

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

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

**September 8, 2005 – 7:00 PM**

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

Fred Fleming called the September 8, 2005 Parks & Recreation Board meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **CALLING OF THE ROLL**

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

*Members Absent:* Courtney Morgan and Nate Ogg

### **APPROVAL OF JULY 14 & AUGUST 11, 2005 MINUTES**

Mrs. Higgins made a motion to approve the August 11, 2005 Parks & Recreation Board Meeting minutes; seconded by Mrs. Hupp. **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

Mrs. Shimer made a motion to approve the July 14, 2005 Parks & Recreation Board Meeting minutes; seconded by Mr. Fousek; **ROLL CALL: Yes – ALL**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **SKATE PARK REQUEST**

Mrs. Higgins refreshed the Board about the Losch family's input at the last meeting and their ability to work with the Board to try to get something in the budget. Mrs. Higgins has been reading about skate board issues and brought in an article from National Parks & Recreation magazine that "sort of scared" her, and she said maybe Canal Fulton "is not quite ready." The article implied the most common problem is movement and shifting of the ramps that cause gaps; the gaps can be very dangerous and create legal situations where the city could be liable for injuries sustained while riding them (catching fingers in the gaps, falls on sharp edges that have lifted up from the ground, falls due to uneven surfaces, etc.). She said that would exclude out the old tennis court area because of the ground movement and shifting that happens there naturally. The article represents the fact there are no standards for building skate parks; there are problems with ongoing maintenance to keep them safe too. Mr. Fousek asked for the number of residents actually using a skate park, is it worth it; it's a small demographic for the city; the city has no money or infrastructure for same. Mr. Fleming stated, "Just about every kid's got a skateboard." Mrs. Hupp brought up how there was a list of names (signatures) of several hundred people who wanted a skate park. Mr. Fleming stated the thing that causes a bigger liability is the fact there are no standards for building skate parks, "so that means you're wide open to anybody that gets hurt that wants to sue us." It was noted the Street Department staff would have to be increased to support a skate park. Mrs. Shimer made a motion to table the skate park request; seconded by Mr. Fousek. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

#### **OFF-LEASH PARK**

##### **Report – Fred Fleming**

Mr. Fleming had an estimate to build the patio plus there is a \$50 delivery charge. Cheryl Rosenberger donated two pallets of brick. They are going to lay the un-engraved bricks, so it'll turn into a better chance to get people to buy them. Mr. Fleming said he was thinking about placing the bricks at the new side. Mrs. Shimer made a motion to proceed with the brick pavers and the patio area at the newly gated end of the dog park entrance area – both sides of the dog park and both entrances – to the tune of approximately \$2,300 total labor, bricks, and delivery; Mrs. Hupp seconded. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

It was noted that the Porta' Potties were moved to the top of the hill. Because of this, some people cannot use them because they can't walk the hill. Mr. Fleming said, "Now, somebody has put stakes in there with no parking down over the hill; you can't go over the hill." Somebody backed up into the potties. Linda Zahirsky saw the stakes and told Dennis Mayberry to remove same, but he has not yet.

The cost of the new gates has been estimated by Southway Fence Company. Mrs. Higgins made a motion to approve the second set of gates to be installed at the dog park for \$365; seconded by Mrs. Shimer. **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

Mr. Fleming said the dirt coming out of the patio area can go right into the two planters.

Related to Discovery Park, the city had 9 park benches; the last time Mr. Fleming was out to the storage area, there were only 4. They will try to retrieve them or get somebody to pay for them. Mr. Fleming thinks they're all over town, but they were for the park. Mr. Fleming said somebody took it upon themselves to allocate the benches to something else without ever coming to the Park Board.

Mr. Fleming said on the large side of the park, it appears the dogs have been digging. However, Mr. Fleming said when they filled it in, they had some sink holes. They were regarding and re-landscaping from the dog park all the way back to the fence and inside the fence where the waterline came from. Mr. Fleming got them to give him a couple of buckets of dirt to fill those holes, but they need to be regarded and reseeded inside. Also, around the water drainage, the thing around the bottom of the pump actually goes back out that same ditch (hole), and then goes off to the side. That's a real drain, but water is actually getting splashed out around the outer perimeter, so they need to do something about directing the water in there or putting stone around it, so it doesn't get muddy.

Banners that could possibly be sold for around the fence were referred to the advisory committee, but members were hesitant about this subject, saying it serves as a binder and might be "tacky."

