussion on Ms. McConnell's salary and if it was all out of parks. Mr. Fleming felt it was all out of parks. Mr. Fleming stated the only budget line item that has something in it was for the graphic panels. All others are zeroed out. He stated the panels don't need budgeted because they are capital equipment, which will come out of the green space fees.

Mr. Fleming stated Finance may be taking part of Ms. McConnell's salary from another place. She will inquire on this matter.

Skate Park: No Report.

Community Service Coordinator: They could plant some spring flowers.

Olde Canal Days: There was discussion on ideas of what they could do for a fundraiser.

Priority List: Mr. Fleming will work on.

Concerts: There are six dates scheduled. There are two in June, two in July and two in August. The cost is \$1,400. He is speaking with someone about a program. They still need \$700 in sponsors.

Trash Receptacles: Mrs. Higgins stated Stark County Recycle is not able to do anything with them currently regarding recycling in the parks as a joint project. Mr. Fleming will take a count of the receptacles. Mrs. Higgins moved to purchase the trash receptacle lids not to exceed \$600, seconded by Mrs. Hupp. ROLL: Yes, ALL.

Ordinance on Reservation Fees: Mr. Fleming stated this ordinance should have been passed on Tuesday.

NEW BUSINESS

Park Reservations:

Community Easter Egg Hunt: True Life Community Church would like to host a Community Easter egg hunt on April 7, 2007 from 8:30 AM to noon. They are expecting 300 participants and 100 vehicles. Mrs. Higgins moved to approve the Community Easter Egg Hunt and waive the fees, seconded by Mrs. Hupp. ROLL: Yes, ALL.

Canal Land Ladies Softball: Mrs. Higgins moved to approve the Canal Land Ladies Softball request as submitted, with the exception of July 12th due to conflict with Olde Canal Days, and with the expectation that they will maintain the upkeep on the fields as has been done in the past, seconded by Mrs. Hupp. ROLL: Yes, ALL.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fleming adjourned the March 8, 2007 Parks and Recreation Board meeting. The next scheduled meeting is April 12, 2007.

Fred Fleming, Chairman