

The City of Canal Fulton

PARK BOARD MEETING

November 13, 2003

MINUTES

Present: Fred Fleming, Mary Ann Higgins, Bob Wagner, Rebecca Shimer, David Prather. Shannon Waggoner was absent.

Others Present: Ron Goode, Eric Prather

Mr. Fred Fleming Called the Park Board meeting of October 9, 2003 to order at 7:00 P.M.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Fleming called for approval of the October 9, 2003 minutes. Mary Ann Higgins stated that on Page 2, third paragraph, there is a correction. She said the minutes say that Mr. Fleming asked about the Summer Rec Program and whose responsibility it was to get there and be picked up. Mrs. Higgins said Mr. Wagner asked her that question. Mrs. Higgins said at the bottom of the same page it says: "Mrs. Higgins said it sounds like the United Way money is available." Mrs. Higgins said she stated that in the form of a question.

Mrs. Shimer made a motion to approve the minutes as amended for October 9, 2003. Mr. Wagner seconded the motion. Roll: Yes – ALL.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Goode stated that he is the field maintenance person for the Northwest/Jackson Soccer League. He said they use two soccer fields in Canal Fulton. He said he had a question on summer scheduling for 2004. He asked when the Board will be scheduling times for next year. He said normally it took place in February or March.

Mrs. Higgins said Tammy Luther holds the master schedule and that he could put in his requests whenever he is ready.

Mr. Goode said in the past the Park Board would not do any scheduling until February or March. He said that way everyone had a chance to get things together and be heard, rather than "first come first serve".

Mr. Goode said if they are taking schedules now, he will get it in tomorrow. He said the Board should think about athletic field scheduling. He suggested they take requests but not grant them until a particular time.

Mrs. Higgins said when the soccer league uses the fields the softball and baseball people are winding down. She asked Mr. Goode if there have been conflicts in the past. Mr. Goode said yes. He said one of the soccer fields is in the middle of the baseball field complex. He said they had to take the goals down to move them for Sunday softball.

Mr. Goode asked about the construction plans for the Community Park parking lot. He asked if that project is going forward. Mr. Fleming said yes. It was stated that the City would like to get it done by Olde Canal Days.

Further discussion followed.

Mr. Fleming said he was going to ask about the water line down there. He said now would be the time to run a water line before the parking lot is finished. Mr. Fleming stated the City is looking into burying the electric lines needed for Olde Canal Days. It was stated that a two inch line is needed to supply the water to water a field. A two inch line could be run past the fence and put a dry hydrant there.

Mrs. Higgins said she wasn't sure if Phase 2 and 3 of the Park improvements have some of these water issues in them.

OLD BUSINESS:

2004 Summer Recreation Program.

Mrs. Higgins said she spoke with Tom Mayberry in Clinton to see if they wanted to be part of the program. He said they would consider it and he would bring it to their Council. She asked if she should send them information based on what Lawrence Township did last year. Everyone felt that was a good idea.

She said she also called Mike Stevens, a Lawrence Township Trustee, to confirm if they are interested in contributing to the program for next summer. She said she has not heard back yet. She said they would probably be asking for the same, \$200.00 per child.

She said her initial idea, if the YMCA is interested in helping run the program, was to offer a five week program, 10:00 – 3:00. She said she felt the consensus was to keep it recreation focused and not day care focused.

She asked if the Board wanted to send out a survey again through the schools to find out what people want or should they just go ahead and do something similar to last year but a bit expanded.

Mr. Fleming said his gut reaction is to do the same thing they did last year. He said if the YMCA comes in, they will want a building. He said there will be an additional cost there. He said they will be lucky if they get the same amount of money from the City that they received last year.

Mr. Goode stated their success is based on the fact that they mail registration forms to the previous year's participants and then they hit the schools. He said good advertising is the key.

Mrs. Higgins wondered if the Visitors Center would be done and then if the Y joins in, if that building could be used for the meeting place.

Ball Field Renovations

Mr. Fleming stated they now have the money for Field 4 and 2, moving the backstop, grading and seeding Field 2, and building the ball field. He said the purchase order has been issued.

Mr. Wagner said, with Mr. Fleming's permission, he would like to bring in his guy to get a price on the ball fields. His name is Jim Nichols. Mr. Fleming said yes.

Tennis Courts.

Mr. Fleming said he has received the plans for the tennis courts from his contact in Wadsworth. He displayed the plans for the members to examine. He explained the drawings. He then said they will need to take this plan and give it to the City Engineer and get an estimate. He said these courts will have the proper base, so they will not crack.

Mr. Fleming said he received one estimate from Basco Asphalt Company to fix the courts. They told him that they have to be torn up because there is no base underneath. The Basco estimate was \$39,190.00. Mr. Fleming said that figure was turned into FEMA. He said FEMA may give the City 50% of that figure to move the courts somewhere else. Mr. Fleming said he would like to move the courts anyway. He said he would like to see them go behind the Senior Center at the far end of the parking lot on the right.

Mrs. Higgins asked if they were to be built at the Senior Center would the extensive support still be needed. Mr. Fleming said yes because there is a swale there.

Mrs. Shimer asked if the Senior Center would mind all the activity. Mr. Fleming said they would not go ahead with it without talking with the Senior Center.

Mr. Goode said when he was on the Park Board in the mid 80's they also looked at putting tennis courts there. He said the Board reminded the Senior Center that it was a City park and the Senior Center was just a tenant.

Mrs. Higgins asked if there would be a time line if the money comes from FEMA. Mr. Fleming said he did not know.

Phase 1 of Community Park.

Mr. Fleming reported that nothing much has been done except for tearing down the pool house.

Budget.

Mr. Fleming recommended a \$2,000 - \$3,000 increase over last year's request and stated they would be lucky to get that. He said last year's budget request was \$25,000.00.

Mrs. Higgins asked if they should think about improvements for Discovery Park. A discussion followed.

Mrs. Higgins also asked about eh Schalmo Park Wetlands Area. She asked if anyone has heard anything. Mr. Fleming said Schalmo is going to be moving a house that is there to create access to the park. He said what he saw in the plan was a driveway coming in to a parking area. He said the plan was to have pathways and boardwalks through the are and also a picnic area. It was stated that nothing has been done yet because the timing was not right.

Mrs. Higgins said she is a member of the National Association of Parks & Recreation. She said she has a brochure called "How to Survive As a Parks & Recreation Board Member". She asked if the members would like copies. Everyone said yes.

The meeting was adjourned.

Fred Fleming, Acting Chair