

PERRYSBURG CITY COUNCIL

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Report for regular meeting of December 10, 2019

PRESENT: Chairwoman Deborah Born, Counselors Jim Matuszak and Jonathan Smith.

Chairwoman Born called the meeting to order in Council Chambers at 6:30 P. M. After the pledge of allegiance citizen concerns were requested and none presented.

Old Business:

Riverside Park Cannon Stands:

Mr. Smith proposed that since \$75,000 was left over from the Fort Meigs culvert Council might allocate \$25,000 from that toward the Riverside Park Cannon stands. He stated that since the cannons are going to be moved, this is a good time to under take this. Ms. Born asked where they are to be moved. Mr. Smith responded that the cannons will stay in Riverside Park but they will be moved a short distance to make room for the Gold Star Memorial. Mr. Matuszak stated that he had discussed this project with City Administrator Kabat who told him that the Service Department is considering building the cannon stands in house which would result in no expense except the time of the workers. Mr. Matuszak stated that he had no problem with with allocating the money so it can be used if necessary.. Ms. Born said she agreed with Mr. Smith's suggestion and that there are other people who would be willing to donate additional money for the project. Mr. Matuszak reiterated that his takeaway is that the City Administration is interested in building the stands themselves at a very low cost so the transferred money would be a placeholder. Ms. Born asked whom the City had in mind to do the work; Mr. Matuszak responded that Ms. Kabat had not told him. Ms. Born stated that she did not want to see the stands slapped together and she wanted them done correctly. Mr. Matuszak asked what line item should be used for the transfer. Mr. Smith replied that it might be the Riverside or Riverfront Park Improvements.

Jim Hagen, 10741 Avenue Road commented as follows: To build the stands in house will still have costs because it will require an already overworked staff to give up services of the person doing the work. In his opinion it would take six weeks to complete the project. He questioned whether the city has the necessary tools for this kind of specialized work and he that the design should be first approved by the Historic Landmarks Commission which would require a plan to be submitted before work is to be done.

Ms. Born agreed that the Department is overworked and that there would be cost regardless. She requested a vote and the Committee voted 3-0 to recommend to Council to approve the transfer.

Inclusive Playground:

Chairwoman Born announced that she had not heard from Ryan Wichman since the last meeting but she would leave item on the Agenda.

Splash Pad:

Mr. Matuszak asked if Ms. Born had further information about this project. Ms. Born replied that she did. The 180th which is based at Toledo Express Airport did a splash pad for free for the City of Port Clinton. She added that there are several foundations which give grants of this type. They include Wells Fargo Corporate Giving Grants, The Knight Community Foundation Program, The Cleveland Foundation Grant Program, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Appalachian Regional Commission Grant Program, Andersons' Fund Supporting Organization Grants, and Akron Community Foundation Grant Program.

Ms. Born continued that her research has determined that for a public setting especially a smaller one is best served by a fresh water to drain system. By using this method, it is possible to avoid the need to comply with the codes which are required for a re circulation system. Only a building permit is sometimes necessary.

Mr. Smith asked if Ms. Born had seen the report Ms. Kabat had sent to Council that afternoon. Ms. Born said she had. She had determined that Vortex is the most expensive splash pad company. The average for 1,000 square feet of splash pad is \$41,000 to \$75,000. The City of Sandusky built a 2,000 Square foot pad for \$122,000 which breaks down to \$61 per square foot. The average cost to run a splash pad system for six to eight hours a day ranges between \$20 to \$40 per month depending on electric rates.

Mr. Matuszak stated that a concern which surfaced at the Finance Committee was the cost of water. He asked how spending \$100,000 on water for the splash pad could be justified. He asked for a analysis of cost of the various options. Ms. Born replied that she had already done this. Mr. Matuszak stated that a splash pad is not in the budget now and if it is going to be in the amended budget further information is needed. Mr. Smith reiterated that his primary concern is the cost of water. Ms. Born reiterated that this is not about her but for the public; nothing grandiose but something for them to enjoy.

New Business:

Review of PRAC proposals:

Ms. Born announced that the Committee was being asked to recommend three new ordinances which encompass requests which PRAC has made concerning its organization. Ordinance 55-2019 would add the Operations Manager of the Department of Public Services as an ex Officio member. Ordinance 56-2019 changes the requirements for attendance at meetings, and Ordinance 57-2019 amends the dates for monthly meetings.

Mr. Smith asked what happens if the Operations Manager is given a different title Ms. Born responded that if this happens, the Ordinance can be amended. The Committee voted separately on each ordinance and in each case the vote was 3-0 to recommend approval.

Tom St. Meyers plaque:

Chairwoman Born proposed that the Committee consider requesting a small commemorative plaque in honor of Tom St. Meyers (recently deceased) who was the Summer Recreation Director for 27 years and a longtime member of PRAC. She said such a plaque could be placed in Municipal Park or given to Mr. St. Meyer's family. She stated that she was not in favor of renaming Municipal park. Mr. Matuszak stated that he thought such an action was appropriate but he needed direction in exactly what to present. :

PRAC Report:

Chairwoman Born reported that PRAC at its last meeting (which was unfortunately Mr. St. Meyer's last meeting) worked mostly on the Ordinances which were recommended this evening. She said PRAC appears to be very well organized and are doing a good job.

Meeting Adjourned 6:55 P. M.
Next meeting time TBA

Report prepared by
Deborah L. Born, Chairwoman
December 14, 2019