



WORTHINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes of the Tuesday December 18th, 2012 Meeting

Members Present - The members present were Dave Kessler, Dan Armitage, Rob Wendling, and Darren Hurley, Director of Parks & Recreation.

Also present was Peter Calamari, of 280 Heischman Avenue, recently appointed Commission member awaiting his swearing in at the January meeting.

The minutes for the November 20th, 2012 meeting were approved.

Thomas Worthington High School's Outdoor Education Building Project – Peter Macrae, Architect, presented plans for the Outdoor Education Building located on the grounds of TWHS. Mr. Macrae claimed that the original bones and masonry of the building are in good shape and will be used in the reconstruction. The intention of the refurbished building is to hold many different functions including servicing the public, Worthington Youth Boosters, School Athletics, and Education Courses. Security of this building is a focal point of conversation that will result in increased lighting and extra police patrolling the area. Voluntary labor will be necessary and utilized from community members.

Olentangy River Access Plan Submissions – Worthington Parks and Recreation has taken an informational and advisory role in the execution of this river access project. FLOW, The Ohio State University School of Engineering Students-Engineers without Borders are currently taking the role of designing, coordinating, and constructing. Drawings of the project were displayed at the meeting. Some concerns were brought up about the quality of materials to be used that will hold up through annual cycles of the river's water stages. Darren stated that these drawings were the drafts before the recent feedback sessions and many of the concerns noted by members had already been passed along. Mr. Armitage has been very pleased with the progress these groups are making and looks forward to continue working with them.

Mr. Armitage contacted Ohio Division of Natural Resources Scenic River Manager, Natalie Pirvu, concerned about the quality of paddle sports on the river. Ms. Pirvu informed that the current

boulders that are inhibiting paddlers could be moved without machinery. However, ODOT may be taking care of the movement of these boulders in exchange for services. Mr. Armitage was advised to hold off on that project until further decisions were made with ODOT.

Mr. Wendling voiced concerns about verifying that the slope of the riverbank was constructed in such a way as to not create a hydraulic flush over the access way. If a hydraulic flush is created, the structure will endure more erosion than necessary. Darren stated he would pass that concern along to the contact as well.

Discussion on Potential Change of Meeting Time for 2013 – Mr. Hurley proposed the idea of changing the meeting time of the Commission due to some inquiries from members. Mr. Kessler suggested composing an email to all members to gather opinions on the topic. Mr. Hurley agreed that he would do so.

Other – City Council approved the Parks and Recreation Commission's member fee proposal for the 2013 calendar year.

The Candy Cane Carnival held on Friday, December 14th welcomed about 750 people to participate in carnival games, duet singers, craft activities, themed treat trail, story time, bingo, and visits with Santa.

Planning for the 2013 CIP Project replacing the All Children's Playground will begin in early 2013. This project and other CIP projects will be discussed at the January meeting.

A security consultant is planned to come assess the Community Center for security weaknesses. Led by Worthington Police, the consultant will suggest ways to improve the security of the building inside and outside.

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