



## **WORTHINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **Minutes of the Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Meeting**

**Members Present** - The members present were Bob Burpee, Laura Ball, Peter Calamari, and Dave Kessler. City support staff Darren Hurley, Parks & Recreation Director, and Lauren Lange, Recorder, were also present.

Also attending was Stacy Hall of 5850 Granby Street and Mary Butterfield of 6781 Thorne Street.

City Council Member David Robinson was also present.

The minutes from the February 20, 2018 meeting were approved.

**Community Center HVAC and Lighting Improvements** – Mr. Hurley provided an update on the Community Center HVAC Improvements Process. After some previous analysis and recommendations, the City had put the improvements on hold as a result of some procedural challenges with utilizing a design/build strategy and the need to define a process that would allow a consultant to perform and study and then follow through with the necessary repair while guaranteeing the energy savings. As a result, Council passed legislation under the Ohio Revised Code 717.02 which would allow that approach. ABM was selected from a request for proposals to perform the review and make recommendations for improvements. ABM also holds the city's annual HVAC maintenance contract so they are familiar with our systems. The improvements will address several of the issues we've had in the building including positive pressure pushing chlorinated air out of the natatorium, air circulation and balance between the fitness level and the lobby, lighting levels in the natatorium, and lighting upgrades to LED throughout the facility and in the parking lot. They are also planning improvements to other facilities which would mostly occur in a phase two. There are improvements planned for the Griswold Center that are being included in phase one including lighting upgrades and HVAC work. The total initial investment by the City for phase one will be \$2,076,759. The guaranteed net savings over 15 years will be \$2,688,928. The agreement provides a guarantee to the City that if the savings are not realized ABM will reimburse the City for the difference. Mr. Calamari commented that he was in favor of the same company doing the installation as the maintenance, he agreed this would be beneficial in the future. Mr. Kessler was concerned of new LED parking lot lights being brighter and affecting his residence, Mr. Hurley stated he did not believe the light projection would bleed any more than it does now.

**Earth Day Work Day at Moses Wright Nature Area** – Mr. Hurley passed out a list of activities going on in town representing Earth Day and Arbor Day. Sustainable Worthington in partnership with the

City will conduct a community work day on Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Moses Wright Nature Preserve. This is the tenth year for the work there with Sustainable Worthington. Friends of the Lower Olentangy Watershed (FLOW) along with the City has a weekend event planned to plant 500 trees at the Whitney and Highgate Playground areas along the Olentangy Trail on Saturday, April 14 & Sunday, April 15. City staff will also host an Arbor Day Celebration on the Village Green Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at noon.

**LimeBike Dockless Bike Sharing Program** – The Bike and Pedestrian Committee made a recommendation to City Council at their meeting last night to authorize the City Manager to enter into a pilot program for a dockless bike sharing program with a company called LimeBike. Council approved the initiative. LimeBike seeks to revolutionize urban mobility with smart, dockless bike sharing programs at no cost to the city. LimeBike runs from an app on a smartphone, to locate, pay for, and ride a bike to another local destination and then park it in an approved parking area. The cost for this ride is based on \$1.00 per 30 minutes. LimeBike also provides local staff to provide support, maintenance, and relocate bikes as well as respond to urgent calls. Mr. Burpee inquired if other cities were using this program. Mr. Hurley replied that Dublin was and possibly a few others in the near future including Westerville, Clintonville, and OSU. Mr. Calamari commented that a similar program has been in place on campus of The Ohio State University and has not gotten much use with students, and asked who would use this program locally? Ms. Ball replied that COTA bus riders, visitors staying in hotels are just a few examples of the audience and this bike is very affordable considering it is perfectly maintained and cannot get flat tires. The bikes must also remain on public land. Mr. Hurley added that the City has indentified bike and pedestrian mobility as a priority and he anticipates there will continue to be projects and initiatives of this type.

**McCord Park Planning Process** – Mr. Hurley provided Commission Members with the comments that POD Design collected at the most recent open house. Comments collected from the city’s on-line survey which closed this morning will be compiled and passed along as soon as they are ready. The results will also be made available on the City’s website. Mr. Calamari indicated a preference to defer the subject to the April meeting once all comments are reviewed by all members and hopefully the full commission can be present.

**Project Updates** – Mr. Hurley reported that diamond #3 at Perry Park is the last diamond among the renovations to be completed and the work is wrapping up. It is scheduled to open on time for the beginning of the season. There may be some additional improvements made in the vicinity of the field including a batting cage and practice infield depending on coordination efforts with the Worthington Youth Boosters (WYB). The multi-use trail has also been repaved at this park. Mr. Burpee added that the field looks great but inquired about honeysuckle removal. Mr. Hurley replied that Scott Brown, Parks Manager, will be assessing the removal of honeysuckle in the coming weeks. It has been delayed due to wet conditions and the inability to get heavy equipment onto the turf.

Mr. Hurley updated the members on many other projects as well.

- Snouffer Park – the mounds behind the backstops have been graded down and sod will be put in place as weather allows.
- Community Center – The south end roof replacement is in beginning stages. Weather will decide the completion date but the hope is to have work completed prior to summer.
- Olentangy Parklands – The lower set of tennis courts will be converted to pickleball once the weather allows for the surface painting to begin. This is likely to occur in May. We are also working towards the restrooms which will be added close to the tennis courts. Funding needs have changed due to details being finalized.
- Godown Park – Parking lot improvements is completed. Grass seed will be put down once warm weather comes.
- Community Center – Egg Scramble Event will take place this Friday March 23<sup>rd</sup> at McCord Park outfields. Hunt will be begin at 6:00pm.

**Other** – Ms. Ball inquired about a patch of pavement on the Olentangy Trail at the bridge leaving the north side of the Olentangy Parklands. It appeared it was a cold patch job and wondered if it was

scheduled to be fixed better in the warmer weather. Mr. Hurley noted the location and agreed to ask respective individuals.

Mr. Burpee asked if the yellow cap on the outfield fence at Perry Field #3 would be replaced. Mr. Hurley thought it would be but noted to double check with Parks Crew.

Mr. Kessler added that he has been hearing a chirping sound coming from some of the exterior pool mechanical equipment. He says it sounds like a cricket and can hear it when he is outside of his house. Mr. Hurley noted the message and agreed to look into the matter.

Being no further business, the motion for the meeting to adjourn was granted.