

Minutes of Perrysburg Recreation Committee

Meeting Held May 14, 2024

CALL TO ORDER - 5:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by Chairman Rick Rettig.

ROLL CALL

Committee members present were Rick Rettig and Barry VanHoozen. Kerry Wellstein was absent. Also present were City Administrator Joe Fawcett, Service Director Rob Ross, and Summer Rec Director Charles Brigode.

CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

None.

APPROVAL OF 3/12/24 MEETING MINUTES

There being no objections, the minutes of the March 12, 2024 meeting were approved.

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM UPDATE BY RECREATION DIRECTOR, CHARLES BRIGODE

Mr. Brigode gave an overview of the 2024 Summer Recreation Program. He said that they are hiring an additional staff member this year, and they have moved some programs around. He said they also began charging a nominal fee for programs that had been free because it helps them manage staff time better if they have accurate counts on how many kids will be attending. They are adding some single day events like capture the flag, and those events will be free. Mr. Brigode said they will not be partnering with the pool for Pool Bash because registrations are handled online through RecDesk now. He said they will instead have a family picnic on July 3rd. They will be closed on June 19, July 4 and 5, and the last day will be August 1. Mr. VanHoozen asked the age range. Mr. Brigode said they have one program for three-year olds, and they go up to age 14, but most programs are for 5-10 year olds. Mr. Rettig asked how the preliminary numbers are looking. Mr. Brigode said that it is still early because registration is open all summer, and though it's hard to tell if they will surpass last year's numbers, they seem to be on track. Mr. VanHoozen complimented Mr. Brigode and his team. Mr. Brigode said he organizes it, but it is the staff that makes it what it is. Mr. Rettig said the fact that the employees come back year after year speaks to his leadership. Mr. Ross agreed that they do a great job with the program. He said in 2019 there were 63 programs offered, and now there are over 80 programs offered.

SKATEBOARD PARKS - JUSTIN LECOMPTE

Mr. Rettig said that Justin Lecompte reached out to him because of his passion for skateboarding. Mr. Rettig noted that at one point, there was a \$25,000 placeholder in the budget for a skate park. Mr. Lecompte made a presentation to PRAC, and Mr.

Rettig felt it was important to start talking about it, so he invited Mr. Lecompte to make the same presentation to the committee. Mr. Lecompte said he is just looking for a place for youth to be able to skate. He explained that skateboarding is an alternative for youth who don't participate in organized sports. It provides exercise, perseverance, and skateparks give kids who don't play a traditional sport a sense of community. He provided some statistics about the risk of injury in skateboarding which is lower than basketball, and provided possible locations in the area that he thinks would be a good place for a skatepark. He said that grants are available, but it's essential to have the support of the City before applying for them. Mr. Lecompte asked what the next steps are in the process. Mr. Rettig said that making City Council aware of the desire is the starting point. He said that there are several large expenditures for the City right now, so at the least, it could be a couple of years. Mr. Lecompte thanked the committee for the support they've shown, and he said he will keep chipping away at it.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ross reported that the pool will be opening on Saturday, June 1, 2024. He said that during the off-season, they worked on the garage doors, keypads, got two new cash registers, and 18 new lounge chairs. He said they have been working on the main pump and it is working right now, but it might need to be replaced.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Rettig, Chairperson
Recreation Committee

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.