

**CITY OF GAHANNA
PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES – November 5, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Eric Miller called the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Board to order on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 at 7:02pm at Gahanna City Hall.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Diane Cantrell
Cynthia Franzmann
Windy McKenna
Luke Messinger - absent
Eric Miller
Laurel Naegele
Vincent Tremante

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Tremante made a **MOTION** to approve the October 1, 2008 meeting minutes; seconded by McKenna. **On roll call vote:** McKenna, Yes, Miller, Yes, Naegele, Yes, Tremante, Yes, Cantrell, Yes, and Franzmann, Yes. **The motion carried 6-0.**

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Add to new business – Cell Tower discussion
Remove from new business – 5yr Capital plan and fee waiver request

HEARING OF VISITORS

Lynne Vermillion 647 Ridenour Rd Gahanna OH 43230 stated that Council voted not to extend the off leash at Pizzurro Park. Vermillion is concerned that a law will not keep the dogs off the playground and the playground is just off the road, and Part II of the large dog area is right behind the playground, she would like to see a fence around the playground. Also, signs are needed to let parents know they can't just drop their dog off in the fenced in area and go to the playground with their kids or leave the kids on the playground and go play with the dogs.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nothing

NEW BUSINESS:

Collins explained that the recommendation to extend dogs being off leash at Pizzurro Park was taken to Council. Council discussed the issue at the Committee meeting and at a Council Meeting. The recommendation was denied and will expire on December 31, 2008.

2009 Budget

Collins shared the proposed 2009 budget for the department. The request base is what was submitted in April and the recommended base is what was submitted in October. Typically this is the budget that would be taken to Council; however, the directors and deputy directors are meeting with the Mayor to discuss where to cut back on expenses, while revenues continue to drop. 2009 budget will be one of the tightest budgets submitted in recent years. The capital budget is around \$100,000, including \$40,000 for playgrounds.

Cell Tower

Euton shared that T-Mobile is considering a proposal to locate a cell tower at Ashburnham Park. Information was distributed to the Board. The Board had some discussion about cell towers in the parks. Several members shared they do not want cell towers in parks.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Collins shared the department's highlights from October with the Board. The department received five first place and two second place awards from OPRA. Board members are invited to the awards ceremony.

COMMITTEES' REPORTS

Aquatics Advisory Committee

Collins distributed copies of draft by-laws for the committee. Comments from the Board should be sent to the Parks office by Friday, November 7th.

BAC

Naegele shared that SRTS is moving forward, surveys were sent to all the parents of the schools involved. The committee is working on the bikeway plan.

CIC

Cantrell shared they are continuing to work on the strategic plan. CIC purchased the building located at 181 Granville Street, which houses CVB and GEI. The merger of the CVB and GEI should be completed by the end of the year.

DPAC

Naegele shared the next meeting is Thursday, November 13, 5:30pm at City Hall.

Parks & Recreation Foundation

Tremante shared the next Foundation meeting is November 6th. The Foundation is working on the 2009 budget and the gala. There will be information in the Gateway requesting the creation of a logo for the Foundation.

NRAC

Tremante shared that the inventory along the SWFP (Price Road) has been completed and they will work on the report for the department.

Veterans Memorial Committee

McKenna shared the next dedication will be on November 11, 2008, at 11am. This is the 90th Anniversary of WWI. Dale Foor is the MC and the American Legion Post 797 will post the colors.

School Board Report

McKenna shared that there were 13 architecture proposals for the new school building. The architecture committee has narrowed them down to two proposals. Eastland and Fairfield Vocational Schools will have an open house on December 4th.

MEMBERS COMMENTS

Miller shared that Gahanna Events Inc. need volunteers the day before and all day for the Holiday Lights Parade and the activities scheduled during the day. The events run from 8 am until after the parade.

Naegele said that the Creepside Festival was awesome, it was packed. She questioned if next year the street could be closed. Collins stated the plan is to close the street next year.

McKenna congratulated staff on the OPRA awards.

Tremante agreed that the Creepside Festival was over crowded. We get a better venue, we get more people.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The Parks & Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 9:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Crossmock, Administrative Assistant

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2008

Eric Miller, Chair