

**PARK BOARD
CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE
104 EAST FRANKLIN STREET
CIRCLEVILLE, OH 43113
(740) 477-8224**

Wednesday, July 10, 2019
City Hall Council Chambers

MINUTES

Members Present: Larry Logan, Saunie Hinton, Chad Kiser and; Clerk Brenda Short.

Larry Logan called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Saunie Hinton made a motion to approve the June 2019 meeting minutes as submitted and Chad Kiser seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President's Report:

Larry Logan stated he would make his report at the end of the meeting.

Service Director's Report:

Terry Frazier stated he did not have anything at this time.

FOTCP Report:

There was no one present to report.

Public Comments:

None

New Business/Old Business:

Circleville Youth Soccer Request for Use

Mr. Logan stated the new form is completed and the liability certificate is attached and each member just needs to sign off on it tonight. This was approved at last month's meeting but the new form was not complete at that time.

Special Olympics Request for Use

Mr. Logan stated they want to use Barthelmas Park for Monday and Wednesday from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm July 8, 2019 – September 11, 2019 and August 10, 2019 all day.

Ryan Clark, President of Youth Baseball stated their season is done now, so there is no issue with his group.

Mr. Logan stated he did not see an issue. He inquired if anyone disagreed. There were no comments.

Chad Kiser motion to approve the use and Saunie Hinton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Circleville Alumni Association Softball Tournament

Mr. Logan stated this is for Barthelmas Park. Use would be July 27 and 28, 2019 from 8:00 am till dark. This is for a scholarship.

Chad Kiser stated this is a yearly event.

Saunie Hinton made a motion to approve and Chad Kiser seconded. Motion carried.

New Group Request for Participation in Pumpkin Show Parking Rotation

Mr. Logan stated this is something the Park Commission should not be involved with. We are only responsible to supply fields.

Mr. Logan read an email that he had received from a new girls' softball league and a copy is attached to these minutes. Brenda had attached a copy of the rotation schedule for 2019.

Scott Gaskin stated he also has Tuesday. He stated no one wants Tuesdays usually, so his league will take it.

Brenda Short stated what she provided was the rotation schedule for this year and if one group switches, they need to work that out amongst themselves and just notify our Administration Office.

Scott Gaskin requested to speak.

He stated that with all the talk of another league he wants to voice his concerns. He stated he invited some of the other members of his group.

He stated things have gotten out of hand. He stated that he is the victim of a lot that has happened to their youth group. A small group has been harassing him and some other board members. These are the same people that are now going to you trying to further on the pain. He stated he wanted all of his group's voices and faces heard because he feels they have not been heard.

Mr. Logan inquired how many teams he had this year.

Mr. Gaskin stated there were 16 teams this year.

Mr. Logan inquired if this included the Logan Elm teams too.

Mr. Gaskin stated no, that was just Circleville teams. He stated they organized their age groups to try to play the Logan Elm teams. K-2 was Peanuts, 3-5 was Mosquitos, 6-8 was Minors and 9-12 was Majors. Logan Elm came to them and stated Amanda and Stoutsville went their own way and the remaining wanted to play his group. It only made sense and they moved the age groups around a little to be more in accordance with the age group. The board voted. There were 28 girls between third and fourth graders, so we decided that was two teams or we could pull the fifth graders back down and keep it the way it was previously done and would have 18 or 19 teams. Everyone wanted to play Logan Elm, so the board voted to keep the two teams and we play Logan Elm. They only had three teams in that age group, so the original agreement was made that they would come to us for our home games and we would go to them for their home games. Right before the schedule was released, they could not accommodate.

Mr. Logan asked in reference to the other softball league that wants to be recognized, it is his understanding that they are not ready to do anything until next year.

Mr. Gaskin confirmed yes.

Mr. Logan stated so there would not be any impact until next year. In speaking with Jonathan Davis from Circleville City Schools, he has offered four more fields out at the high school. That would give the group 6 fields.

Mr. Gaskin stated that his group would have to wait until school ball is over which is mid-May.

Mr. Logan stated that he has discussed this with everyone at the table. This is how the Park Commission feels about this situation. We appreciate the fact that you are trying to take care of the needs of the kids wanting to play softball. What the other outfit is planning to do, we are not even sure of. They have asked to be part of the rotation for parking during Pumpkin Show. The Park Commission has legally one purpose. That is to provide you with parks and facilities to play sports in. If there is a problem with those facilities or parks, then we need to be made aware of that and we are to address those issues immediately. We are not a human resource for issues you have amongst groups or teams. You must work those out yourselves. We will not get involved with any of those issues. It is your place to get everyone involved into a room and discuss those issues. The kids need a place to play ball and it is your role to be adults and work out your issues and make this happen. This is legally what we must follow.

Mr. Logan stated the rotation does not have to be approved by City Council. That has to be worked out by the Youth Leaders and then Administration is made aware of any changes to the rotation schedule.

