



**Parks & Recreation - Minutes
Wednesday, June 05, 2013**

Park Board
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2013
City Administration Building

Terry Leasure called meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

Present were Terry Leasure, Kevin Keaton, John Ankrom, Larry Olson, LeaDawn Scott, Josh Ford, Becky Staesina and guests Valerie Crist and Soni Grady.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 2013 meeting by Steve Tobin. It was seconded by Terry Leasure. The motion carried.

Valerie Crist & Soni Grady: They have students from grades K-5 involved in the summer program. There are about 100 children involved. They had a contractor that sanded and primed the white paint and the black paint. Contractor arrived at Ted Lewis Park at 6:30 A.M. and found two kids sleeping. One was on a picnic table and another was under it. Crist and Grady expressed concern about a potential homeless situation.

They explained that they will project the images and then paint them using primary colors. The kids went to the park today and developed their own designs. They shared the new design that incorporated the changes the Board suggested. Leasure interjected that he thinks it is great to get the kids involved and may be a way to control the graffiti. Grady said that the kids involved include children other than those just there for punitive reasons. They hope to encourage some of the kids at summer school for punitive reasons to earn their way to participate in the club activities at the park.

Ankrom asked if anyone knew who painted the original mural and nobody was sure. He hoped the new mural would not offend the original artist. Keaton added that he thinks the mural is a good idea and it will bring beauty to the park. Leasure asked if they needed any tools to perform the work and Grady said they have it covered. They will be at Ted Lewis Park every Wednesday and Thursday for the next 3 weeks from 8:30AM – 11:30AM. They will need water available to clean their paintbrushes. 20-25 kids will be working on the mural. They are considering adding a box on the mural listing the kids who participated. They hope this may deter graffiti. (Confirm with Dane that water will be on during those days.)

Leasure suggested they contact the YMCA about the free lunch program offered. (Find out what time lunch starts)

****Crist indicated they would need access to the Soldiers Monumental Flag area to do weeding and mulching. (Becky needs to check with Chuck B and Dennis Lester about key to get into the area.)**

They hope to produce a short video documenting the process. Leasure moved to approve mural and Keaton seconded.

LeaDawn Scott: They are a little more than halfway through their season. They have some rain make-ups and tournaments to play too.

Scott mentioned some issues with the lights that were installed last year. Three of the four poles had one light out each. Bulbs did not work, but ballasts helped correct one of the lights. The other three had good bulbs and the ballasts were okay so it most likely is wiring issue. Beth Mason discussed the situation with Dane, but Scott did not know the result. Scott mentioned that the lights were only used four times last year. When the Electrical Contractor was called, Seyfang, he indicated that he would charge them for the bulbs and replacement of the bulbs. Leasure thought the contractor should correct the problem. Keaton said the city should do it, if they want to do it.

Ankrom spoke to Dane Patterson and he said the one light was reworked and now works. Fuses were blown and we need to get a bucket truck out there to get the last light to work.

Scott said the donated scoreboard is being installed, but there is still no controller for it. Matt Schultz is donating his time and materials to pour concrete in the holes this week.

Scott questioned why there was an issue with the signage at field 3. She said Circleville Youth Baseball has always sold sponsorship signs. There is a perimeter fence and a homerun fence. Recognition signs are only allowed on the perimeter fence. They allow signs to be put up for the donation of time, energy or money to make the park better.

Ankrom responded that we need to know sign dimensions and want the signs to be consistent. He asked if they stay up year round or only three months for the season. Ankrom suggested that we revise the Zoning Code to incorporate the sponsorship signs within city parks. Perhaps signs could be exempt if a certain size, which is yet to be determined.

Both Leasure and Keaton are okay with sponsorship signs that are up only during the season.

Scott said there are signs up now for fieldwork, which was done by Wolf & West. You can only see the signs when you drive into the park.

****Ankrom stated that is fine; just remove the signs at the end of your season. We need to develop procedure for signage in parks.**

Josh Ford's Report: Josh stated that May 18th was clean-up day at Ted Lewis Park. His Church and the Vineyard Church worked the park. The scrubbed the graffiti and picked up trash. Josh's Pastor found half of a roach and threw it away. The Vineyard Church Pastor asked Josh if they could do what they wanted in the way of clean up and repair. Josh told him he should talk to the Park Board. They wanted to paint the new picnic tables and Leasure said do not paint them. They are welcome to pick up trash any time, but any

physical improvement needs to go to the Park Board for approval.

Leasure asked Ford if his group would do a version of a Community Watch program in the park. Leasure stated that he's found the toilet paper in the restrooms to be damaged. Keaton asked if a metal roller cover would solve the problem. Suggest to Dane to get his input. Ford said there was a bunch of glass bottles broken in Shelter 1. He asked if a video camera could be installed. Leasure said no, but a Park Watch group could help. He said the volunteers should never confront volunteers, just call the police when they spot suspicious behavior.

Ford asked about bird spikes for the shelters at Ted Lewis. He said bird droppings are on every picnic table. Leasure mentioned that he wanted to get plywood donations to put ceilings in the shelters. Ankrom stated that he is concerned about the proper support to hold the weight of the property. We need to get engineering drawings before installing plywood. Shelter 1 & 2 both need it. The bird spikes at Barthelmas Park did not work. The metal panels that were installed on the shelter ceiling at Barthelmas Park seemed to resolve the problem. Leasure asked if there are any retirees that might be willing to clean the tables at Ted Lewis Park on an ongoing basis.

Larry Olson's Report: The FOTCP met on Monday. So far, \$8,500 of the \$17,000 needed for the Dog Park has been raised. The committee still hopes to build the Dog Park this summer.

