

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – February 11, 2020 4:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kappers, President.

Members of the Board Present: Mr. Kappers, President
 Mr. Richard Jordan Emerick, Vice-President
 Mrs. Susan Westfall, Secretary

Others Present: Jeremy Drake, Park Superintendent
 Ken Siler, Recreation Director
 Patrick Titterington, Director of Public Service and Safety
 City staff

The minutes of the January 7, 2020 Board of Park Commissioners were approved by unanimous voice vote following a motion by Mrs. Westfall, seconded by Mr. Emerick. Motion approve by unanimous roll call vote.

REPORTS:

- Park Superintendent Jeremy Drake submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Drake highlighted the work order report showing the Park Departments effort in the tornado cleanup the hours and days after the storm. Mr. Drake commented that his staff was committed to the cleanup effort immediately after till everything was completed. Staff is back to normal day to day winter work. Mrs. Westfall complimented the cleanup effort by all departments.
- Mr. Siler submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Siler had nothing to add to his report.
- Mr. Booher submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes).

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ken Siler, City of Troy Recreation Director request to review and approve the 2020 City of Troy Recreation & Park Departments Athletic Field Use Policy – The field use agreement has been revised for the 2020 sports season. A lightning detection system is being installed at the Duke Park complex and the groups who use the facility will have to sign the agreement including the addition of the lightning detection system. The new lightning detection system will blast one 15-second horn when signs of lightning are detected. If the horn sounds, activities must be suspended immediately. Activities may resume only after hearing three 5-second blasts of the horn and the strobe light has stopped flashing. This addition to the athletic field use policy is to ensure safety to each participant to the best of our ability. Mr. Siler noted the Recreation Board approved the 2020 Athletic Field Use Policy at their January 22 meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall to accept the 2020 City of Troy Recreation & Park Departments Athletic Field Use Policy. Motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.
- Ken Siler, City of Troy Recreation Director request Treasure Island Use Agreements for concert events on June 26, July 4, and August 1 – In the Summer of 2020 there will be three concert events held at Treasure Island Park. The June 26 concert is in conjunction with the GOBA event. The July 4 concert is sponsored by the Troy Area Chamber of Commerce and the Troy Rotary Foundation. The third concert on August 1 is sponsored by the City of Troy and is requesting to sell and consume alcoholic beverages. The beverages that will be sold are beer and malt beers and the sales of the alcohol at the event are sold by Mr. Siler’s staff. Concerts that include the sale of alcoholic beverages require Council approval of the Use Agreement. Mr. Emerick moved that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the Treasure Island Park Use Agreement for the concerts of June 26, July 4, and August 1, and that the Board of Park Commissioners recommends that Troy City Council approves the Use Agreement for the August 1 Concert, seconded by Mrs. Westfall. Recommendation approved by unanimous roll call vote.

- Mr. Kappers noted the Board of Park Commissioners appreciation to the Robinson Fund for the donation of \$10,000 to replace trees lost during the January 11 tornado. Mr. Drake commented that the funds will replace the 35 trees that were on public property and the roughly another 30 trees throughout the areas that suffered a loss.
- Patrick Titterington, City of Troy Director of Public Service and Safety request parks transfer from the City of Troy and Board of Park Commissioners to the Troy City Schools Board of Education - reviewed a request that the Board of Park Commissioners recommends to Troy City Council that the ball fields/parks at Hook School and Cookson School be transferred to the Troy City Schools Board of Education with the understanding that the Troy Board of Education will establish new ball fields at locations yet to be determined. The Troy City Schools Facility Master Plan provides for expanding the areas of Cookson Elementary School (located on Mystic Lane at Maplecrest Drive) and Hook Elementary School (located on Trade Square West at Trade Square East), which would include using the ball field areas/parks adjacent to the schools as follows:
 - 5.05-acre ball fields at Cookson School (currently known as Campbell Park) – denoted as “East Elementary School”
 - 3.2-acre ball fields at Hook School (currently known as Hook Park) – denoted as “North Middle School”.

Ohio Revised Code Section 721.02 provides that a City convey real property to a Board of Education. It was stated that the Troy City Schools has committed to replacing the four fields, and possibly adding up to two additional ball fields, at a location yet to be determined. The Board received a packet of information on this request (attached to the original minutes). The transfer of the ball field acreage is critical to the plan of the schools. Mr. Titterington further discussed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) draft that was included in the information received by the Board, which also allowed for the transfer of additional surplus school real property (Kyle Elementary School, Heywood Elementary School, and unused areas of Van Cleve School) to the City, which land would then be available to the City for economic development purposes, with some of the properties within the City identified Riverfront Development area. The MOU also provides for the City to receive usable playground equipment from the vacated schools. It was also noted that the MOU would only be effective if the School Bond Levy that will be on the March 17, 2020 ballot is approved by the voters.