Julie Strawser from City Council was present and inquired what "rotation" means.

Mr. Logan explained there is a schedule for the Youth Groups and how they rotate the days of Pumpkin Show for parking vehicles at Ted Lewis Park. This is a fund raiser for the groups.

Mr. Gaskin stated it is hard to talk to people that won't come to them.

Mr. Logan stated then you need to go to them to start these conversations.

Mr. Gaskin stated that he has personally tried to call them and they won't take his calls or respond to him. It is a small group of people who don't like to play by the rules.

Ryan Clark, President of the Youth Baseball League inquired what the rules are. If they are not following the rules, then that is their problem.

Mr. Gaskin stated it all started over childish stuff and we have been doing it the same way for years. Nothing has changed. Then you get someone that is not doing it right and they want to go start their own group.

Saunie Hinton inquired how many years have you been in Girls Softball?

Mr. Gaskin replied this is his 5th year as President.

Mr. Logan stated again, he hears what you are saying and hopes that you can get things worked out, but we are not here to address those issues. Perhaps having someone else from the league try to contact them. That sometimes works better.

Mr. Gaskin stated he is just here to make sure the girls don't get shoved aside.

Julie Strawser inquired if the other group gets together and form a league and this group has a league, then everyone would have to apply for use of the fields?

Mr. Logan stated yes, that is the process. Mr. Logan stated all we address is that an application was presented and there was a certificate of liability for the dates each team wanted to use the fields.

Mr. Logan thanked Mr. Gaskin for his service and again stated the issues will need to be worked out between the different youth groups.

Mr. Logan stated he had spoken with Jonathan Davis and they have the four fields. There is some overlap. They also have a certain amount of money they say it cost to take care of those fields. Obviously if you are not using those fields for the entire time that would be pro-rated to a certain figure. They say it is \$3,500. If you only use for half the time, then it should be \$1,700. He asked if Scott had spoken to Mr. Davis directly.

Scott Gaskin stated yes he had.

Mr. Logan stated he would talk with Mr. Davis personally and then he will contact Scott Gaskin and tell you what was discussed. Then, Mr. Logan stated that Scott Gaskin then needs to follow up with a phone call to Jonathan Davis and solidify the issue.

Mr. Gaskin agreed to this.

Julie Strawser stated she had some questions that she would like addressed. She stated she has had a lot of emails from Scott Gaskin and discussed this and she feels it is her duty to come in here and get some information.

She explained that it is her understanding that the City provides the fields. They do not maintain them but they do some mowing.

Ryan Clark stated the City only mows.

There are 6 fields at Barthelmas that the boys play on.

Chad Kiser inquired if they play on those diamonds every night.

Ryan Clark replied yes. This year they had 10 T ball teams, 8 coach pitched teams, 6 minor and 4 major teams for 28 total teams.

Julie Strawser confirmed that Ted Lewis for girls' softball has 2 operational fields. She stated there is potential for development at Barthelmas with the new land.

She stated there are a total of 8 fields available and the city handles minimal prep. The boys maintain their fields by hiring Danny Dalton and the cost for the season is \$2000. This person chalks the fields but youth baseball buys the chalk.

Scott Gaskin stated girls' softball does the same thing at Ted Lewis.

Julie stated she was comparing cost associated to compare to what the cost would be to use some of the fields at the school.

Scott Gaskin stated their dynamics are different at the school because of the school system. Their staff takes care of the fields. They do not want our people doing chalking, etc. They want their own staff to do that.

Julie inquired how money is raised for the Youth Groups.

Ryan Clark replied baseball raises money with fees to play, fish fry, concessions. They also had some donations and that is how they built the concession building there.

Scott Gaskin stated that girls softball has a concessions stand, but they lost their cooler last year and this year the health department has a requirement in place that they have to be certified. The City had no money in the facility.

Julie inquired about the restrooms.

Both currently have restrooms. At the high school, they would have to rent port a johns.

The girls have Joey Drake that maintains their fields. The cost is \$100 a week. They had 12 teams.

Julie explained that Larry Logan is going to get answers for some questions that she asked to be addressed. She stated she feels that both should have equal access compared to the number of teams each has. Just because it has always been a certain way does not mean that it always has to stay that way. She stated she wants to be sure the city is doing every fair way for both the girls and boys groups.

Saunie Hinton inquired when they had three fields at Ted Lewis, how did that work?

Scott stated at that time they had those and 2 behind McDonalds and Atwater and Nicholas.

Mr. Logan stated he had no problem with being equal with everyone, but obviously equal is depending on the number of teams. We are going to do some research and determine how many fields we can put together with Jonathan Davis and the cost involved.

Mr. Logan stated, as a last statement, please understand you have to talk to one another as this is not the place to resolve human resource issues.

Adjournment:

Chad Kiser made a motion to adjourn and Saunie Hinton seconded. Motion carried, and meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Submitted by Brenda Short