Two old-style fire hydrants were requested to be placed in each side of the park, but that hasn't been done yet. They're sitting at the dog park currently. They need to be painted. Dan Mayberry told Dennis Mayberry to put them in the dog park.

Mr. Fleming ordered another sign to replace the rules sign. It was a donated sign that was taken.

A light pole was requested for special events; referred to the dog park committee.

Mr. Fleming brought up a sign holder. Mayor Grogan told Mr. Fleming about Mike Mouse's daughter because his daughter works for a dog food company and might donate a nice kiosk-type of sign for the dog park.

**Dog Park Committee:** Mr. Fleming had with him a handbook from Durham, NC that he said doesn't say a thing about organizing a dog park advisory; but the advisory is empowered to do whatever about somebody's doing something wrong in the dog park (i.e., like ejecting them).

Mrs. Higgins said Sept. 22 Linda Zahirsky and she will be meeting with people interested in participating in the Dog Park Advisory Committee.

## **BRICK FUND**

### **Report - Mary Ann Hupp**

Another smaller brick was sold. Mr. Fousek suggested a picture of what the bricks look like engraved for the Olde Canal Days Festival

## **2005 SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM (July 18 – August 11, 2005)**

### **Final Report - Mary Ann Higgins**

Pam Leddon Emailed Mrs. Higgins; they will get the report to them in a couple of weeks. Overall, the program went well; the kids and parents were pleased. They had a few problems with SARTA, but it turned out OK. Trinity Church said they'd be happy to have the program again next year.

## **TENNIS COURTS**

### **Report - Fred Fleming**

Mr. Fleming sat in on the initial meeting of the contractors. They have to put the electricity on a different line because the Senior Center doesn't want to pay their light bill. There are 16 1000-watt lights that will be coin-operated. The

Senior Center is already paying for the gazebos. Some equipment will be brought in Saturday to start work on Monday; the contractor already brought their own grater. The drainage pipe is in and connected to the storm sewer line. He was asked to take some pictures. The courts should be pored within a week.

It was suggested to have an "Inaugural Game" – dedicating the courts to Shawn Kenney. Someone will let Scott Fellmeth know about same. Mrs. Higgins made a motion to name the new tennis courts in honor of former Mayor Shawn Kenney; seconded by Mrs. Shimer. **Discussion:** Buying a plaque was suggested. Mr. Fleming will call Mr. Fellmeth; they will involve Mayor Grogan also; maybe The Independent and Connie (Mayor Kenney's girlfriend) **ROLL CALL: Yes - ALL**

### **PHASE I OF COMMUNITY PARK**

#### **Partnership Agreement**

The center is done and looks good. There will be a meeting regarding the Partnership Agreement next Thursday; Stark Parks can't make the meeting, and they would like to meet with the Park Board afterwards.

### **DISCOVERY PARK**

#### **Grant Acceptance**

The grant was \$31,982. It was a grant that said up to 75%. Mr. Fleming will call the grant office (Sam Speck) to get particulars.

They have 3 handicapped tables; they can't get benches. Mr. Fleming found the lumber company who he thinks made them, and if he can find out how they shipped the legs (that aren't there), maybe they can get them to ship them because they weren't shipped with the tables. They want \$350 per table for the legs; the guy said it had been too long as they shipped them 3 years ago, but that was a grant and if they were shipped from the people who gave us the grant of those tables but were shipped from Akron (plasticlumber.com) down to them, then maybe they're the ones they want to talk to. (It was a waste management grant.)

They are going to have to start cleaning around the pond. They're going to have to hire someone from the outside to do that, but they "were all kind of budget items."

### **NEWSLETTER ITEMS**

**Report - Rebecca Shimer**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **PARK RESERVATIONS**

#### **Reservation & Contact Board**

They have been asked to put up a board. They will put up a board in Community Park for reservations with contact numbers, etc.

### **WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

Dan Mayberry gave Mr. Fleming a waiver of liability for the ladies' league "to hold harmless."

### **MUHLHAUSER PARK**

There have been complaints about some old wild cherry trees along the backside of James Street where there were several incidents that the trees have broken into yards. There is fear of injury from these 9 trees. Dan Mayberry got a price from Haymaker Tree and Lawn Service for approximately \$8,500 to take down all the trees.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting will be October 13, 2005 at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall. Mr. Fleming adjourned the September 8, 2005 Parks & Recreation Board meeting.

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**Fred Fleming, Chair**