



## **WORTHINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **Minutes of the Tuesday, February 18, 2020 Meeting**

**Members Present** - The members present were Dan Armitage, Laura Ball, Rachel DeNoewer, David Kessler, and Michele Miller. City support staff Darren Hurley, Parks & Recreation Director, Lauren Lange, Recorder were also present.

Mr. Steve Kolwicz and Mr. Ryan Young from POD Design were also present.

The minutes from the December 17, 2019 meeting were approved.

**Swearing in of Re-Appointed Commission Members** – Mr. Hurley read the swearing in statement for appointment to the Commission to Mr. Kessler and Ms. Miller as they repeated it after him. They each signed their document and returned it to Mr. Hurley as members of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

**Appointment of Chairs** – Mr. Hurley requested nominations for 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission Chair. Mr. Kessler nominated Rob Wendling; Ms. Ball seconded the nomination. Mr. Wendling had previously volunteered for the nomination. All members voted in favor for Mr. Wendling to become Chair.

Mr. Hurley requested nomination for 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission Vice Chair. Mr. Kessler nominated Rachel DeNoewer; Ms. Ball seconded the nomination. Ms. DeNoewer accepted the nomination. All members voted in favor for Ms. DeNoewer to become Vice Chair.

**McCord Park Renovations Plan Review** – Mr. Hurley began by reviewing the most recent process for McCord Park Renovations and revisited the schematic design from POD. He also announced that by the end of the presentation he would like to take a motion to present to Council.

Mr. Young reviewed the schedule presented to Commission Members, recapped the past few public gatherings of information, and updated them on the next step of presenting the design to council. Mr. Kolwicz confirmed the parking lot is the focus of the first bid package and the second bid package would include the playground and other aspects in the design.

Mr. Hurley added that the asphalt pavement for the multi-use trails in the phase one area will attempt to be bundled with the city's annual street improvement program later this summer in order to acquire a less expensive bulk rate. Mr. Kessler asked if the unused pavement will be removed in that same bid package and drainage would be fixed. Mr. Hurley responded positively that the current cul-de-sac would be removed, and Mr. Kolwicz verified a civil engineer would be redesigning the drainage. Mr. Kolwicz further explained the use of a porous asphalt that may be installed in the new parking lot on the far

north end to assist with better drainage as well. Mr. Hurley reported that members have the option to move a motion tonight with enough details to get a council approval and have funds released to begin Phase I.

Mr. Young further discussed the details of the open house in January and feedback from the students at Wilson Hill Elementary. Using the statistics from those events he formed a design with playground specifics and various elements that will be used. Mr. Kolwicz mentioned lighting being necessary on the pathway from the Community Center to Northhigh Drive. He assured members this lighting would be discrete and possibly solar powered.

Mr. Hurley confirmed details of Phase I and recommended a motion. Mr. Kessler asked for a motion to approve the conceptual design as follows:

*The Parks and Recreation Commission supports the design development of the updated Conceptual Master Plan for McCord Park completed by POD Design and recommend moving ahead with preparing construction documents for the bidding of phase one of the project which is currently funded in the 2020 CIP.*

All members approved the motion as stated above.

**Parks and Recreation Cost Study Results** – Mr. Hurley explained the cost analysis conducted in the overall operation of the department. These numbers will give residents an idea of how much subsidy is in each category. He continued to review specifics in the graph of Summary of Recreation Services document. In future meetings he will be asking for help in determining the classification of services listed and where the tax paying subsidies would be allocated, a prioritization exercise. These results are not intended to get rid of any certain service but rather provide guidance moving forward. Mr. Kessler inquired about how members would categorize all the services because that seems like a big deal. Mr. Hurley reassured that he would lead the discussion on suggestions and look for approval to make sure the department is matching up with taxpayer expectations.

**Other** – Mr. Hurley announced he is looking for approval from Council tonight on park improvements. The first is approval to replace the Selby Park Playground. The other is Perry Park bathroom backflow upgrades.

Mr. Armitage inquired about a practice return board that was removed from the lower courts at Olentangy Parklands when the court was redone for pickleball and where its new location is. Mr. Hurley agreed to check on that with Parks Crew.

Mr. Kessler reported that the exhaust fan from the pool is screaming again and he can hear it from inside his house. Mr. Hurley agreed to contact the HVAC company to look at it.

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