

PERRYSBURG CITY COUNCIL

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Report for regular meeting of November 10, 2020

PRESENT: Chairwoman Deborah Born, Counselors Jonathan Smith and Jan Materni, Law Director Kate Sandretto.

Chairwoman Deborah Born opened the meeting at 6:35 P. M. in Council chambers. After the Pledge of Allegiance citizen concerns were requested and none presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no discussion of the Inclusive Playground, Splash pad, Multipurpose wall or the West Side Handball Court.

Chairwoman Born reported that there is a 501C3 account in the process of being created so that donors to the Riverside Park Cannon stands can claim their contributions as deductions. Mr. Smith asked if the administration has been informed of this; Chairwoman responded that they have and she will continue to provide updates as they occur.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairwoman Born asked Randy Fahringer, who is been nominated by the Mayor for a position on the City's Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) to come forward and discuss his reasons for wanting the position. Mr. Fahringer stated that his residence is 250 Birchdale Road and that he has lived in the City for about 20 years. Mr. Fahringer and his girlfriend enjoy walking in all of the City parks and he feels that service on PRAC is an opportunity to give back to the community. He also stated that serving on PRAC will give him an opportunity to report back to the Committee any park related issues he finds during his walks.

Mr. Smith and Ms. Materni both stated that they already know Mr. Fahringer and feel that he will make an excellent member of PRAC. The Committee then voted unanimously to recommend his appointment,

Chairwoman Born also announced that the Mayor intends to reappoint Chris Patrick and Jessica Kemp, who are current members of PRAC, to a second term.

Chairwoman Born then asked the Committee for comments about the portion of the 2021 budget which deals with Recreation. She herself stated that she had only received the document at 3:00 P. M. that day.

Mr. Smith commented that there is no allocation of money for additional parkland on the West Side in the budget but the City Administration needs to keep its eyes peeled for possible land acquisitions for new parks in under served areas.

Chairwoman Born commented that she thought \$6,450 seemed to be high for Three Meadows Pond. She and Mr. Smith both asked that Ms. Sandretto to provide further information on this. Ms. Materni asked why the cost of the Summer Theater program was more than double last year's cost. Ms. Born asked Ms. Sandretto to ask the City Administrator about it. Ms. Materni then asked why there was no money for Safety Town in the Recreation budget. Ms. Sandretto stated that Safety Town money comes from a different budget. Chairwoman Born asked if it comes from the police budget.

Mr. Smith stated that he would like to know what plans the Administration has for repairing broken playground equipment in the Parks. Mr. Smith also stated that after hearing Chairwoman Born's question he had checked the police budget and found Safety Town money in it.

Ms. Materni asked if the portajohns are going to remain in the parks and why the park restrooms continue to be closed. Ms. Sandretto said not all the parks have restrooms and the restrooms in the parks which do have them remain closed because of Covid. Ms. Materni asked why ours are closed when the ones in the Metro Parks are open. Ms. Sandretto replied that Portajohns are considered to be less likely to spread the virus because less touching is required. Chairwoman Born said that the Second Street bathrooms are also closed. Mr. Smith stated that now that we have the equipment to clean the facilities properly the Administration needs to clean and reopen them now. Chairwoman Born stated to Mr. Smith that she appreciated the Pavilion with bathrooms that the Rotary Club is building in Rotary Park which is much nicer than the portapotties.

Chairwoman Born then asked if there was any item in the Recreation budget that either Counselor would like removed. Mr. Smith responded that he would like Director of Public Service Rob Ross to furnish a list of any items Mr. Ross had requested which were removed.

Chairwoman Born reported that as Council Representative she had attended the November PRAC meeting at which PRAC had suggested the construction of a cross walk between Rotary and Rivercrest Park. Mr. Smith stated that this would be a good subject for the Safety Committee. Ms. Born responded that she had already informed the Safety Committee but she wanted also to inform the Recreation Committee because the request came from PRAC. Mr. Smith said he would like to see a cross walk there.

Meeting Adjourned 7:03 P. M.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2020 at 6:30 P. M.

Report prepared by Deborah L. Born
Chairwoman
November 14, 2020