

**Park Board
Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2015
City Administration Building**

Present: Terry Leasure, Steve Tobin, John Ankrom, Josh Ford, Tami Clark, Scott Gaskin, Larry Olson, Becky Staesina and guest Kevin Rine.

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

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the August 5, 2015 meeting by Steve Tobin. It was seconded by Terry Leasure. All in favor. The motion carried.

Guest Kevin Rine: Kevin Rine is the Director of SKNLUV. He started the organization to promote awareness, encourage protection and early detection of skin cancer. His brother was a fire fighter and was diagnosed with Melanoma, which is the most deadly skin cancer. His brother's situation motivated him to start the SKNLUV campaign.

He would like to place aluminum signs, the size of parking signs up at all of our parks and near any water feature. He wants to reach more people and generate more awareness. He is not a dermatologist, but they have some on staff and have a website noted on the sign with additional information about prevention, detection and awareness.

Terry Leasure said he had no problem with the signs and Steve Tobin seconded that. There is no cost to the city.

Rine would like a tie-in with the Fire Department. John Ankrom stated we (the Service Department) could install the signs, and we can help coordinate a photo op and story with the Circleville Herald and Fire Department. SKNLUV can supply press release to the Herald. Becky Staesina will get Marc Zingarelli, the Fire Chief your contact information.

Larry Olson suggested affixing the one at the Splash Pad on the existing pole and sign.

Rine stated that his brother has given over 100 speeches to fire departments in Ohio. We requested 6 signs and Rine will work on securing those.

Tami Clark's Report: Youth Baseball's Board met in September and discussed the batting cages. She doesn't have any final information yet and they will discuss again during this week's Board Meeting, which is scheduled Thursday, October 8th. They most likely will install a 2-person batting cage with the aid of a donation from most likely Pepsi. The donor would require an acknowledgement sign that would have high visibility so that may affect the sign location. It will not be a lighted sign. Ankrom suggested placing the batting cage in the area that makes the most sense and then providing a sign at the site and then a second sign that would be more visible.

They still want to move their field from over by the basketball courts. This will be accomplished through volunteer work and donations. Sam's Excavating will probably help. Ankrom stated that the area by the basketball courts would need restored. Clark thought Sam's could probably level the area. City could prepare area for seed after it has been leveled. Clark stated that Sam's will provide dirt. The fencing backstop would need to be removed and could probably be reused in the new spot.

Clark mentioned that Dane had discussed installing a guardrail to control people from driving through, but it hasn't been done yet. Ankrom suggested using the fencing from the move to help control that issue.

Clark stated that they have to decide where the field is going to go verses where the batting cage will go. Youth Baseball thought about putting it by the small shelter, but it is a far walk. Clark doesn't think foul balls going towards the junk yard would be an issue. Considering placing batting cages by junk yard side with field further back.

Leasure and Clark both commented on how many people cannot walk to the back fields. They have to use the Gator to transport them.

New diamond construction probably will start in late fall or after thaw in Spring. It will probably be the T-ball field so it will probably be playable for that purpose since no mound is required.

Terry Leasure approved plan and Steve Tobin seconded it. Part of it depends when they can get use of equipment since Sam's is donating dirt.

Scott Gaskin's Report: Gaskin talked to Mike Logan about Field 3 possibly coming out at Ted Lewis Park. Gaskin also talked to Tami Clark about sharing fields at Barthelmas Park. It doesn't look like that sharing could be possible due to scheduling.

Gaskin also spoke to Lighthouse Church about using their field. They said they are not sure if the field will be available next year.

Gaskin inquired about proposed road at Ted Lewis Park. Ankrom said specifics have not been determined. Terry Leasure voiced favor for a one-way road, rather than two-way. Leasure believes a one-way road would be safer. Ankrom suggested entering the park at the light as the main entrance. Gaskin stated he believes there is plenty of room for a one-way road and their field, if a light pole is moved. The suggestion was to leave Rosewood as a two-way since it is a residential road. Picnic Avenue could remain a two-way and Western Avenue by the railroad tracks would be a one-way.

The timing of the road improvement is unknown. It may be improved prior to next softball season, but that has not been determined yet.

Gaskin said the younger girls would play on field 3, which are the K-2 graders. Gaskin looked at Smith Park, but said the field is overgrown. He indicated that he has looked at fields all over Circleville. The field across from the middle school is in bad shape and would need a lot of work.

Gaskin reiterated that he wants everything in one location. If field 3 is gone, what opportunities are available for play? Smith Field, the middle school and Lighthouse Church.

Clark said Youth Baseball doesn't play on Sundays, but Girls Softball doesn't play either. Barthelmas has 3 fields for possible use. Soccer plays back where the small shelter is. They will need to put a soccer field in where they are removing the baseball field. Clark doesn't think softball play will be possible.

The field at Atwater is gone. The church by Wellman's has a ball diamond and the church off SR 22 (First Church of Christ) has several fields back beside the lodge.

Gaskin reiterated that he wants 4 diamonds at Ted Lewis Park. He stated that it will be a maintenance nightmare to play at more than one location. Ankrom said he understands, but we can't accommodate 4 diamonds at Ted Lewis Park. Leasure said there are 3 drains with manholes through the existing fields at Ted Lewis to help it drain.

Gaskin asked if there is room to play in the corner where the playground equipment is currently located and Ankrom responded that would be the location of the proposed band shell. Gaskin is seeking a spot for the peanuts to play. Gaskin asked about the SE corner where the pool was and Ankrom said that space will not be available. The tentative plan is for the pool to be removed and the parking lot to stay.

