

**Park Board
Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2015
City Administration Building**

Terry Leasure called meeting to order at 4:03P.M.

Present were Terry Leasure, Steve Tobin, Kevin Keaton, Larry Olson, John Ankrom, Chris Caudill, Scott Gaskin, Tami Clark, Becky Staesina and guest Kimberly Taylor

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the March 2015 meeting by Steve Tobin. It was seconded by Kevin Keaton. All in favor. The motion carried.

Tami Clark: Youth Baseball will be working on preparing the concession area beginning April 11th. We discussed rekeying the concession area and Clark agreed. **We need to call her when the 4 keys are ready for pick-up. (Tami picked up 4 keys and completed 4 key cards on 4/13/15.)

She mentioned that each light pole has at least one bulb out. **We need to have our crew check it out. (Dane is arranging for a bucket truck to do this as of 4/13/14.)

Their early bird tournament will be held the last weekend of April, April 24-26, 2015.

Youth baseball is getting a port-a-jon from Rumpke, but Rumpke will not put it where they want it because it is too difficult to service. It was suggested that a gate be put in the fence line along Rhoads. Clark wants the unit placed between diamonds 1 & 2. Someone suggested placing it there and then putting it on a Gator and bringing it up for service by Rumpke.

Tami Clark, Chris Caudill and Terry Leasure signed the Youth League Pumpkin Show Parking Agreement for 2015. **Need to send them copies of the signed agreement. (E-mailed copy to Clark & Caudill on 4/3/15. Have Terry's in an envelope for pick-up.)

Clark had to depart meeting before its conclusion.

Guest Kimberly Taylor: She is present to discuss placing banners at the park. She said she reached out to Youth Leagues in the past, but wants to understand who is in charge of approving advertising in the parks. John Ankrom stated the City doesn't want any signs in the parks. It is up to the Youth Leagues to determine how to handle their seasonal advertising needs so long as the banners are of a consistent size and are properly mounted in the designated areas.

Taylor shared a vinyl and a mesh banner sample. The vinyl 3' x 5' sign that is seamed and grommited costs about \$69. The mesh banner is lightweight and allows air to go through. The mesh design is one-sided and is more expensive than the vinyl option, but is more durable. A mesh 3' x 5' banner costs around \$135. She sees her service as an avenue to increase revenue for the youth leagues, while also increasing her revenue. She can make the banners and ensure they are mounted properly. Taylor shared a sample Approval for Advertisement Banner form that the leagues may want to consider.

Chris Caudill stated that softball sells individual banners and diamond sponsor banners. He added that the mesh signs are better. He sells 2 different size signs and offers different sponsorship options. Caudill said the big diamond sponsor banners are 4' x 10' and go way up at the top of the diamond.

Clark added that baseball has signs for sponsors that have donated to baseball. All of baseball's signs are 3' x 5'.

Keaton added that the high school sells signage, but the signs are of a consistent size and are on the outfield fence.

Leasure stated that the 3' x 5' banners would go along the fence, not on any posts and would need removed at the end of the season.

Clark suggested that Taylor prepare a proposal and attend the Youth Baseball Board meeting, which is scheduled April 2, 2015.

Ankrom stated that any sign or banner must be league approved.

Taylor departed the meeting after addressing Board.

Chris Caudill: Caudill introduced Scott Gaskin as the new Youth Softball President. He said the softball lights need checked too. They also need the water meter to be put back in the concession area/pole barn. Caudill said the supports along the roof need checked.

Leasure added that he wants more gravel added around the concession area.

Caudill stated that the softball diamonds at the school are soak and wet so Dave Truex's High School teams will be playing league games at Ted Lewis Park again. The Middle School will be playing at the field at the old Court Street Elementary School. The bushes that were removed from the school area and thrown by the field will need removed.

Caudill put up the home run fence.

Ankrom stated that the heavy duty roller is at Barthelmas Park. Dane's crew will be running the fields. **Caudill would like to run a roller over his 2 diamonds at Ted Lewis Park.

Keaton stated that OPI likes to make stuff like that and donate it. Someone should contact them about getting a roller made for Ted Lewis Park.

Caudill would like to move his stuff from under the old bleachers to the shed on the Ted Lewis Shelter #1 after Truex vacates it.

