

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

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

Present were Terry Leasure, Kevin Keaton, Larry Olson, John Ankrom, Beth Mason, Guests Denise and Alex Turnbull and clerk Becky Staesina

Leasure introduced guests Scout Alex Turnbull and his mother Denise Turnbull. Alex is present today to take meeting minutes so he can secure a merit badge for communications from the Scouts.

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

Beth Mason: Youth Baseball's regular season is done. The fish fry was completed on Sunday, June 28th. Incidentally, Beth's husband was awarded coach of the year. All trophies were passed out.

Kingston joined their league this year and it went well. They played in Circleville and Circleville Youth Baseball did not have to play in Kingston. The 2015 league had 5 T-ball teams, 5 Pony Leagues, 7 Coach Pitch, 6 Minor and 5 Majors. Youth baseball may combine Majors next year with Stoutsville and Laurelville.

Mason indicated that they had very few issues. Terry Leasure indicated that they had the port-a-jon issue and will need to make arrangements to get one set in the back area next year. He said they could use a Gator to pull it from the back to the front to get serviced. Keaton agreed that the Port-a-jon issue needs resolved next year.

Mason said the parking issue between diamonds 1 & 2 was resolved. They shuttled folks back and forth on the Gator. Folks would call Beth's cell to get a ride on the Gator and that seemed to help.

A barricade is still needed by Diamond 4. Ankrom indicated that Dane Patterson plans on doing something about this. **Remind Dane.

Leasure mentioned that he'd still like to have a path between the diamonds and shelter.

Mason asked if a path could be paved with extra concrete or asphalt from road projects. Ankrom said no due to equipment logistics. The multi-use path would have to be its own project.

Leasure and Mason were unhappy with the number of non-handicapped folks going through the handicap area.

Keaton asked Mason to provide her top 5 wish list of Barthelmas Park Improvements. **Request this list from Tami Clark and Sid Brown.

Mason indicated that Mark Klinebriel asked Sid Brown & Saunie Hinton of Circleville Youth Soccer if they could move T-ball between Diamonds 2 & 4 from Diamond 4 on the right. That would allow soccer to use the current T-ball field. They have to maintain Diamonds 1 & 2 for coach pitch. Leasure was concerned about foul balls being an issue. He suggested they consider placing the T-ball Diamond from Diamond 3 with the backstop facing SR56. Batting cages could go between Diamonds 2 & 4.

They would need to leave enough room for the mower and Gator to get through.

Leasure also suggested making the T-ball infield smaller. He suggested having Klinebriel measure the one at Smith Park that was used for T-ball. Ankrom asked if that Diamond is large enough for girls softball. Mason thought yes for the younger girls. Leasure added that parking was an issue when it was used in the past. Mason added that the field needs work too.

Ankrom asked Mason if the new T-ball field would be created with volunteer labor and she said yes.

The multi-use path would then go by Diamonds 3, 2 & 1. Mason liked the suggestion and will take it to the Youth Baseball Board.

Additional parking could be achieved by blacktopping more spaces around the top of the hill by Diamond 4. Leasure asked John if the city could provide some millings for parking lot.

Mason mentioned that Kim Taylor had attended one of their Board meetings and said she would charge \$150 for 3' x 5' signs. Of that, Taylor would keep \$75 and \$75 would go to Youth Baseball. Taylor provided a contract to Youth Baseball, but as far as Beth knows, Youth Baseball did not sign it. Taylor put up a few of her signs, but Youth Baseball did not receive any funds from those signs. Mason would like her signs removed. Ankrom indicated that Youth Baseball is responsible for contacting her and letting her know that her signs need removed now that the season is over. It is also Youth Baseball's responsibility to let her know they do not need her services.

Mason added that John Cockrill offered a much better deal and they are going with his company. They secured their own 3' x 5' signs from him.

Mason commented that the scoreboard they have has an issue with the motherboard and they were told the part cannot be bought any more. Larry Olson asked if she knew who manufactured it and she said no. He suggested she check the score board for that information and call them directly.

Mason complimented the service team and Chuck Boltenhouse for being so responsive to Youth Baseball's requests.

Ankrom asked if Girls Softball concluded and it did. **Need to secure keys from Chris Caudill that Dave Truex gave him.

Mason exited the meeting at 4:30P.M. The Turnbolls exited the meeting at 4:30P.M. too. Alex only needed to take notes on one argument/report.

Larry Olson's Report: Olson provided an update that the FOTCP has reincorporated for another 5 years.

Larry & Ned Riegel are not happy with the Grasslands at MVCH Park. He is trying to get a meeting together with Chris Mullins and the Pheasants Forever Biologist to get direction.

Olson indicated that the Information Station that the Alumni Association installed last year was discussed during the June FOTCP meeting. He was given to understand that the city now owns the Station and is in charge of putting information in there. Ankrom added that Ace Elsea mentioned the Alumni Association want to place another display panel at the Information Station and that additional case would be interchangeable. The FOTCP wanted to put tree pamphlets in there and were told no by the Alumni Association.

Olson thanked Leasure and his kids for doing the mulch at MVCH Park and for pulling weeds in the Rotary Garden.

He shared that the FOTCP has \$4,000 for the signage plan at MVCH Park. They were \$600 short, but Beth Starkey-Hill asked Rotary for help and they will kick in the necessary funds. Ankrom asked Olson if he will provide a signage

plan showing where the signs will be placed. Olson indicated that he will be meeting with Susan Strawser and Bob Sneed on July 14th to discuss the plan and hopes to get something to the city after the details are confirmed.

Larry shared that the Mike Harrison Fund still has funds available for playground repairs at MVCH Park per Dan Fouts. Staresina interjected that she asked for approval from the Foundation for a repair and was advised that she now needs to supply Park Board Approval and Service Director Approval when making a request.

