

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

**Wednesday, August 1, 2018
City Hall Council Chambers**

MINUTES

Members Present: Terry Leasure, Larry Logan and Saunie Hinton; Clerk Brenda Short.

Chairman Terry Leasure called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

The first item of business is to approve the July 11, 2018 meeting minutes. Don Sherman stated he did not seconded the approval of the minutes on July 11th. Larry Logan stated it was he that seconded. Saunie Hinton motioned to approve with the one correction, seconded by Larry Logan. All in favor, motion approved.

President's Report:

Terry Leasure stated several items he would like to discuss in reference to Ted Lewis Park and will bring them up under new business.

Service Director's Report:

Don Sherman gave an update on Ted Lewis Park. Waiting on the Ohio Operating Engineers to come in and do a final grating of the road and then get it paved. We are at the contractor's mercy on the schedule right now.

Mr. Logan inquired if it would be paved this year.

Mr. Sherman stated it would be paved this year. The contractor has stated he may come in on a Saturday to pave it. They are trying to work it into their schedule.

Three more sets of bleachers for Ted Lewis should be here next week.

Don Sherman reported on MVCH Park. He stated we have the contract to do the repairs. He has not been able to get a schedule as to when they will actually do the repairs. We are still waiting to schedule all of the playground repairs that the Foundation agreed to pay. The contractor is still waiting for materials from the playground manufacturer. We hope to have them in this week and then can get the contractor out maybe next week.

There are some repairs needed on the splash pad. There is also some concrete work that needs to be repaired at the dog fountain and on the playground.

FOTP:

No one was present to make a report.

Public Comments:

No one was present to comment.

New / Old Business:

Don Sherman stated the Park Rules and Regulations were updated, but then he discovered that there were a couple items that were not addressed. Smoking and the hours of the Parks were updated. A copy of the latest update is attached. Chapter 7 states no smoking. Under Chapter 1 Park Hours – this was copied from Marietta and they have walking trails outside the parks. We had to go in and update the verbiage to state the parks are open from dawn to dusk.

Chapter 20 is Sports Participation and Chapter 21 is Special Events. Don Sherman stated that under heading we should state “Organized Leagues” and under Special Events we need to include Tournaments. Special Events are like 5K Runs, organized walks and tournaments. Under these rules, the alumni tournament would have had to rent all shelter houses.

Larry Logan asked if they are doing a 5k run, do they need a \$2 million liability insurance.

Mr. Sherman stated yes. Any public event needs to provide \$2 million liability insurance.

Mr. Sherman stated another thing came up this week that we need to discuss. We had a person come in to the office to inquire if they could use their own popup canopy and table for a birthday party if the shelter houses were all taken. She wanted to use one of the first come first serve shelters. She wanted to use a pop up canopy if the shelter was already taken so she could still have her party. They are the 10 x 10 pop ups that people use for sporting events, etc.

Terry Leasure stated he would prefer that no pop up tents be allowed.

Saunie Hinton stated a lot of people use them at ball games and it helps to keep the sun off them when they are there for the day paying ballgames.

Larry Logan stated we need to notify them that unless it is an authorized sporting event, pop ups are not acceptable at the parks.

Don Sherman stated we can add that under the area that states no food trucks, bouncy houses, etc.

Mr. Logan asked if the Law Director has reviewed these yet.

Don Sherman stated he had looked at it. Don met with the Police Chief a couple days ago and he stated he could enforce this.

Mr. Logan stated that if these were the only changes, then he would like to see it go to Judicial Committee as soon as possible and then on to Council. He asked that Brenda notify him when it was going to be discussed at Judicial so that he could plan to be there and also notify him when it could go to Council as he would also like to be there.

Larry Logan stated he is frustrated that it has taken this long to get them to Council and wants to be present when they are discussed.

Larry Logan made a motion to adopt the updated Park Rules and Regulations and forward to Council and Saunie Hinton seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Sherman stated the Pickaway County Master Gardeners have requested their fees be waived.

Terry Leasure stated he did not have a problem with it.

Mr. Sherman stated it was for September for their annual picnic.

Mr. Logan made a motion to approve waiving the fees and Saunie Hinton seconded. Motion carried.

Terry Leasure stated he had some issues in reference Ted Lewis Park he wanted to discuss. Shelter #3 at Ted Lewis has gutters that need fixed. He stated he has had a lot of complaints about basketball at Ted Lewis. More people have been playing now that it has cooled down. There are a lot of weeds on the court. He stated he is not set on having an amphitheater in Ted Lewis. There will be one at the Fairgrounds and he doesn't feel the space should be used for that.

Mr. Sherman stated he has someone from the community that does want one and is willing to make a donation to pay for it. He stated after a meeting next week he would have more information. He stated that Council will not re-visit changing the plans for Ted Lewis.

Mr. Logan stated he did not have a problem going to Council and expressing his view of this.

Mr. Leasure stated he wants to see a basketball court put back by old playground area. He stated the skateboard area is a big liability and he is ok with that going away and the same for the tennis courts. He stated what he would like to see a park that is presentable. It is ran down and it needs to get back up to presentable. It is a city park and now it is useless.

