PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
February 17, 2015
MOTION SUMMARY

ITEM 1. Roll Call

Staff Liaison Linda Mathews called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Matt Polites, Julie German, Nicole LaMar-Nelson, Allyson Lash, Joshua Bricker, and Lucas Ratliff

Members Absent: Gretchen Bowling, Councilmember Jones, and Vice-Chairwoman Jennifer Davis

City Staff Present: Stacy Davenport, Parks Superintendent, Dan Whited, Public Service Group Director, Linda Mathews, Customer Service Liaison, Tom Homan, City Manager, and Mayor Carolyn Riggle

YMCA Staff Present: Matthew Bruns, Executive Director

MOTION TO EXCUSE

Motion: Mr. Polites moved to excuse, Ms. Bowling, Vice-Chairwoman Davis and Councilmember Jones, seconded by Ms. LaMar-Nelson. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

ITEM 2. APPROVAL of the Motion Summary for the meeting held November 18, 2014 as recorded and transcribed.

Motion: Mr. Polites moved to approve the motion summary for the meeting held November 18, 2014, seconded by Ms. German. Motion passed by a vote 3-0-3 (Lash, Bricker, Ratliff).

ITEM 3. INTRODUCTION of New Board Members

Ms. Mathews introduced new board members, and informed of the recent resignation of Ms. Kathy Shelton.

Mr. Homan welcomed the new members and provided a history of the Parks and Recreation Department, and the past role of the Parks and Recreation Board. Mr. Homan discussed the role that the YMCA has in the Parks and Recreation activities and organization.

ITEM 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Dianna Hibinger, 154 Cambridge Road, Delaware, Ohio

Ms. Hibinger was introduced as a potential future Parks and Recreation Board Member by Mayor Riggle. Ms. Hibinger discussed her experience with the Board as a tennis pro, and assistant instructor for Ohio Wesleyan University. She discussed her goal to bring an interest and increase involvement of tennis to children.

ITEM 5. UPDATE on YMCA Recreation Services

Mr. Matthew Bruns, 316 Seatrain Dr., Delaware Ohio, Executive Director of YMCA

Mr. Bruns discussed with the Board the new introduction to soccer program. He also provided information on the Live Strong program and fundraiser to take place in October. Mr. Bruns informed the Board of the upcoming Daddy-Daughter Dance to be held February 20, 2015, and that in March there will be the Mother-Son Super Hero Party. Mr. Bruns also informed the Board of the scheduled Easter Egg Hunt to be held, April 4, 2015. Mr. Bruns discussed with the Board the use of the YMCA as a warming shelter for those in need during inclement weather.

ITEM 6. UPDATES of Parks Improvements

Ms. Mathews provided to the new Board members information on the Parks and Recreation Levy.

Mr. Whited discussed the various parks that are part of and maintained by the City of Delaware. He provided an update on the Veteran's Park project, including information on the amenities that the park will provide to the community. Mr. Whited also discussed the progress of the connection of the bike paths in the City of Delaware. Mr. Whited updated the Board on the progression of the Dog Park at the Wetlands Park.

ITEM 7. STAFF COMMENTS

Mr. Whited provided an update on the recent grants that were acquired for canoeing and kayaking, as well as, the grant that was recently applied for the installation of recycling bins in the park areas.

ITEM 8. MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Polites inquired on the status of introducing pickle ball as a recreational sport and activity. Ms. Hibinger discussed the difference of pickle ball compared to tennis, and informed the board that there are various grants that can be applied for the construction of courts.

Mr. Ratliff questioned the decrease in the Capital Improvement Plan. Mr. Davenport explained the rotation schedule for improvements and how it affects this plan.

Ms. LaMar-Nelson discussed the need to sponsor an activity during National Parks and Recreation Month, and provide different activities at various parks.

Ms. German discussed the need to increase marketing and advertise activities that are available.

Mr. Bricker requested information on the previously discussed set open and close dates for the Hidden Valley Golf Course. Mr. Davenport explained that this item was currently tabled.

Ms. Lash informed the Board of her background in Marketing, and would like to assist and provide ideas how to market the different activities.

ITEM 9. DISCUSSION of Board Reorganization (Mayor Riggle)

Mayor Riggle provided a discussion of the past organization of the Board and how it has been discussed to break the Board into two different groups, with one group to focus on park activities and improvement needs, and the other group to focus on recreation. She discussed the possibility of having the groups meet separately and then meet quarterly together.

Mr. Bricker discussed his past experience working for the City of Dublin Parks and Recreation Department, and the need for cross communication between the two groups.

Mr. Ratliff feels that smaller groups may allow for more focus on individual activities, but felt that the Board should wait a couple months before proceeding to help new members get acclimated to their new positions as board members.

Ms. LaMar-Nelson discussed the lack of direction that she has felt in the past and feels that smaller groups will provide a benefit to focus on different tasks.

Mr. German discussed the benefit of completing an assessment of what activities or improvements that citizens would like to have to help provide direction to the Board. Mr. Homan discussed the citizen survey that is expected to be completed in the spring and that this would be a good opportunity to determine what the citizens would see as important improvements.

Mayor Riggle and Mr. Homan agreed with the Board to wait a couple months before reorganizing the Parks and Recreation Board.

ITEM 10. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Polites moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting, seconded by Ms. LaMar-Nelson. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Chairman

Elaine McCloskey, Clerk