

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MOTION SUMMARY
January 23, 2020

ITEM 1. Roll Call

Chairman Bricker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Bob Dalton, Gary Hayward, Jill Staugler, Maria Schul, Michael Rush, Corie Thompson, Angela MacWhinney Vice-Chairwoman Dianna Hibinger, and Chairman Joshua Bricker

Members Absent: Cassie Cunningham and Councilman Chris Jones

City Staff Present: Ted Miller, Parks and Natural Resource Director, Stacy Davenport, Parks Superintendent, JP Linkous, Park Maintenance Supervisor

YMCA Staff Present: Lolita Haverlock, Regional VP of Operations and Roger Hanafin, Associate Executive Director

Motion to Excuse: Mr. Dalton motioned to excuse Councilman Jones and Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mr. Hayward. Motion approved by a 9-0 vote.

ITEM 2. APPROVAL of the Motion Summary for the meeting held November 19, 2019 as recorded and transcribed.

Motion: Vice-Chairwoman Hibinger motioned to approve the Motion Summary for the meeting held November 19, 2019 as recorded and transcribed, seconded by Mr. Hayward. Motion approved by a 9-0 vote.

ITEM 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

ITEM 4. UPDATE of YMCA Recreation Services, Programs and Events

Mr. Hanafin provided information on activities and events that occurred. He discussed the Calls from the North Pole. The Daddy Daughter Dance was held recently at Ohio Wesleyan Student Center and had 400 participants. Basketball league for grades 3- 6 have had a decline from the previous year. There is current registration occurring for soccer, baseball, and the Mother Son Super Hero Party.

ITEM 5. DISCUSSION and BOARD INPUT OF CITY OF DELAWARE RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT KICK-OFF

A. Austin Hochstetler, PROS Consulting Inc.

Mr. Hochstetler introduced himself to the board and the purpose of the needs

assessment. He requested input from the board on the following topics:

1. What people value most at Parks and Recreation Services

Mr. Dalton – safe environment, variety of activities, emphasis on healthy choices, i.e. smoking ban at parks

Ms. Thompson- accessibility

Ms. MacWhinney – location of parks, spread out for accessibility

Mr. Bricker – abundance of amenities and locations

Mr. Hayward – amenities in parks provide something for everyone to enjoy

2. Areas of more focus/improvements:

Mr. Dalton – focus on PR, bring more awareness to the parks and their locations and amenities

Ms. Thompson – revamping the bathrooms at Mingo, update infrastructure

Ms. MacWhinney – more initiative to encourage the community to learn about the park's natural resources, more educational tools, increase PR, update the website to find information easier

Mr. Bricker – unique relationship with the YMCA can be confusing and resident's do not always know who is offering what.

3. What population group is unserved:

Ms. Hibinger – improve wheelchair/disability accessibility, need more inclusion play equipment

Ms. MacWhinney – more inclusive play equipment and facilities

Ms. Thompson – more activities and park equipment for older kids/teens

Mr. Rush – need to focus on bringing kids back from travel leagues to recreational leagues to get more sign ups

Mr. Dalton – no city parks in the south side

4. What is going well:

Mr. Rush – community involvement and encouraged to be part of decisions

Ms. MacWhinney – responsive to groups requests, i.e. pickle ball courts and cricket fields

Mr. Dalton – the city is proactive with new ideas and proposals

Ms. Staugler – each park is unique and offers something a little different

Ms. Schul – like the familiarity of the park

Mr. Hayward – community parks added to new communities

5. Challenges that will face next 5 years

Mr. Dalton – more ideals then budget allows

Ms. Hibinger – keeping up with growth

Mr. Hayward – keeping designated greenspace areas

Mr. Bricker – finding new land opportunities for park growth and high cost of land. Need new land acquisition strategies

6. Facilities/amenities needed in future

Mr. Bricker – need more pool space or new pool. Current pool is not comparable to other communities

Ms. Staugler – more multi-functional indoor facility space

Ms. Thompson – skate park on the west side

Ms. MacWhinney – continuation of paths with lighting for safety

Mr. Hayward – determine relationship with the YMCA

Ms. Schul – another outdoor pool, many teens leave town to go to Zoombezi Bay

7. What would like to see from outcome of the plan:

Mr. Bricker – transparency

Mr. Dalton – plan to represent the communities desires but is financially realistic

8. What would like to see in the future/by 2025:

Ms. Thompson – the City to have a total of 3 pools, 10 new parks, the YMCA and the City of Delaware to become separate, trails system with lighting

Ms. MacWhinney – another pool, well lit paths, a natural play space park and all inclusive park

Ms. Hibinger – indoor tennis facility

Mr. Bricker – additional pool and connected trailways

Ms. Staugler – long stretch of trailway

Ms. Thompson – pool with diving well for diving meets

Ms. MacWhinney – focus on boat launch areas – more advertising and kayak classes

9. What is considered to be the signature park/amenity

Mr. Dalton – Mingo Park has the recreation center, pool, skate park, field.

Ms. Thompson – Veteran’s Park with the splash pad addition

ITEM 6. STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Miller provided the Board with a copy of recommended changes to the current pool rules and regulations and a rate comparison for pools in Central Ohio. A discussion was held regarding placing a limit on how many children can be admitted for organized groups and chaperone requirements. The Board questioned membership rates for the YMCA. Ms. MacWhinney voiced a concern on not making Jack Florence affordable to those with limited financial means. Mr. Bricker and Ms. Thompson voiced a concern over the rules limiting practice dives with flips. Mr. Miller discussed that the current pool rules follow the YMCA rules. The Board recommended that there be communication with the public on any changes regarding rates and involve input with SACC over rules. The Board questioned on how the rules will be enforced.

ITEM 7. MEMBERS COMMENTS

Mr. Rush thanked PROS Consulting for their work.

ITEM 8. NEXT MEETING DATE: March 17, 2020

ITEM 9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Chairman Bricker moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.



Chairperson



Elaine McCloskey, Clerk