Terry Leasure stated he would like to see Ted Lewis Park have an all season shelter house like the one at Mary Virginia Crites Park. We could make money on that kind of a shelter. He inquired if we could enclose one of the shelters and have that.

Mr. Sherman stated that is part of the master plan. He stated that is about Phase 4, but it is part of the plan for the park.

Terry Leasure asked about the bleachers. Pee Wee Football practice is starting now and the games will start the week after Labor Day. Mr. Sherman stated he hopes to have the new bleachers ready before Pee Wee Football starts. Mr. Leasure asked about the gravel that is laying where the diamond used to be and wanted to know if they were done with that gravel. This will limit the area they can play on.

Mr. Sherman stated that is their stock pile. As they do the final grade, they will be working out of that pile. Mr. Sherman stated he can re-locate the gravel so they can have the area for Pee Wee Football.

Mr. Logan stated he has a meeting scheduled with Tom Davis next week to get his input on some stuff and by the middle of August we will have a "Friends of Ted Lewis Association". What he would like to do is put together a letter on letterhead and produce a letter to send out community people and ask for help. He put together a committee and would like Terry and Saunie on that committee as well. Barb Tootle is going to be the secretary and Kevin Bennington will be the Treasurer. He stated he will start sending the letters out asking for donations. He would like to have the letters out by August 15th. A meeting will be set up once the letter is composed for it to be reviewed. He stated he would like to have a nice park that people could walk to and enjoy right here in town.

Mr. Sherman advised Mr. Logan to talk to his legal contact as he is a little concerned about all three from the Park Commission being on the same board. When you meet as a board, the three Park Commission members meeting together makes it a Public Meeting.

Mr. Logan will seek advice from Kevin Bennington.

Terry Leasure stated he has been approached by some inquiring about starting a men's softball league to play at Ted Lewis Park. He would like to put together eight teams to play on Sundays about 1:00 pm. He stated he would move the bleachers as needed and put them back when finished. He will have to check pricing for the \$2 million liability insurance. He indicated they may charge money for them to play and use that to pay the umpires. He does not want to be an organization and have to go through all the paperwork to do so.

Mr. Sherman stated he was not sure if you could get liability insurance without setting up an organization.

Mr. Leasure stated he was going to inquire what has to be done and look at the costs and what is required, then decide if it is something they can do. It would bring people into the park and bring money to the businesses. People would be coming in to watch the games. It will bring people back to Ted Lewis Park.

Mr. Logan stated he would love to see this happen.

Mr. Sherman stated it was a good idea.

Mr. Leasure stated he does not want to keep the money raised to play and would like to donate any left after prizes for teams back to the City. They have their own refreshment stand and could make money from that also.

Mr. Sherman stated there is a Ted Lewis Park Fund and the money could be donated to that fund. The City could not sponsor or set the organization up.

Mr. Sherman stated the City would not allow the sport to run through the City of Circleville. You would have to set up an organization and be registered through the Secretary of State. If you set Pee Wee Football up correctly, you could perhaps run both under one organization. He stated you would have to talk to an attorney and an accountant.

Mr. Sherman stated that he had forgotten one item under his update on Parks.

The City of Circleville would like to enter into a contract to buy 20 acres out by Barthelmas Park. It will go to Council and Mr. Sherman stated he believes it will pass.

Mr. Logan asked what the asking price was.

Mr. Sherman stated \$300,000.00. The city is going to file with ODNR for a grant. They will pay half and we can get half through ODNR and that would be \$150,000.00. The other \$150,000.00 will come through a combination of the City and Pickaway County Parks.

Mr. Logan stated he would like to see the \$300,000 go into Ted Lewis Park. He inquired if we really needed that additional property out there.

Mr. Sherman stated it has been talked about for years. The general thought is all organized sports will be out there. That opens us up then to re-evaluate the plans for Ted Lewis Park. He stated that even if nothing is done at Barthelmas Park for years, it is a good investment. It is the only chance ever to enlarge that park.

Saunie Hinton inquired why the light was out at Barthelmas Park in the shelter house.

Don Sherman stated we had not received any reports of it. It is probably an AEP light that we need to report.

Mr. Logan inquired about the Pumpkin Show Park and what was going to be there.

Mr. Sherman explained the Main Stage from Pumpkin Show will be there along with seating area. There will be a fenced off area for restrooms, another small stage that will be there all the time, water feature, etc. It will be a nice place for people working downtown to go have lunch. The Third Thursday events will be held there.

Terry Leasure suggested that the City hold an annual Rib Fest in Circleville.

Mr. Logan stated he will send a copy of the letter to Terry Leasure and Saunie Hinton that the Friends of Ted Lewis Park is sending out. They can review and comment back to him.

There will not be Park Commission Meetings in September or October. Terry Leasure stated the Park Commission will only meet as need for the rest of 2018.

Adjournment:

Larry Logan made a motion to adjourn and Saunie Hinton seconded. Motion carried, and meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Brenda Short