Chris Piper, Superintendent of Schools, commented that the Schools believe the proposed MOU will assure continuance of the excellent relationship between the City and the Schools.

Mr. Kappers commented that the last conversation on this subject in which he was involved was based on the Schools committing to deed land to the City at some point in the future that would replace the 8.25 acres the Schools would be receiving from the City. He expressed his concern that the Board would be giving up the assets of lands with only a commitment of having replacement land to be “used”, and still having responsibilities associated with using the land of another owner. Mr. Emerick and Mrs. Westfall indicated they did not share the same concern about receiving replacement land as long as the schools were committed to providing the needed space that could be used for ball fields. However, recognizing Mr. Kappers’ concern, a motion was made by Mr. Kappers, seconded by Mrs. Westfall to table any action on the request to convey the 5.05-acre Campbell Park and the 3.2-acre Hook Park to the Troy City Schools Board of Education so that additional conversation and review could take place.

- Scott Beeler, Troy High School softball coach requesting permission to place a storage shed at the North Market Street Softball Field – Mr. Beeler stated the Troy Softball Boosters would be purchasing an already built shed and placing it on the grounds. Mr. Beeler wants the Softball Boosters to maintain ownership of the shed even though it is on City park property and only be used by the Troy High School softball program. Mr. Drake noted if Troy Softball Boosters retain rights to the shed, there needs to be ongoing maintenance done by the Softball Boosters not the City of Troy Park Department. Mr.

Drake also stated no paint or chemicals can be stored in the shed. Mr. Drake will contact Jeff Monce with the City of Troy Water Treatment Plant since the shed will be located in a well head protection area. Mr. Kappers confirmed with Mr. Beeler that no advertisements will take place on the shed and Mr. Beeler agreed. Mrs. Knight, City of Troy Administrative Assistance advised Mr. Beeler that if the softball team is going to maintain ownership of the storage shed, they are responsible for carrying insurance. The City will not be responsible for vandalism or theft in regards to the shed. Mr. Beeler also asked for electric to be placed in the third base dugout. Right now, there is only electric in the first base dugout and Troy Softball Team uses the third base dugout and would like to have this access. Mr. Drake agreed to get electrical access and the Softball Boosters will hire an electrician to have it hooked up. Finally, Mr. Beeler requested for a handicap handrail be placed along the ramp that leads from the parking lot to the field seating. Mr. Drake feels that a handrail would be beneficial and will get permission to have the handrail placed. A motion was made by Mr. Kappers to grant permission to the Troy Softball Boosters to place a storage shed at the North Market Street Fields at a location approved by the Park Superintendent, the Softball Boosters maintain the up keep of the shed, the Softball Boosters provide annual proof of insurance for the shed and its contents, and erect a handicap rail along the ramp from the parking lot to the field, and the Softball Boosters to hire an electrician to hook up electricity in the dugout along the third base line, seconded by Mrs. Westfall. Motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.

- Jeremy Drake, City of Troy Park Department Superintendent request the bike path connector through Community Park – Mr. Drake proposed a connector bike path that goes from the Adams Street Bridge through Community Park. By allowing the bike path go through Community Park, it will eliminate pedestrians and bicyclist using the sidewalk. The bike path will go into the park and around existing trees. With the proposal, there is very little impact to the existing landscape. Mr. Drake said weather permitting they would like the path to be completed by the first of June, for the Troy Strawberry Festival and GOBA. Mr. Kappers feels this would be an enhance to the bike path and Community Park. A motion was made by Mr. Kappers, approved by Mr. Emerick. Motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.
- Sue Knight, City of Troy Administrative Assistant request consideration of the 2020 listing of events for Prouty Plaza and other park areas – Mrs. Knight supplied a list of proposed concerts and events to be held on Prouty Plaza, Treasure Island and other Park properties. Mrs. Knight noted that there may be some other events added at a later date. After finding no concerns, Mr. Kappers moved to grant permission for the use of Prouty Plaza and Treasure Island Park for the proposed concert and other events, Mr. Emerick seconded. Motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.
- Sue Knight, City of Troy Administrative Assistant presented an update on the Miami Shores Tee Sign Project – In 2019, Golf Graphics submitted a proposal to update the tee signs at Miami Shores Golf Course. The past several months, the City of Troy Director of Law, Mr. Grant Kerber has been working with Golf Graphics for some exceptions to the original proposal. There are still a couple of outstanding items that are being addressed between Mr. Kerber and Golf Graphics but they are working toward a solution. Mrs. Westfall made a motion to accept the tee sign agreement in substantial conformance with what is before the board and/or acceptable to the Director of Law, Mr. Emerick seconded. Motion approved by unanimous roll call vote.

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall, by unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,