

Minutes of Perrysburg Recreation Committee

Meeting Held May 9, 2023

CALL TO ORDER - 6:30 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:49 p.m. by Chairperson Jonathan Smith.

ROLL CALL

Committee Members present were Jonathan Smith, Cory Kuhlman, and Barry VanHoozen. Also present was Rob Ross, Director of Public Service.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None.

APPROVAL OF 03/14/2023 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the March 14, 2023 meeting were approved 3-0.

PRAC ORDINANCE CHANGE REQUEST

Mr. Smith stated that at the last PRAC meeting, there were concerns about the Ordinance listing specific months for meetings. PRAC had been restricted in the past by the prior administrator and were told that they could not meet outside of those dates. Mr. Smith added that it was a unanimous request from PRAC. There being no objections, this is being recommended 3-0 to City Council.

Mr. Smith suggested, as the 2024 budget review approaches, to have a \$5,000 PRAC grant that they can use towards some of their great ideas. Mr. Kuhlman is in favor of this idea. Mr. VanHoozen thinks that is fine and stated that the Rec budget needs to have some regular funding and grow anyway. Mr. Kuhlman stated that it needs to be an overarching theme for the 2024 budget with Recreation. Mr. Smith added that we need to look for additional park spaces further out west or south in the City.

Mr. Kuhlman stated that we need to look at our Legislation for developments and get rid of the green space language and have them give a monetary donation instead. Mr. VanHoozen agreed with that and that it would be a funding source in itself. Mr. Smith gave some feedback from the PRAC meeting the evening prior. Mr. Smith asked about the Fort Imagination sign. Mr. Ross responded that the sign will stay, along with the stone and brick walkway. Mr. Smith noted there are still parking issues at Woodland. He added that the current PRAC members are very passionate about parks and they have been giving a lot of good feedback.

SCULPTURE WALK

Robin Ballmer, Director of Main Art-ery, met with Finance Committee to propose a way to extend the Sculpture Walk at Woodland Park for another year. Mr. Smith noted that Finance Committee made a recommendation to move that forward to City Council, but per the code, anything that deals with parks must come through Recreation Committee as well. Mr. Smith stated that Visit Perrysburg is working to find someone to run this, but he is not sure where that is at right now. Part of the funds that will be used towards this were budgeted for the Youth Summer Theater, for \$10,500.00, which is not able to happen this year due to lack of space.

Mr. Smith added that it has been twelve years since the City has had an Arts Council and they could eventually take these types of things over. Mr. Kuhlman is in favor of an Arts Council. She also suggested having a community fund or foundation, specific to events that will invigorate the community, where people could receive grants. Mr. VanHoozen stated that if the Sculpture Walk is important to the City, we should get it funded. Mr. Kuhlman agreed. Mr. Smith stated that there is a time constraint. Ms. Ballmer added that they have to get all of the artists to commit to another year or find replacements, if some pieces are spoken for in other exhibits already.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. VanHoozen asked for an update on the Hood Park design. Mr. Ross has not heard anything and will talk with Brody Walters, Planning and Zoning Administrator, regarding this.

Mr. Kuhlman asked about the playground equipment updates and timelines. Mr. Ross stated that the original timeline was mid-June, but if the weather cooperates, they will be done at the beginning of June.

Mr. Smith asked who is responsible for the flags at Hood Park around the memorials. He stated that one flag was missing and others are looking faded.

Mr. Ross stated that registrations for Summer Recreation are coming in steadily and Rec Desk has been wonderful.

Mark Weber, City Council Member, thanked Mr. Ross and the whole Service team for the windscreens at the new pickle ball courts. Mr. Weber asked about the windscreens at Municipal Park. Mr. Ross stated that they will be going up this week.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Smith, Chairperson
Recreation Committee

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.