



## **WORTHINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

### **Minutes of the Tuesday, October 19, 2021, Meeting**

**Note** – This meeting was conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams.

**Members Present** - The members present were Dan Armitage, Laura Ball, Alan McKnight, Michele Miller, and Rob Wendling. City support staff Darren Hurley (Parks & Recreation Director) was also present.

The minutes from the September 21, 2021, meeting were approved unanimously.

**Community Center and Griswold Center Operations Update** – Mr. Hurley provided an update on current operating hours at the Community Center and Griswold Center. Both facilities are open but operating with reduced hours. The Griswold Center is open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. each weekday with the building hosting programming after 3 p.m. when scheduled. Prior to COVID, the building operated 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Plans to resume those full hours is under review as we assess programming and people returning to the facility.

The Community Center is now open seven days a week with mostly normal weekday hours and still reduced weekend hours. The exception to that is the pool which is week to week and has had significantly reduced hours at times due to a shortage of lifeguards. There are also challenges with staffing in other areas, but other staff are covering to allow for a fuller slate of hours. The goal is to resume our typical hours as more members return this winter and staffing allows. The pool hours will continue to be dictated by the staffing we can cover. Staff are working with City Hall on pay increases or other incentives to try to secure more lifeguard staff.

**Proposed Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects** – Mr. Hurley shared the proposed capital improvement program (CIP) projects for 2022-2026. These are currently proposed and being reviewed by City Council. The CIP gets adopted by City Council in December which sets firmly the first year (2022) and charts the current plan for the remaining four years. Those remaining four years get reviewed and approved again in subsequent years as things can change. Mr. Hurley explained some of the 2022 projects in more details and answered some general questions from members. The projects and equipment proposed for 2022 are as follows:

- McCord Park Renovations Phase II - \$2,100,000
- Park Facility & Amenity Replacements - \$25,000
- Perry Park Playground Replacement - \$280,000

- Pickleball Court Repainting - \$17,000
- Selby Park Renovations Design - \$50,000
- Bike & Ped Improvements - \$150,000
- Community Center Fitness Floor Painting - \$15,500
- Community Center Lobby Renovations Design - \$25,000
- Small Equipment Replacement - \$15,000
- Turf Mowers - \$16,000
- Community Center Cooling Tower Motor - \$50,000
- Community Center Fitness Equipment - \$106,500
- Community Center Staff Car - \$35,000
- Park Drinking Fountains - \$12,500
- Parks Wide Area Mower - \$114,000
- Sod Cutter - \$5,300

**McCord Park Phase One Renovations Update** – Mr. Hurley provided an update on McCord Park Phase One renovations. Work is moving along, including the seeding of the soccer field, trail and parking lot paving, and excavation of the train observation area. Work is still projected to be completed by early December except for the playground and shelters which are delayed due to shipping. The shelters will likely still be installed this winter, but the playground will have to wait until the spring since temperatures won't allow for safety surfacing installation. There will also be some landscaping and trail areas to be completed in the spring.

**Other** – Mr. Wendling asked about the Olentangy Trail bridge repairs. Mr. Hurley indicated they are scheduled and should be completed in the next couple of weeks to include repair of the bad area and application of the slip resistant materials.

Mr. McKnight reminded Mr. Hurley about the rope climber at the Highgate Playground needing repaired. There is a clamp that has come loose. Mr. Hurley said staff is aware and will address.

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