The Chimney Swift Tower will be up this month. It is being constructed offsite.

Keaton told Olson he is concerned about the Dog Park and apologized for being absent from the Park Board Meeting when the details were discussed. Ankrom will provide Keaton with copy of the drawing of the proposed Dog Park. Shelter 1 will be park of the Dog Park, but will be located outside the fence. Keaton stated he is concerned that it will deter walkers on trail. Olson stated the concept is posted on shelter 1 and the Dog Park sign has been up since the park opened. It is an 80-acre park with a proposed 1-acre dog park. The fence will be maintained by the FOTCP. There will be no water inside the fence, at this point. Once a dog is inside the fenced area, the dog can be unleashed. The owner will need to stay with their dog. Rules will be posted.

Olson asked how do we get rules enforced. Generally, other patrons enforce the rules. They will add new doggie drop stations. Owners are responsible if their dog bites someone or attacks another dog. Olson posted pictures of the proposed Dog Park and the proposed rules at the shelter and provided several numbers for comments.

Keaton asked about fencing materials. The proposal is for chain link with a bent top of the rail. He asked how close it would be to the walking path. It will be about 15 feet away. Ankrom stated that he considered the nuisance issue too. Keaton asked how high the fence would be. Estimates were for 4, 5 & 6-foot fence. Keaton said everything the FOTCP have done at Mary Virginia Crites Hannan Park have been nice, so he expects this will follow that same path.

Leasure asked about an age restriction and Olson stated the rules would specify that an adult must accompany children between the ages of 6-15. Children under the age of 6 will not be permitted in the fenced in area.

Ford asked what happens if an owner leaves a dog alone in the park. The hope is the rule sign and other patrons would discourage this behavior. Ford asked if a sign permit would be necessary for a 4' x 8' sign and it would be necessary.

Steve Tobin asked that Olson share the complaints he has received about the change of Splashpad hours. Ankrom stated that due to the high water usage costs last season, we had to alter the hours.

Leasure asked about the Butterfly Garden watering and Olson stated the FOTCP is paying for that water.

John Ankrom's Report: Ankrom suggested Olson consider 18" x 24" signs be considered along the north, south, east and west perimeter of the adult exercise equipment. Perhaps the signs could state the age limits on the equipment. Everyone has spotted children using it and there is a sign stating the age restrictions. Perhaps if there were a few more temporary signs, the children and their parents would see them and adhere to the rules.

The first annual Mayor's cup raised approximately \$6,200 for Ted Lewis Park. Of the projects discussed at the last Park Board Meeting, what does the Board want to see done with the funds? Paving of Picnic Avenue from Rosewood to the restrooms would be approximately \$10,000 - \$12,000.

The Board agreed that would be a big visual improvement. Ankrom added it would be a 20 foot paved path down the middle of Picnic Avenue and the speed bumps would be removed. Additional dollars to complete this would need to come from the city street fund. Posts have been removed and people are going around the speed bumps.

Olson added that we should take lots of pictures before, during and after and use them to promote next year's Mayor's Cup. He suggested we try to get the project in the paper too.

Leasure motioned to use the Mayor's Cup funds for the paving of Picnic Avenue in Ted Lewis Park and Keaton seconded. The motion passed.

Leasure mentioned that the drainage issue seems to be corrected.

Becky Staresina's Report: Terry Pescosolido of Mosquito Joe has offered to do a one-time treatment at one of our parks as part of their new business. Their barrier spray is 90% effective for treatment of mosquitoes, fleas and ticks. It needs a half hour drying time. Staresina shared the handout he dropped off. The Board suggested checking with Dane and the Board of Health. Olson said the woods at MVCH Park could use the treatment and Scott indicated Barthelmas Park would be a good candidate too. The city once did it in house, but licensing and certifications became a burden so it was discontinued.

Staresina shared an issue with unruly dogs at MVCH Park. A complaint was filed 6/22/13 about two occurrences. In one issue, a Doberman was on a leash, but lunged at her baby and continued to snarl and growl once the owner got the dog under control. She said she had a similar experience with a Pit-bull Mix on the walking trail. She thinks dogs should be separate from people on the trail.

As John mentioned, the Mayor's Cup raised \$6,167 after expenses. Thanks to everyone here, that participated.

There is a Hospice Butterfly Release at MVCH Park scheduled on June 15, 2013 at 10AM in the butterfly garden. Everyone is invited to attend.

The next scheduled Park Board meeting falls on July 3. How does the Board wish to handle this? Leasure and Keaton agreed to cancel the July meeting and hold the next scheduled

meeting on August 7, 2013.

Kevin Keaton's Report: There will be an Alumni Softball tournament on August 2 & 3, 2013 at Barthelmas Park. It will not interfere with Youth Baseball. Keaton will check with Soccer. They would most likely use fields 3 & 4. Softball has 60' baselines. They used Ted Lewis Park last year and cleaned up afterwards. (The softball alumni tournament will be at Ted Lewis Park instead of Barthelmas on August 2nd and 3rd with the rain date of August 4th per Keaton on 6/6/13.)

Terry Leasure's Report: The men's room at Ted Lewis was closed for graffiti resistant painting today.

Leasure has received a lot of mowing complaints this year. Ankrom stated that we had equipment issue that put our crews behind. They hope to be caught up by the end of the week, now that the equipment has been repaired.

Leasure also received complaints about high grass at the Canal Park. Ankrom stated that it is mowed by the Pickaway County Park District. Pete Hartinger is a member.

Steve Tobin's Report: Absent

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

Terry Leasure motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:20PM. Kevin Keaton seconded.