

Regular Meeting Summary
Centerville-Washington Park District
July 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 P.M. with the following in attendance: Commissioners Lee and Monahan; Mrs. Kennard, Director; and Mrs. Smith, Business Manager. The Board approved the minutes of the June 9, 2014 work session and regular meeting.

FISCAL

The Board reviewed and approved the June 30, 2014 Financial Report and voucher list.

NEW BUSINESS

Personnel Action. The Board approved a motion authorizing the program manager and operations manager to award seasonal staff bonuses with a total amount not to exceed \$1,000.00.

The board noted the hiring of the following:

Summer Recreation Program Leader
Casey Morley

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mr. Monahan asked about progress in teen programming and additional bike and skateboard facilities. Mrs. Kennard reviewed a list of programs now available for teens including Senior Adventure Camp and Summer Teen Series offered in July. She reported that a skatepark expansion is scheduled for 2015 in the ten-year plan and that the Board will make the decision as to what that expansion will be.

Mr. Lee directed the staff to move forward on replacing the current portable restrooms at Oak Grove Park with higher quality, perhaps all handicap accessible, restrooms. He also disagreed with the proposed swing heights of 12-28 inches. He and Mr. Monahan agreed that the height should not be more than 24 inches. Mrs. Kennard explained that at parks with multiple swings, they may be set at different heights to meet the needs of different aged children. Mr. Lee directed the operations staff to be conscientious about checking the height of all swings. After reviewing the staff research for installing WIFI in the community parks, the Commissioners agreed it was cost prohibitive. They directed staff to look at a security camera or web cam at the dog park. Mr. Lee inquired about the use of the concession stand in the baseball building at Oak Grove Park and Mrs. Kennard explained that the Centerville Baseball Softball League has use of the facility. Mr. Lee suggested an interactive interpretive display at the large oak tree at Rosewood Park.

Mr. Monahan suggested the construction of a changeable letter sign at park headquarters and the development of a Park District mobile phone application for the promotion of park programs.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Financial Highlights:

- The Park District received notification from the Ohio Department of Taxation of their final determination that Mays Park is exempt from real estate taxes.
- The state of Ohio has increased the 2014 Local Government Fund estimate by \$197,672 for Montgomery County with an allocation increase to the Park District of \$79.
- The Park District received the first two advances of the second half real estate tax collections in the amount of \$550,784.
- Montgomery County has provided tentative 2014 valuations. Washington Township saw a 0.10% decrease in values. The new valuations should have no effect on Park District tax revenue for 2015.

Administration Highlights:

- Thanks to the community for supporting the Park District at the Americana Festival. Thousands of families enjoyed the children's activities at the Activity Center Park and many families visited the Park District at the street fair booth.
- The Park District Accessibility Committee is researching and identifying priorities for providing better access to park facilities and programs including playgrounds, gate/door heights and latches, information kiosks, and more.

Program Highlights:

- The Park District is participating in the National Recreation and Park Association's 2014 Park and Recreation Month campaign, "Out is In." Park patrons are encouraged to share how they are spending time outdoors this summer by submitting a photo with the Out is In poster.
- Naturalist Katy Malcolm offers butterfly monitoring hikes twice a month and is looking for individuals interested in helping collect data to submit to the Ohio Lepidopterists for research. The presence or lack of butterflies in our area can be an indicator of environmental health.
- The Park District is also looking for volunteers to assist with the care of the native seed nursery at Bill Yeck Park. Individuals and groups can assist with weeding and seed collection throughout the growing season. A Family Nature Workshop is scheduled at the seed nursery on August 23.

Operations Highlights:

- The Centerville Wee Elks will be mulching tree and landscape areas at Schoolhouse Park on July 26. The Park District appreciates the assistance from the group and the community benefits from their hard work!
- Eagle Scout projects are underway in the parks this summer including:
 - Grant Williamson, Troop 116 – Constructing a bridge over a small creek on a trail at Grant Park.
 - Zach Spangler, Troop 530 – Constructing four benches for the native seed nursery at Bill Yeck Park. A memorial plaque for Christopher Eastabrooks will be installed on one bench, thanks to generous donations from their friends and family.
- The Park District is developing a Timber Removal Agreement to handle removal of dead ash trees infected by the Emerald ash borer.

Development Highlights:

- Construction at Robert F. Mays Park has been slowed due to the weekly rains, but Jess Construction has rough graded the playing fields and shaped many of the mounds.
- Flora Excavating has also had challenges due to rain while working on the parking lot and entrance improvements at Bill Yeck Park – Smith entrance, however they are making progress. Kossler Electric will begin installing the lighting at the parking lot and entrance drive this week.
- Renovations at the Smith House in Bill Yeck Park should be finished in the next month or two.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 P.M.