

# ***The City of Canal Fulton***

## **PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**May 13, 2004**

### **REGULAR PARKS & RECREATION BOARD MEETING**

Fred Fleming called the May 13, 2004 Parks & Recreation Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **CALLING OF THE ROLL**

Present: Fred Fleming, Mary Ann Higgins, Rebecca Simmer and Mary Ann Hupp

Absent: Robert Wagner, David Prather and Patrick Tohill

Guests in Attendance: Mr. John J. Harter and Ms. Kimberly Moore

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Corrections:* First page under Old Business needs corrected: "Discovery Park" should be the "Dog Park." In the middle of the third page where it said, "Ms. Thomas stated that Mrs. Zahirsky picked Discovery Park because it sat there" should read, "Ms. Thomas stated that she picked Discovery Park . . ." On the fourth page, second paragraph, first line "Ms. Thomas responded that she understands that Mrs. Zahirsky was a passive . . ." should be "Ms. Thomas responded that she understands that Muhlhauser Park was a passive playground and the Seniors did not want the Park to begin with." The bottom of Page 5, second from the bottom paragraph where it says "Mr. Fleming stated he feels they need to get an estimate on fencing across the pond at nature trail," should read "the pond at Discovery Park."

A motion was made by Mrs. Higgins and seconded by Mrs. Hupp to approve the April 8 2004 minutes, with the corrections. **Roll: Yes – ALL**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Park Requests**

##### **Cub Scout Pack 921**

Mr. John Harter from the Cub Scout Pack 921 stated that the past two years, they have put up inflatables in the grassy area by the tennis courts, not realizing they were breaking rules (apologized) and needed special permission. There are two inflatables (one, the size of the room that the kids bounce around in and one is a jousting area that is similar); then there is a dunking booth. The Party Animals provide the inflatables (rentals), and they provide one person per unit for a safety man; Party Animals require they have a person making sure the kids behave (crowd control, etc.), and they would like permission to do it again this year on June 6, 2004 (Sunday) from 5:00 to 8:00 PM, avoiding baseball, etc. Mr. Fleming stated they needed a "Hold Harmless" waiver (for insurance purposes) sent to Tammy Luther. Mr. Harter stated they definitely have insurance to cover anything that happens to any of the parents, siblings, or scouts. He stated the inflatables and booth takes electricity and water, and that Tammy Luther told him there would not be a problem with using the water or electricity. Just in case, Mr. Harter will have a generator as a "stand-by." He also said this is just for the Cub Scouts and their friends/families (not open to the public).

Mrs. Higgins made a motion to approve the Cub Scout use of the Park for their Cross-over activities on June 6, 2004; Mrs. Shimer seconded the motion. **Roll Call: Yes – ALL Motion carried.**

### **Kimberly Moore from Oser's Ice Cream - Request to Operate Concession Stand**

Ms. Moore asked what exactly what was going on with the concession stand down at the park; Mr. Fleming stating it was a wreck, there are no hand-washing sinks, no nothing. Mr. Fleming stated about the only thing they have done there is allow somebody to pass out cold cans of pop. Ms. Moore said she knew all the rules and that we at least have to have a hand-washing sink or a 3-bay so you can wash off; it depends on what you are serving. The reason she asked was that on weekends, that place is locked up; you have all that traffic going by. If somebody would go in, clean it up, paint it, whatever . . . Mrs. Moore thought she herself could take the time to clean it up. She'd been told that at one point they had volunteers running it, and the volunteers weren't showing up, and that's why they weren't running it. She said she has plenty of girls, plus herself, to run the stand, figuring a percentage of the profit would go back to the park (running it only Saturdays and Sundays). Mr. Fleming stated he was talking to Dan Mayberry about the condition of it. He said it wouldn't be that much to put a gray water in (a bit leeching tank) where anything you dump out goes into that; he had the impression that there is running water, there just isn't a sink. Mr. Fleming told Ms. Moore that his feeling is for her to look at it, see what she thought she could do with it, see what it is going to take to bring it up to Code, and tell him what it is she wants to do. Ms. Moore wants to sell mostly frozen ice-cream type sandwiches, hot dogs, water, chips, and pop. She thought the license for that was \$200, and she would pay for that, and whatever proceeds would go to the Park fund. Mr. Fleming stated in the future it may have to go up for bids. Ms. Moore is to go through Tammy Luther to evaluate the needs of the stand (list of costs for repairs, inspections, menu, insurance, etc.) and bring back the information to Tammy Luther for the Board to determine what will be done.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Off-Leash Park: Estimate for Fencing**

