

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Steve Prothero at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Carrie Milroy, Mark Reams, Steve Prothero, Betty Brewer, Avanelle Oberlin and Lydia Romine. Scott Ross – excused.

Others Present: Michael Andrako, Amanda Morris, Prothero Family, Ben Feaster

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the August 16, 2016 were approved as presented.

Report of Public Service Director: Mr. Andrako stated that yesterday and today, we have been moving forward with updating the Master Plan, which allows us to plan for future improvements to the parks. They will do a need assessment, interviews and survey. They will compile the information and give us an idea on how we should spend money in the next five years and where. Mr. Andrako reported it is a nine month process and we just started it last month, so we are hoping to be finished by April 2017.

Mr. Andrako reported that we have hired a new Parks & Grounds Superintendent. An offer was given to Eric Hinkle, who is current with the City of Columbus, Parks & Recreation Department. He is going to be starting with us on October 3, 2016. He will be at the next meeting reporting, the same way Mr. Rockenbaugh did.

Report of Events/Recreation Coordinator: Mrs. Morris reported the City had the howl at the moon and OSU tailgate the past weekend. She stated with the tailgate the weather delay was unexpected, however, there was still good feedback and everyone had a good time. We plan to do another one next year as well. This coming weekend is the covered bridge festival that is held annually. She said they are starting to plan the holiday festivities. Fall sports have started which are disc golf and softball. After the fall season is over, we will have had a great season.

Report of Parks/Ground Superintendent:

Commissioner's Reports on Individual Parks:

Ms. Oberlin visited Mill Valley South and Central, she thought they were in good condition.

Mrs. Brewer had Partner's Park, she stated there were people there with dogs, and she talked with them and they did not know dogs were not allowed there. Mrs. Morris mentioned that they try to police it during the Music on Main events, because most people do not know pets aren't allowed. Mrs. Brewer stated the hanging baskets need to be taken down.

Ms. Milroy viewed the Jim Simmons Trail, she asked about the blacktop that was damaged are they going to repair the patch, because it is starting to come up. Mr. Andrako explained it is in his budget for next year.

Mr. Reams mentioned there are still people parking on the grass at Lewis Park. The football league was appreciative of the bathrooms and extra parking spaces. He feels that the park is still not able to hold all the vehicles associated with the event. Mr. Reams added Aldersgate looked good.

Citizens' Comments Non-Agenda Items:

Agenda Items:

Eagle Scout Presentation by Ben Feaster (Kick Board at Eljer Park): Mr. Feaster gave the following information about the kickboard for Eljer Parks.

1. Its primary purpose is to be used as a practice soccer goal with the same dimension but does not require the kicker to fetch his/her ball every time they shoot.
2. Will be primarily funded by Lowes or Home Depot.
3. One requirement to build the kickboard is to meet with the City Council staff and find opinions or suggestions about the project.
4. Glenda Kirsch facilitates Elite FC soccer and asked if the troop would be willing to build a kickboard.
5. Its main beneficiaries are the local soccer teams that practice on the field every day.
6. The approximate cost is \$600.00 without donations.

The Commission asked who would maintain the wall after it is built. Mr. Andrako suggested Mr. Feaster contact Elite FC and see if they would maintain the wall. Mr. Feaster went through the process on how the wall would be built. He showed pictures of the final product excluding the paint. Mr. Prothero asked about logos. Mr. Feaster was not sure what was expected. Mrs. Morris stated that it needs to have something soccer on it, so people understand what it is. She also mentioned she liked the project.

Mr. Reams moved to approve the project, Mrs. Milroy seconded the Motion. The Commission approved the project.

Discuss Throwing Wall: Mr. Andrako reported that Rich Rausch has requested the board approve him installing a throwing wall in Mill Creek Park. Mr. Andrako explained the look of the throwing wall that was submitted by Mr. Rausch. (Audio was low, hard to hear) Mrs. Morris talked about which park would be the best place for the throwing wall, Joint Rec, Eljer and/or Mill Creek.

Discuss Updating or Revising Park Priority List:

Discuss Creating Future Needs and Improvements List for Each Park: Mr. Reams stated that he brought this up because when they go out to judge the parks, they could fill out these sheets and turn them in. Mr. Andrako liked the idea, and would be glad to come up with an inspection sheet for the commission. Once completed you could email or drop them off and during the meeting you could address the issues that were presented and how they were or are being fixed.

Comments of Citizens:

Comments of Individual Commissioners:

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Parks & Recreation Commission, the meeting adjourned at 8:00p.m.

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