Ankrom stated phase #1 will be to remove the Basketball Courts. Not sure where they will go. Location has not been determined and they are not in the current plan for Ted Lewis Park. The tennis courts are going to be removed and are not going back in Ted Lewis Park either. Ankrom stated he is unsure where the skate park and basketball courts will go.

Leasure stated he needs the football field at Ted Lewis to stay. Everts has no lights on their field so that could not work for Pee Wee Football. Gaskin stated we could work on those issues together. Gaskin stated if Pee Wee football went to Everts, then Girls Softball could stay at Ted Lewis Park. Leasure stated that Pee Wee Football has been playing at Ted Lewis Park for 40 years and he does not want to move. There are lights there. Gaskin said he could redirect the lights. They have 11 teams and everyone could practice in 1 space.

Olson stated that the big fields get rolled at OCU every spring.

Gaskin said he will be happy to one-day get a cloverleaf at Barthelmas with four fields.

Ankrom stated he thinks Girls Softball will have 3 fields through next year's season.

Olson asked the Park Board if they would talk to Lighthouse for help with field use for Gaskin. The Lighthouse contact is Nathan Woodworth. He is out of Chillicothe and is the contact person who said he could not guarantee field use for next year. Ask them if as part of their community outreach, they may be willing to allow field usage.

Ford asked if the city could take over the fields and Ankrom responded no since they are private property.

Ford asked when are Girls Softball games played? Gaskin stated Monday-Thursday at 5:30PM and 7:30PM. Friday is a makeup day and is almost always used. Peanuts play from 6PM-8PM.

Ankrom stated that next Wednesday, 10/14/15 is the next Long Range meeting. We may know more about the timing of field 3 and other Ted Lewis Park changes.

Leasure reminded everyone that Sunday is the clean-up day after the Pumpkin Show. Everyone from the Youth Leagues that parked cars are expected to participate.

Josh Ford's Report: During the last FOTCP meeting, Mike Logan suggested starting a branch of the FOTCP for Ted Lewis Park. It would be part of the existing FOTCP, but with a different focus. Possible recruits for the Ted Lewis branch include Mike Logan, Stephanie McConnell and Mike Farrell. The group meets once a quarter. Suggested bringing new people to FOTCP Meeting.

Larry Olson's Report: Olson apologized that he missed the Little Free Library dedication. He stated it was well done.

Paul Hang went through the woods and marked 30 trees with a maroon x, which indicates the tree needs removed.

Dick Massie offered to spray area. Massie volunteered to mow and spray the Canadian thistle area.

The signage plan is progressing. They assembled the last pieces and hope to submit the sign order by the end of the month. Olson will get stuff to Suzanne Strawser to place the order.

John Ankrom's Report: The Ted Lewis Master Plan will be discussed again during the October 14th meeting at 7PM at City Hall. All are welcome to attend.

During a prior meeting, City Council stated that they would like to demo the basketball courts, Skate Park and tennis courts during the winter in order to prepare the area for the playground. Reopening the road may affect diamond 3. They would also like to see the pool removed this winter. The YMCA may have purchased some of the concession area equipment.

Leasure asked if Pee Wee Football and Girls Softball could use the equipment. Ankrom said that the city has to dispose of equipment in a fair manner.

The Little Free Library was dedicated on 9/29/15.

Tom Davis with the Pickaway County Park Board said Ace Elsea and the Circleville Alumni Association made a \$400 donation to MVCH Park. The city needs to determine what to spend it on. Olson suggested purchasing benches for around the splash pad and playground area.

Becky Staresina's Report: A Skate Park Improvement permit was dropped off prior to the September meeting that was scheduled. Need to call applicant to get more details.

Compiled a list of 2015 park accomplishments some of which are anticipated to be completed by the end of the year.

Reminder that Gator's Jons are to be delivered to Ted Lewis Park on 10/20/15 and picked up 10/25/15 for the Youth League's parking effort.

Discussed the Board's stance on Drones flying in the parks. Currently no legislation is in place. Leasure voted to temporarily say no to fly Drones in the Park. Steve Tobin seconded it, the motion carried.

We need to order replacement mallets for the musical instruments at Mary Virginia Crites Hannan Park. I need the Board to vote on this before the October 20th Pickaway Community Foundation Meeting. They have funds to pay for playground repairs at MVCH Park. Leasure voted to approve and Tobin seconded. Motion approved.

Addressed the need to know how to handle Ted Lewis Shelter rentals in 2016 during the potential construction. Leasure suggested tabling the discussion until after the October 14, 2015 Long Range meeting. Tobin seconded that.

Kevin Keaton's Report: Keaton not present. In his absence, Leasure shared that Keaton went to the Pickaway County Park Board about fireworks. He has someone that will do them for 20 minutes and the cost will be between 15K-18K. He thinks he can find sponsors. Ankrom asked how that affects Park Board. Keaton needs to talk to the County Commissions about it since the Fairground is outside the city limits.

Steve Tobin's Report: Trees at MVCH Park marked with an "X" need removed.

November 9th is the next FOTCP meeting at Berger.

Terry Leasure's Report: Leasure reiterated that he wants Pee Wee football to stay at Ted Lewis Park. Ankrom asked what time he should expect to see the lights off after Pee Wee football games. Leasure stated they should be off by 8-8:15PM. Ankrom indicated they we have large electric bills from Ted Lewis Park this time of the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

OLD BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS:

MEETING ADJOURNED: Leasure adjourned meeting at 5:20PM