

Minutes of Perrysburg Recreation Committee

Meeting Held October 11, 2022

CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:44 p.m. by Chairperson Jonathan Smith.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present were Jonathan Smith and Barry VanHoozen. Committee member Cory Kuhlman was not present. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator, Kate Sandretto, Law Director, and Rob Ross, Director of Public Utilities.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

Jeff Condon, 221 Cranden Drive, stated that he is here to discuss a petition to name the outdoor tennis courts on behalf of Al Rava. Ms. Kabat noted that they are actually meeting tomorrow. Mr. Conden shared that Mr. Rava has been a mentor and coach at the junior high since the late 50s.

Deborah Born, 125 East Front Street, stated that Jeff said it so well and that she has been friends with Al since 1975. She would like to see the tennis courts named after him and let's recognize him and done as soon as possible.

Cindy Mikolajewski is a lifelong resident of Perrysburg and was inducted into the Perrysburg High School hall of fame with Mr. Rava. She stated that he is an advocate for the sport and that he taught hundreds, if not thousands of people, how to play at the Municipal Courts.

Jon Orser, 125 East Front Street, first met Al Rava in 1958 when he first came to Perrysburg from New York. He worked throughout the community giving lessons and deserves the title of Mr. Tennis.

Mr. VanHoozen wanted to confirm that everyone was referring to the tennis courts at Municipal Park, which is correct.

Karen Fleming, 26835 Mohawk Drive, added that she learned how to play tennis 25 years ago from Al. She noted that she has been in contact with City Council regarding the signage for pickleball at the park, which allows for a one game limit. She stated that it is pretty challenging to follow because a game lasts 10-15 minutes and then you have to wait to get back on the court. She suggested a timelimit, like tennis courts, because one game of pickleball is very fast. Ms. Fleming thinks that the signage should be reflective of the whole community that everyone gets fair use of the courts. Ms. Kabat stated that they are reviewing the signage.

APPROVAL OF 09/13/2022 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the September 13, 2022 meeting were approved 2-0.

WOOD COUNTY PARK DISTRICT GRANTS

Ms. Sandretto stated that each year the City applies for three grants from the Wood County Park District. Less than \$5,000 Grant: Purchase of 4 additional Riverside Park Trash Receptacles due to an increase in volume. Between \$5,000 and \$10,000 Grant: Purchase of 8 Woodlands Park picnic tables (6 traditional and 2 ADA compliant) to replace aging tables. Excess of \$10,000 Grant: Purchase of Sun Shades for Rivercrest Park over 8 fan bleachers at 4 fields to protect individuals from the sun. Mr. Smith noted that PRAC has come up with some suggestions for grants moving forward, finding needs in the parks visiting them as often as they do. There being no objections, this is being recommended 2-0 to City Council.

PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENTS AT BICENTENNIAL, MUNICIPAL, AND WOODLANDS PARKS

Jay and Jan Nielsen, 103 Wentworth Court, started Missions International of America in 2004 and opened the Brad Reddick School in 2006. They have heard the playground at Fort Imagination will be torn down and would like to start the conversation of having some pieces of the playground if and when it is being taken down.

Ms. Kabat stated the three parks will likely be completed in the spring, due to current temperatures being too cold. Ms. Kabat stated that there are certain concerns relayed by the playground manufacturer to having a nonprofit remove equipment. Ms. Sandretto stated that the City has the power to donate property that we would otherwise dispose of, via Resolution. Ms. Nielsen stated that they are only interested in pieces of the playground, not the entire structure. Mr. Smith stated that it is something we can explore and wanted to know if there is a release that could be written on it if there is a liability concern. Ms. Kabat stated that they will continue asking the contractor.

RIVER BIKE PATH UPDATE

Ms. Kabat stated that Tetra Tech is currently getting ready to submit to the City and ODOT the stage one plans, which are due November 4, 2022. She will keep the Committee updated if there is any movement in the schedule.

DAVIS OVERLOOK ZONING

Mr. Smith has noticed that Davis Overlook is not zoned a park and was curious to see if we should look at that to add some amenities. Ms. Kabat stated that almost all of the property is within a FEMA floodplain and that if the City were to consider rezoning it a park, they would have to follow all of the FEMA guidelines and obtain flood insurance for any structures on that property. Mr. Smith asked if there is any benefit to having a conversation about turning it into a park. He would like to see it connected in some way and would enjoy hearing more about what could be done there. Mr. VanHoozen has enjoyed it as passive or scenic park, and would like to see something similar at

McKinely, a walking wooded area.

PARK DONATIONS

Mr. Smith stated that he wanted to know the current practice for accepting donations within the City for the recreational park systems. Ms. Kabat explained that the current practice is that typically someone will come to the City, asking if they could purchase a bench or tree to be placed in a park on behalf of one of their family members, and that they have standardized products that they use throughout the parks. Mr. Smith noted that we would have to pass something in order to start accepting donations moving forward and that this should be the first step.

DISCUSSION ON USAGE OF CITY-OWNED ATHLETIC FIELDS

Mr. Smith explained that he has been approached by several individuals about the lack of field space within the City. One person had suggested to him to light up Rotary Park, so that there could be longer field usage in the evenings. Ms. Kabat stated that the goal has always been to get as many City of Perrysburg residents and associations on the fields as possible, without overusing the fields. Mr. Smith would like to see this on the upcoming agenda to have more conversation and could talk about it in conjunction with the budget.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Smith stated that PRAC has mentioned for summer rec programs to teach high school kids how to be officials, which high school kids can officiate a lot of the younger groups.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairperson
Recreation Committee

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.