

**CITY OF GAHANNA  
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – October 6, 2010**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Laurel Naegele called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board to order on Wednesday, October 6, 2010, at 7:01 pm at Gahanna City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Cynthia Franzmann  
Luke Messinger  
Eric Miller  
Laurel Naegele  
Jan Ross  
Jill Schuler  
Vincent Tremante

In attendance from the City were Tony Collins, Director, Troy Euton, Deputy Director and Mike Musser, Recreation Superintendent, Department of Parks & Recreation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Ross made a **MOTION** to approve the September 7, 2010 meeting minutes; seconded by Schuler. **On roll call vote:** Messinger, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Ross, Yes, Schuler, Yes, Tremante, Yes, and Franzmann, Yes. **The motion carried 7-0**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

**HEARING OF VISITORS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Donation Request**

Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation

Collins shared the donation request from the Gahanna Parks & Recreation Foundation asking for a waiver of half the fee for the rental of the Gahanna Swimming Pool for the Family Fun Festival held on Saturday, August 28, 2010. The reduced payment requested is \$305. After some discussion Collins will request and opinion of the City Attorney.

St. Matthew School

Collins stated there is a request for a donation of a four hour facility rental at Hannah Park for their fundraising auction. Musser stated the St. Matthew School works with the department by allowing usage of their parking lots and fields for swim meets and other big events at the Gahanna Swimming Pool.

Franzmann made a **MOTION** to approve a donation of a four hour facility rental based upon availability; seconded by Miller. **On roll call vote:** Ross, Yes, Jill, Yes, Vinnie, Yes, Cynthia, Yes, Luke, Yes, Eric, Yes, and Laurel, Yes. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Fee structure/schedule

Musser distributed the facility rate comparison and an aquatics facilities comparison with other local communities. The fees charged for facilities are based on direct cost. At this time staff is

not looking at raising rates for the shelter rentals. Musser shared that the shelters are booked every weekend throughout the summer and the larger shelters are rented most of next summer. The shelter fees collected so far in 2010 are approximately \$27,000. Collins stated that the fees cover the cost and generate revenue to support the departments other operations.

Musser shared the aquatics facilities rates comparison from surrounding communities and the average family membership cost is \$224.11 per family. The current rates for both city pools are \$300 per family of 3+. Most of the surrounding communities subsidize their aquatic facilities. Gahanna does not subsidize direct cost of either pool or the golf course.

Musser shared membership for 2010 dropped by 400 members. Staff surveyed previous members. They called 401 households and talked to 107 people to try and find out reason for not coming back. Of those families 22 purchased a different type of membership, 85 people or 31% didn't come back, stating the cost of membership was too expensive, 18 people moved or was traveling too much to purchase a membership, but paid a daily rate.

Staff conducted another survey regarding a possible early bird rate reduction of 25%. If the rate reduction happens the membership needs to increase by 284 households in order to maintain the current level of revenue. Staff is reviewing the daily rates and visit pass.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Collins shared that the department has received phone calls and several e-mails regarding the removal of Rathburn Woods Playground. The playground was removed due to safety issues, the posts were all rotten making the playground unsafe. At this time there is not funding to purchase a new playground.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Collins shared the Director's Report highlighting the past month in each division. Parks and Facilities staff is working on the normal fall clean-up and in the process of winterizing facilities. Clearing of the Big Walnut Trail section 7 has begun. There was a check presentation from The Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Clean Ohio Trail Fund for the Section 1 and 2 trail addition and improvements.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Aquatics Advisory Committee**

Nothing at this time

#### **BAC**

Naegele stated they group is meeting quarterly and are going on some bike rides.

#### **DPAC**

Tremante shared that the meeting was scheduled for September 30, 2010; no one other than Board members and staff were there. None of the public members attended. Nothing was discussed.

#### **NRAC**

Tremante stated that the members will meet with Alan Little to walk the Big Walnut Trail section 1 and 2 to access the area.

### **MEMBERS COMMENTS**

#### **Parks & Recreation Foundation**

Franzmann stated the board has been discussing ideas for a main fundraising effort. Collins

shared that the Foundation voted to partner with and join the Columbus Foundation. Joining the Foundation will provide more exposure for the Foundation, open up the opportunity to apply for grants and allow potential donors several options for donations.

**Veterans Memorial Committee**

Nothing at this time.

**School Board Report**

Jill shared there is a pre-game fundraiser before the homecoming football game for the levy campaign.

**Citizen Financial Advisory Committee**

Collins shared the committee is meeting every two weeks, and have broken into smaller groups to gather input.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Parks & Recreation Board at this time, Schuler made a **MOTION** to adjourn; seconded by Naegele.

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully submitted

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Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010

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Laurel Naegele, Chair