

**CITY OF GAHANNA
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – November 4, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Vincent Tremante called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board to order on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 at 7:16pm at the Ohio Herb Education Center.

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Diane Cantrell
Cynthia Franzmann
Luke Messinger
Eric Miller
Laurel Naegele
Windy McKenna
Vincent Tremante

In attendance from the City ;Tony Collins, Director, Troy Euton, Deputy Director, Mike Musser, Recreation Superintendent from the Department of Parks & Recreation and Cathy Phillips, Director of the Ohio Herb Education Center.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Messinger made a **MOTION** to approve the October 7, 2009 meeting minutes; seconded by Franzmann. **On roll call vote:** McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Tremante, Yes, Cantrell, Yes, and Franzmann, Yes. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

HEARING OF VISITORS

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Ohio Herb Education Center (OHEC) Update

Collins introduced Cathy Phillips, Director of OHEC. Phillips shared that education is the focus of the Herb Center; the center has a resource lending library and staff and volunteers are available to answer questions regarding herbs. There have been three classes, two tour groups with approx. 70 people, one facility rental and a field trip, a tea for 10 people. Classes are scheduled through the Gateway and private classes can also be scheduled. The Herb Center host a gift shop where you can purchase herbs, blends, teas, books and additional related items. Class registrations and visitors have increased since the opening of the new Herb Center. People come from all over to visit the center. The center hours will change in January to better accommodate the community.

Pricing Policy

Collins distributed and discussed the changes to the Departments Fee Policy which will go forward to Council following a recommendation from this Board. The department has proposed an increase in the non-resident rates for sports leagues, recreation programs, and shelter rentals and outside league fees.

Miller made a **MOTION** to recommend the Fee Policy to Council; seconded by Cantrell. **On roll call vote:** Naegele, Yes, Tremante, Yes, Cantrell, Yes, Franzmann, Yes, McKenna, Yes, Messinger, Yes, and Miller, Yes. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Fee schedule

Collins shared the proposed fee schedule with the Board. The cost of the standard rental rate increased; and resident receive a discount rate off the standard rental rate. The rate for Hannah Park and Friendship Park shelters increased due to the cost of maintaining the facility. Changes have been made to the cost of renting the Clubhouse, rental time must now include set up and clean up time, the new fee schedule includes an all day rental fee for the Clubhouse.

Foundation “Wish List”

Tremante stated the Foundation has requested a “Wish List” of items they would like to consider funding. Collins explained that the master plan identifies items important to residents. Collins stated the master plan needs review and updated along with the five year capital plan.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Collins distributed the Director’s Report which includes updates from the department. The Creepside Festival was very well attended. The Golf Course is having a record year and the pools are doing well. The Facilities Division is working on winterizing all the parks. At the Make a Difference Day clean-up there were 184 volunteers who cleared debris along the Big Walnut Trail, which included 4.5 dumpsters of trash, 2 recycle dumpsters and 124 tires.

The Department received notification of OPRA Awards - 1st place for \$500K - \$1 million dollar development of Hannah Park Shelter and several 2nd and 3rd place awards for other projects/programs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AAC - No update at this time

BAC - Naegele stated the Safe Routes to Schools funding grants were submitted. The Walk to School Days was very successful, Lincoln Elementary has 173 walkers and 42 children bike to school, Jefferson Elementary had 68 walkers. The schools are considering doing the walk again in May. The Bikeway Master Plan will be going to the Planning commission soon.

DPAC – The next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2009. . Members of Pooch Playground, Inc. will work with the Foundation regarding donating their funds to the Gahanna parks & Recreation Foundation for the Dog Park and dissolving Pooch Playground, Inc.

NRAC – Tremante stated the committee will have a close out meeting in November. Central Park Ravine inventory was not done.

MEMBERS COMMENTS

Parks & Recreation Foundation – Tremante stated the Gala is February 6, 2009 at Creekside Conference & Event Center. The theme this year if “Mardi Gras”. Save the Date cards have been mailed.

Veteran’s Memorial Committee – McKenna stated the next dedication is November 11th at 11am. The names from the new bricks will be read at the dedication.

School Board report – McKenna stated the Board will be voting on the demolition contract on November 5th. The demolition is scheduled for November 19th. The Athletic Department is raffling off a new house as a fundraiser.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Parks & Recreation Board at this time the meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2009

Vinnie Tremante, Chair