Olson shared that the FOTCP voted to support the Little Free Library project. Ankrom mentioned that Beth Starkey-Hill was going to check with someone at Rotary about building it. Staresina added that she did, but no Scouts were seeking projects so we will need to determine an alternate method of getting it built.

Larry found an 8' metal bench like the ones in the playground area and would like to place it by the Pavilion for the Mosher bench. Upon further inspection, it looks like the bench was never purchased. He will confirm with Sneed when they meet on July 14th. Leasure motioned to approve the bench placement and Kevin Keaton seconded. All in favor. The motion carried.

There was discussion about the need for more benches around the splash pad area. Olson is considering asking the Mike Harrison Fund for funds for additional benches. Ankrom added that he'd prefer to keep those funds just for playground repair and upkeep. Keaton added that the benches could be placed in the grass of around the splash pad. We could use 4 concrete benches now. What is the cost? Olson will check with Sneed on cost. Ankrom and Leasure felt we could get 4 benches donated without too much effort.

John Ankrom's Report: Ankrom wanted to update the Board on the Ted Lewis Park Master Plan. He met with the City Council Committee of the Whole on June 30th. They tried to build a consensus on how to proceed. Ankrom will provide a summary. Gary Smith will present a hybrid version of the plans to the Long Range Planning Committee on August 12th. He will also supply cost estimates and timeline estimates during this meeting. There are 5 essential elements that were agreed upon. Those elements are as follows:

1. The road needs connected all around the park.
2. The playground needs relocated to the front of the park.
3. The existing basketball courts, tennis courts and skate park have to be removed to accommodate the playground being moved up front.
4. The addition of multiuse path(s)
5. Addition of an outdoor performance area/band shell/gazebo to be located where the old large pool was.

Also would like increased safety and security with increased lighting and surveillance cameras installed.

Leasure said he would like to see a pool and ball diamonds. Ankrom stated that it would be a phased project. Most likely two of the softball fields would stay during the phased approach. The football field would also remain during the phased approach. Ankrom added that the city would like to create a 4 Diamond cluster of Softball Diamonds at Barthelmas Park in the land adjacent to the park. Land would still need to be acquired and it is currently being leased to AEP for 2 years. There are 20 acres adjacent to Barthelmas for sale that the city is considering.

Ankrom added that Evert's Middle School football field and the field south of Corwin are potential locations for the football field relocation. Ankrom said the space next to Headstart off Corwin has plenty of room for fields.

Keaton asked if the Evert's Field belongs to the city and Ankrom said yes.

Leasure stated that the football fields must have lights.

Ankrom added that if we remove an element, we'll replace it somewhere else in the city, but maybe not immediately. He pointed out that there are more basketball courts available in the city now than previously and that would still be true with the removal of them from Ted Lewis Park.

Keaton asked the timeline being discussed. Ankrom indicated that this is a long-term project. Council would like to see the City Service Crew demo the skate park, tennis courts and basketball courts this winter. They would like to begin the new modifications in 2016.

Keaton asked what we'd do with a band shell and Ankrom responded we'd have the ability to do concerts, movies, etc.

Leasure asked if a caretaker was discussed and Ankrom said no.

Leasure said there are two homeless people handing out at Ted Lewis Park in the shelters. Ankrom asked if anyone directed them to PICCA or PICCA to them. Leasure said there is a car that is bringing them food. **Becky called PICCA 7/2/15 and left message for Amy Robinson to see if they have an outreach program available.

Leasure suggested that volunteers could put guardrail up at Barthelmas Park and pick-up trash in downtown along the railings and walkways. Leasure complimented the volunteer work done at Ted Lewis Park by Circleville First Baptist Church last month.

Becky Staresina's Report: Becky received a request to use the Starkey Pavilion for the United Way's 60th anniversary celebration on September 20, 2015. Both Leasure and Keaton approved this so long as it doesn't interfere with any other request that day.

Gospel Road Service Camp Volunteers will be available July 12-16 to work on park and community projects. They are scheduled to do some work at MVCH Park. Keaton asked why that park and Staresina indicated that they responded to request. Keaton said he did not get e-mail seeking project requests. Staresina said there is another volunteer effort in August so be thinking about projects for them. The Nazarene Church will be looking for projects during the month of August.

Staresina shared rental income stats to date.

Staresina asked for a formal vote on the MVCH Playground Repairs to be paid by the Foundation. Leasure and Keaton voted to approve the request. The motion carried.

Ankrom indicated he is fine with requesting the funds from the Foundation too.

Kevin Keaton's Report: The Corwin space offers a lot of space we could utilize. It is located south of the junior high and behind the Castle Inn. There is a community garden at one end of it. There is rooms for two Pee Wee Football fields and 1 softball field. There's a lot of on street parking.

Leasure interjected that he has no desire to move Pee Wee Football from Ted Lewis Park.

Keaton asked if Ted Lewis Park would still be available for the Youth League Pumpkin Show parking. Ankrom said the parking lots probably could be used, but cars might not be able to be parked on the fields.

Steve Tobin's Report: Not present

Terry Leasure's Report: Leasure asked if the football field at the junior high would be available for Pee Wee Football. Ankrom indicated that the school has the property until August 17th. Leasure would like to use the field for his rookie camp beginning August 1st through November 1st. Ankrom said there are no restrooms there. Keaton added that a port-a-jon could be rented. They noted that the refreshment stand is gone and the bleachers are gone. So far the scoreboard and crow's nest remain, but they may go too.

Leasure commented that the Movies in the Administration Parking Lot are a good family activity and are well done.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS: