

**Regular Meeting Summary  
Centerville-Washington Park District  
August 11, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 P.M. with the following in attendance: Commissioners Lee, Monahan, and Sánchez; Mrs. Kennard, Director; and Mrs. Smith, Business Manager. The Board approved the minutes of the July 14, 2014 work session and regular meeting, July 24, 2014 special meeting, and the August 6, 2014 special meeting.

***FISCAL***

The Board reviewed and approved the July 31, 2014 Financial Report and voucher list.

***COMMISSIONER COMMENTS***

Mrs. Sánchez said she likes the native species planted at the headquarters entrance and that it is good to use plants grown in the seed nursery. She wished Mrs. Smith a happy retirement and said the staff awards presented this summer were truly merited. She also announced the Natural Areas Conference is scheduled in Dayton in October.

Mr. Monahan asked about the trees along the headquarters entrance drive and Mrs. Kennard explained that some were stressed from drought conditions in previous years and some had already been replaced. He reported that he missed the eco-crew meeting in August but spoke with chair Katy Malcolm and encouraged her to think outside the box on environmental issues and the Board would consider matters not already budgeted.

Mr. Lee inquired about the operations of the refreshment stand at the baseball building at Oak Grove Park and Mrs. Kennard explained that the Centerville Baseball Softball League has been operating the stand on Saturdays as they did not have enough sales during the week to justify the work. She also noted that the organization has had to pay for temporary permits from the health department because of the lack of sewers at the park. Mr. Lee said he discussed constructing a military training course with Mr. Woodward during their meeting. He said the job profiles for the development manager and business manager were good and requested that Mrs. Kennard keep the Board updated on the hiring progress.

***DIRECTOR'S REPORT***

**Financial Highlights:**

- As stated in the monthly financial report, the Park District received \$1,054,576 in property tax advances in July. Since July, the Park District has received an additional advance of \$721,718. The settlement for the second half taxes is expected to be deposited in September.
- Effective August 1, Mr. Lee authorized transferring \$713,000 from STAR Ohio to a new STAR Plus account to increase the annual return from 0.03 % to 0.20 %. The STAR Plus funds are distributed among 56 banks and are FDIC insured.
- Recent construction project progress payments include \$14,351 to Dryden Builders for the Iron Horse Park shelter and \$82,991 to Flora Excavating for the Smith entrance parking and drive in July and \$100,915 to Jess Construction for Mays Park in August.

**Administration Highlights:**

- Due to the retirement of Bob Feldmann after 40 years at the Park District, the position of Development Manager has been advertised.
- Due to the retirement of Barbara Smith after nearly 20 years at the Park District, the position of Business Manager has been advertised.
- The Park District is partnering with the Friends of the Washington-Centerville Public Library and Centerville Rotary Club to develop a Little Free Library program. Boxes will be placed in parks where people can "borrow a book, leave a book" to encourage reuse of books and literacy.

Community groups interested in helping monitor a box should contact the Park District. An agreement will be developed to document the monitoring guidelines.

- Thanks to the generosity of David Goldstein of Washington Township, the Park District purchased framed nature photos for a nominal fee. The photos were taken at Bill Yeck Park by Mr. Goldstein and will be displayed at the Park District headquarters.
- The Park District is finalizing a signage plan to standardize signs in the neighborhood, nature, and community parks throughout the District.

#### Program Highlights:

- Park District summer programs ended last week, with close to 2,000 children keeping active while having fun exploring their local parks.
- Fall program registration began today, with 863 registrations for 52 different programs.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Sweet Treats Doggie Ice Cream Social sponsored by Maggie Moo's will take place at the Oak Grove Park dog park on Friday, August 15 from 6:00-7:00 P.M.
- The Park District recently provided training for seven new volunteers interested in assisting with the outdoor education outreach program in the classrooms at Centerville City Schools.

#### Operations Highlights:

- The operations staff is busy preparing athletic fields for the fall youth sports programs whose games begin by the end of August. Teams practice or play games at 8 different parks throughout the community.
- The 2014 asphalt sealcoating program will be completed in the next couple of months at Yankee Park tennis courts, Iron Horse Trail and Black Oak Park multi-use trails, and parking lots at Schoolhouse and Yankee Parks.
- Volunteers from the Centerville United Soccer Association recently helped spruce up Oak Grove Park by mulching 75 trees and Wee Elks Football Association volunteers also helped mulch at Schoolhouse Park.
- Park District staff has removed approximately 130 ash trees from park properties and have contracted for the removal of an additional 30 trees that were too large for staff to take care of. The District continues to monitor trees that are dying as a result of the emerald ash borer and removing those that pose the greatest hazard first.

#### Development Highlights:

- Bill Yeck Park Smith Entrance construction is moving along with the paving scheduled for the next two weeks, weather dependent, and parking lot lights will be installed this week. Conduit and wiring is complete at the Smith House and Burns Construction is completing the dry wall and patching while waiting for DP&L to connect the electrical service.
- The Iron Horse Park shelter is substantially complete with a few items on the punch list for Dryden Builders to address.
- Jess Construction is finishing the grading of the sports fields at Robert F. Mays Park and will install the field drainage this week.

After reviewing the signage and branding committee report, Mrs. Sánchez recommended the addition of a medallion in the concrete at the walkway easements. Mr. Lee and Mr. Monahan agreed. Mr. Lee complimented the committee on a very thoughtful job.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.