Mr. Fleming passed out copies of the estimates for fencing for Discovery Park and the dog park from Southway. The \$1,950 estimate is for a heavier rail (only about ½-inch difference in both directions); it will not give as easily. The other estimate of \$1,765 for a 2-inch x 4-inch, but it's only 1½ -inch by 5½-inch. The other one is an actual 2-inch thick by 6-inch, so it's a half-inch in either direction heavier. It's a white, three-rail fence, 170-feet long; payment due upon completion. The Board wanted it changed to "will be paid upon so many days of receipt of invoice." Mr. Fleming said that if you looked at the back page, the sidewalk bumps out around that pond, and we are going to bump the fence to save contour, so the fence will be straight on the sidewalk, but the sidewalk actually isn't straight. The swing gates are for the dog park; the measurements are correct (80 and 80). Mr. Fleming that they cut the measurements down, that's only 250 feet; if they start at the backside, it's 160-feet wide, and they still have quite a bit of space between there and the lot line. That was we can split 160-feet to get 80 feet each. Then he cut the depth of it down to 250-feet from 425 feet, so there is enough space to avoid the swampy area and get it back onto the high ground, so that water doesn't dump into it. There is a gate in between. Southway had the gate on the outside of each one, which would mean the mowing equipment would come into one, mow the lawn, have to come out then back over and back through. Instead, Mr. Fleming had them move that gate to the center because that's what he found out the others are doing, and then you mow the one and just go through and mow the other and come back out. The others are the air lock, where the 10-feet and 4-feet wide – the two double gate system – where you bring the dog in, take the leash off and it will open either door. When the drawing came through, the air lock was on the inside. It has specifications for a single-swing and a double-swing gate.

Mrs. Higgins made a motion that we accept the bid/proposal from Southway for the Dog Park fence and Discovery Park fence, with a condition that Southway gives us an invoice before the payment is due with an established amount of days to give to Council for consideration. Mrs. Shimmer seconded the motion. **Roll call: All – Yes Motion carries.**

### **2004 Summer Recreation Program - Report from Mary Ann Higgins**

Mrs. Higgins stated that flyers went out to all of the schools (showed copy of the flyer). May 17, she will be at City Hall (Chambers) with Pam to do evening registration for families that can't come during the day from 6:00 – 7:30 PM. She stated everything is moving forward. Once the program is set, they will let us know because we need to help them contract with Northwest Schools on buses (that has to come from the City). The VFW and Rotary gave a donation (\$250) each to be used for a scholarship for lower-income kids. Mrs. Higgins will send a thank-you note. Pam dropped off registration packets to Patti Schauwecker, Clerk of Council, so kids can start registering kids now. There is a packet of forms that the parents have to review and sign: waivers, behavior contract, rules, discipline enforcement, what to bring, etc.

### **Ball Field Renovations - Infield Dirt for All Fields**

Mr. Fleming said that infield dirt was brought in; they have 24-27 tons of dirt (eight or nine ton per field), and he was going to scam enough off of that to put behind one of the back stops, so the girls can use that to level things out.

### **Tennis Courts**

Mr. Fleming had the application to use the money and try to get them to pay more money to move them to Muhlhauser, addressed to Greg Keller, the Public Assistance Officer of West Dublin, Granville Road, Columbus (the people in charge of the FEMA money). It will come up for approval any time they get it and decide to approve/disapprove. This one they already have received \$29,000. They are trying to get 75% of \$68,000 now to make the move. The application went out the first of last week.

**Nature Trail:** No report.

### **Phase I of Community Park**

Still on target to start around July 15, 2004. Mr. Fleming stated some of the small stuff has already started, but they won't start ripping things up until after Olde Canal Days.

