

**CITY OF GAHANNA  
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES – September 7, 2011**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Cynthia Franzmann called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board to order on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 7:08 pm at Gahanna City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**Absent:** Jill Schuler

In attendance from the City was Tony Collins, Director Department of Parks & Recreation.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Board requested the minutes be listened to again in regards to the Shagbark Basin project.

Tremante made a **MOTION** to approve the August 3, 2011 meeting minutes with the review of minutes in regards to the Shagbark Basin project; seconded by Naegele. **On roll call vote:** Messinger, Yes, Miller, Abstain, Naegele, Yes, Ross, Yes, Tremante, Yes, and Franzmann, Yes. **The motion carried 5 -0, 1 abstain.**

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**HEARING OF VISITORS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Fall Update**

**Friday After Five**

Collins stated that the Friday After Five is September 9<sup>th</sup> at Creekside, 5:30 – 9pm. Over 50 silent auction items have been donated and over 150 tickets have been sold. Collins hopes to see all Board members at the event. Ross stated that with Schuler's assistance two of the auction items donated were art classes at the new Clark Hall.

**Ash Street Trees**

Collins shared that the department is requesting a supplemental from Council to purchase a stump grinder in order to remove the stumps from the Ash trees the City is going to have removed due to the Emerald Ash Borer. By purchasing the stump grinder and staff removing

the stumps it will allow for more trees to be removed.

Collins explained that there is updated information on the City website regarding the Emerald Ash Borer. The City Forester went out and evaluated 1660 Ash street trees. The trees were scored with a one for most hazardous, will be removed, two monitoring, three healthy. Most likely all trees identified as a one and two will be removed. The rating system is based upon if the tree is infested and that if 50% of the tree is dead it cannot come back. If we remove a one on a property and there is a tree identified as a two it will also be removed. All the affected properties will receive a letter. On October 3 tree removal will begin, followed with stump removal. On September 20 a new GIS map layer will be on the City web site identifying all Ash street trees and will identify the rating of the tree and action to be taken.

### **October 5<sup>th</sup> Parks Board Meeting – Gahanna Senior Center**

Collins stated that at the October 5<sup>th</sup> Parks Board meeting Meyers & Associates Architects & POD Design will give a Pool Presentation. Collins is inviting the Aquatics Committee and the Mayor.

### **Shagbark Retention Basin**

Collins stated that when the Shagbark Park dedication was originally given it was agreed upon in the original writing that it would be a retention basin. There are a lot of flooding issues along the McKenna Creek bean ditch basin. One of the solutions that was studied was to place a basin further north in the Meijer's or Kohl's area, which is not in Gahanna. The City can not control the maintenance of the basin if it is located outside the City. Another suggestion was to expand the size of the Shagbark basin. The Service Department went forward with plans to expand the basin at Shagbark. Zoning contacted Parks & Recreation since the Shagbark land is dedicated parkland and with the 2008 change in code was not sure if the basin can be expanded. Collins suggested that if the expansion goes forward we make an amenity to the park, level out the edge of the basin, put in a path, install education interpretive signage regarding the basin. Since the plan is already done, these would be future improvements.

Tremante stated that the plans for the expanded basin show that .28 acres of wetlands will be impacted. Tremante requested to know where the land will be mitigated. Collins stated that it will be mitigated at a bank.

Franzmann wanted to know what the residents think that are opposed to the project. Collins stated he has heard that residents don't think that it is a permanent fix, and that by taking out the trees that need to be removed it will open up the view to Giant Eagle.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Aquatics Advisory Committee**

Nothing at this time

#### **Bicycle Advisory Committee**

Naegele stated that the last meeting was July 25, 2011. And that Big Walnut Trail (BWT) Section 1 & 2 should be completed by mid November. BWT Section 3 (Academy Park to Nob Hill) was not funded by Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) due to ODNR not doing grants through 2011.

Tricia Kovacs has organized the signage for the bike routes which is linked on the Gahanna web site on a Bikeways page. Collins stated that the City closed on the Nob Hill easement. There is a bike rodeo on October 8<sup>th</sup> at Jefferson Elementary. Tricia Kovacs is looking for

volunteers for the event. The event is open to all the schools.

**Natural Resources Advisory Committee**

Tremante stated that it is time to collect nuts for planting. Planting will begin soon.

**School Board Report**

Nothing at this time

Collins stated that he is on the Board of the Gahanna Community School. One of the intents of the City is to integrate the schools and the city with resources. Collins and Shannon Clonch, Recreation Superintendent, met with the Principal with the hope of getting the community school involved with environmental education programming and a new way to teach science.

**MEMBERS COMMENTS**

Naegele commented on the great playground at Rathburn Woods Park. Collins stated that the old playground had to be removed due to structural safety. Staff requested a supplemental to complete the project.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

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Cynthia Franzmann, Chair