

RECREATION COMMITTEE

JANUARY 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairperson Deborah Born. Committee members present were Deborah Born, Jan Materni, and Jonathan Smith.

CITIZENS' CONCERNS

Brittley Grodi, 210 Louisiana Avenue, spoke regarding dog parks. Ms. Grodi said that she lived in Toledo and they have two dog parks, one public and one private. She said that she would like to see something like that in Perrysburg, and she has heard a lot of buzz about the subject. She asked how to get this moving forward. Ms. Born asked where Ms. Grodi was thinking a location for a dog park could be. Ms. Grodi said that she was thinking of Orleans Park. She said that she put something on Facebook asking Perrysburg residents if they are in favor of a dog park, and 160 people signed a form saying that they support it. She asked if there is any groundwork she can do to help move it along.

Mr. Smith said that he brought this subject up to City Council last year. He said that he spoke to numerous residents and businesses about it before Covid. He presented a copy of the rules and regulations for the Middlegrounds Dog Park in Toledo to the committee. He said that he spoke with the Wood County Dog Warden and the former Animal Control Officer, and previously we were overthinking it by trying to make it by membership. He said that it does not need to be monitored, just respond to complaints. He reviewed some of the rules from the Middlegrounds Dog Park which are that the dogs need to be licensed, vaccinated, spayed or neutered, older than four months, on a leash when entering and exiting, and the owner needs to clean up after the dog. He said that he was thinking about Orleans Park, but Bicentennial Park has a strip of land that is not being used. He said that he figures 1600 linear feet of fence would be required. He said that the Dog Warden suggested stones around the fence because dogs run around the fence line and because it would discourage digging. Mr. Smith provided drawings of several of the parks with possible locations marked. He said that he would love to get the Administration's thoughts.

Ms. Materni said that she likes the idea of a dog park, but not at Orleans Park. Mr. Smith said that he thinks it would be wise to set aside \$25,000 in the budget amendment for an unleashed dog area. Ms. Materni agreed. Ms. Born asked about sending the issue to the Planning and Zoning Committee. Mr. Smith said that he does not feel it has to go to Planning and Zoning. Ms. Materni stated that the fence may need to be reviewed. Ms. Born said that she feels we should also get a legal opinion about it. Mr. Smith said that he could reach out to Planning and Zoning and the City Administration regarding what the rules would be.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no discussion regarding Riverside Park, the Inclusive Playground, Splash Pad, Multipurpose Wall, or West Side Handball Court.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business discussed other than the unleashed dog park.

PRAC REPORT

Ms. Born reported that Jessica Kemp and Christopher Patrick were re-appointed to PRAC at the last City Council meeting. She said PRAC will not be meeting until April.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Born, Chairperson
Recreation Committee

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.