Discovery Park: Fencing is going to be done at 170-feet based on the outcome of Council. Dennis and Dan Mayberry, along with Mr. Fleming, went down and looked at it. In the Plan, the pathway goes up, comes through a narrow spot that measures about 24-inches, and is nowhere near this big. If you look at the lot line and the pond bank, you can't get a pathway through there. That piece of property back there - in talking to Dan Mayberry, he said that it might be to our benefit to cut that off with that first guy's lot line and turn that land over to them back there. They are dumping their grass clippings and everything else in there now. Mr. Fleming stated, that unless he is mistaken, he thinks you have to be off your lot line 1½ feet, and if he's off the lot line 1½-foot, he's got about 6- to 8-inches before I drop off and you're not going to get a path through there without building a bridge. They have to do is go back to Curtis and Associates, have them re-look at that, and do some things about paths for picnic tables. Mrs. Shimmer stated that was a big piece of land back there, almost doubles the size of the park; to give it away – they need to look at having them do a little boardwalk pathway over at the corner of the pond, so they could keep that piece. Mr. Fleming said it might be 24-inches; a pathway has got to be a good 4-feet; Dennis Mayberry thought it should be anywhere from 6- to 8-feet because two wheelchairs passing each other on the walkway couldn't make it. Mr. Fleming thought the same thing; you would have to put something across there; you would have to have a high fence on it; you would have to keep checking it to make sure there is no banking deterioration; it would have to come back into the property far enough. Mrs. Shimmer stated they could make it some type of observation point – like a lookout over the pond/a little fishing dock or whatever (with supports). Mr. Fleming stated that if you look at the pond itself, there's probably enough width to put the pathway through there, but part of that width is the bank and they didn't figure from the water to the top of the bank. The park is going to be fenced between where the house properties are located.

Mr. Fleming checked and found out what would happen if they spent the \$20,000 on the park – could they still go for the grant and use that \$20,000 they spent; he was told, “No.” He stated they are going to spend \$19,050 for a fence across the front. We have to take that square footage off of the Plan. We have to redo the Plan and mock-up. If he takes the \$20,000 and use it toward that project, that \$20,000 does not count. He would have to deduct \$20,000 worth of the project from the \$80,000, giving him \$60,000; now he needs to draw up another \$15,000 for the matching funds for the \$60,000.

Mr. Fleming said (jokingly) for a City that doesn't know how to write a grant, the City has somewhere in the vicinity of 1.3 million dollars in grants monies that they have secured in the past two years, and a big portion of it is Phase I downtown. The City can write grants. It's no different from writing a business proposal.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Request to Install a Hitching Post in Community Park**

The Tri-County Trail Association (President Tanya Graber) requested a hitching post/rail via mail to Mr. Fleming. Their letter requested a hitching post to be installed at the west-side park in the small wooded area, away from the public, where there is easy horse access, and the hitching post would be put in at Tri-County Trail Association's expense and they would maintain the upkeep of the hitching post.

Mr. Fleming spoke with Mr. Dan Mayberry and his impression is that the horse trail is at the other side of the river and wasn't sure that the small wooded area on the west side of the park is not on the other side of the river. Mrs. Shimmer stated that she thought it was – by the canoe livery. Mr. Fleming said they've got the idea that maybe that shelter house in that area is part of the park. If it isn't, they have to come all the way around the river, across the bridge into the main park and over to that wooded area. What Mr. Mayberry suggested is that Mr. Fleming call Mr. Bob Fonte and speak with him about it because they've had a problem with people riding horses there, they don't want them on there and that's why they are starting to put in a horse trail (starting here going to Crystal Springs by the Butter Bridge). Mr. Fleming is going to talk to Tri-County Association and Mr. Fonte and get back to the Park Board with the information gathered.

### **Request to Donate a Park Bench in Community Park**

The request comes from the granddaughter of Jim Lerch (via Tammy Luther), who wants to dedicate a bench in his name during Olde Canal Days. Time has gone by, and the family is trying to come up with something else to represent Mr. Lerch (some type of plaque at Town Hall, etc.). Mr. Colaianni stated that Jim Lerch's family goes back to 1860 in this town; Jim was on Council and the cemetery board (basically establishing the cemetery); Jim's father was the Mayor of Canal Fulton for a 10-year period in the early 1900's; they ran the first grocery store for about 35 years. Mr. Fleming is going to check with Mrs. Luther about same.

### **Canal Fulton Chamber of Commerce requested use of the Pavilion for June 20 for Great Ohio Bike Association (GOBA), and Mr. Fleming approved the request prior to this meeting.**

**Newsletter Items:** Discussion regarding items for the newsletter; May 14 is the Deadline to Get Information to Patti Schauwecker, Council Clerk.

**Maintenance of the Trail that Runs through Community Park** (loop trail) is flooded and washing out (loop trail) and dries “bumpy” and is not too great for walking. Mr. Fleming will check on the maintenance (tabled).

Mr. Fleming adjourned the meeting. (Next regular meeting will be June 10, 2004 at 7:00 PM.)

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Fred Fleming, Chair