Larry Olson's Report: April 16th is Community Action Day. **See if Dane can have an operator available to run a skid steerer. They will be doing a honeysuckle pull, mulching and garden clean-up.

**Cool season grasses now extend 10' into the no mow area. Alert Dane so he can relay to mowing team.

There are trees marked with an "x" that are dead by the trail. They need removed and dragged out for Hardesty to take to the wood pantry. **Olson asked if the city would do this and Ankrom indicated yes.

Olson said there are several muddy holes from vehicles going off road. He asked if the FOTCP could fill the holes and place a pole in the area afterwards. They will do this during Community Action Day.

The FOTCP is working on making ID tags for their volunteers. They have about 37 volunteers.

Staresina asked Olson about the status of grant application for MVCH signage. The due date is April 10th. He said he does not think anything has happened yet. Staresina offered to send him sample of what she prepared. **E-mail to Larry. (Completed)

John Ankrom's Report: The Public meeting for the new Ted Lewis Park Master Plan is scheduled April 16, 2015 at 7PM at Fire Station 1. There is no money set aside for the actual projects yet, but there will be possible grant opportunities with potential seed money from the tax increase passed last year.

Becky Staresina's Report: Please spread the word about the 3rd Annual Mayor's Cup to benefit Ted Lewis Park. It is scheduled May 15, 2015.

PICCA Headstart has requested that fees be waived again for the end of year picnics at Starkey Pavilion. The Board confirmed that they are still fine with extending this to the schools.

Fridays in the Park will resume their programs this summer beginning June 12th at Ted Lewis Park. Please share this information.

The Girl Scouts are requesting the fees be waived at the Starkey Pavilion on May 17, 2015 from 4P-9P for a Girl Scout Bridging Ceremony. Staresina shared an e-mail request from Kathleen Kenyon. The Board voted unanimously to decline the request. They indicated that they can't waive fees for every group seeking it.

Since the 2015 Youth League Pumpkin Show parking agreement was signed today, Staresina asked if they wished to have the same port-a-potty set-up for \$300 for 2 units on Tuesday-Saturday night, if possible. The representatives from each league agreed to keep the same arrangement if it is available.

Our crew will begin opening restrooms the week of April 6th, starting with Ted Lewis Park. Steve Helber will maintain the restrooms again, beginning April 11th.

Kevin Keaton's Report: Keaton asked which park he is assigned to now. Leasure indicated that Keaton is now assigned Barthelmas Park and that this was changed several meetings ago. Keaton weighed in on the port-a-jon issue and said Youth Baseball really needs to find a solution to getting the unit placed as far back as possible at Barthelmas Park.

Keaton indicated that he will place a team in the Mayor's Cup and asked for a flyer. **Staresina needs to e-mail one to him. (Done)

Steve Tobin's Report: Steve didn't have anything to add to what Olson presented.

Terry Leasure's Report: Leasure reiterated that he'd like gravel spread around concession area.

He thinks the parks, especially Ted Lewis Park needs a caregiver. He thinks this would be a perfect part-time job for retirees. Leasure suggested that the city could pay someone \$8-10 an hour with no benefits and have a visual presence at the park during the day and then have safety forces more present at night. He thinks the presence would help eliminate the mischief makers and drug dealers at the park. He would suggest the caretaker have a radio so he could contact the police when he/she saw trouble.

He also suggested the need to organize a neighborhood watch to patrol the area. They shouldn't confront anyone, but could call the police. He indicated that the storage area in shelter one was damaged and the basketball goal was torn out of the ground.

He stated that the road needs opened up now, not later so that police could better patrol the area.

Olson suggested adding closing gates at night.

Leasure stated that he thought Jobs One-Stop can match funds during the day, but not on weekend for an attendant.

Caudill stated that he arrives at the park between 4 and 4:30PM and then the parents come after that when softball season is active.

Olson suggested that steady policing for 3-4 weeks should make a difference based on what happened with the volunteers at MVCH Park.

Caudill stated that he thinks a radio on the caregiver would be a big deterrent once the troublemakers see police respond to these calls consistently.

Leasure estimated the cost for a caregiver working 20 hours a week to be around \$4,200 annually. He asked if there could be money in the budget for this. Ankrom stated he needs to ask for it from City Council in his role as Park Board Chairman.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS: