

March 14th, 2024, Playground and Recreation Board minutes regular meeting

Recreation Board Members Present: Brent Roalson, Phil McNally, Steve Brenbarger, Melissa Hulse, Maribeth Manigold, Sarah Nanouski, Jason Rix

Others City Officials attending the meeting: Commissioner Marla Pearson

Recreation Board Members Absent: Randy Bretag, Ryan Cantlin, (Dave Marvin, Former Director of Ottawa Recreation).

Guests: Kari Hilton, Joe Hilton, Mike Cheatham (all of the OGFA Board) and Steve Kuhn

OGFA brings to the board the issue of field improvements needed for fields 1,2,3 and 4 at Peck Park. They presented to the board an estimate obtained from R & R Landscaping and Irrigation, Inc. (whom they have found to be a reputable and reliable business) for the amount of \$9,270.00 per field, or \$27,810 for reinstalling clay in the pitcher's mound, batters' boxes and bullpens on Fields 1,2 and 3. Said fields will be resurfaced and graded as well. (It is noted that Field 4 will require a lot more work and due to lack of funds for the 2024 calendar year, OGFA has decided to put off repairs until next year, 2025.)

OGFA has committed \$13,905 towards the completion of the project (which they anticipate will be scheduled to begin late July or early August 2024) and is asking the Ottawa Playground and Recreation Board to allocate the remaining \$13,905 for the improvements to Fields 1,2 and 3. **A motion is made by Maribeth Manigold to approve OGFA's request for \$13,905 for field improvements on Fields 1,2 and 3. Steve Brenbarger 2nds the Motion. All in favor. None oppose. Motion is passed.**

Brent Roalson suggests that it may be possible to address the maintenance issues with Field 4 in conjunction with addressing Ollum field, next year.

1. Steve Brenbarger moved to approve the February Recreation minutes. Phil McNally second. Motion passed.
2. Phil McNally moved to accept the February Recreation Financial Reports. Steve Brenbarger second. Motion passed.
3. Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Pearson reported on the continuation of ongoing projects at Alan and Peck Parks. South Ottawa Township was mentioned for their generous donation of \$25,000 towards the shelter at Peck Park. A dog park was mentioned as a future project.
4. President's Report –
  - a. Brent Roalson addressed the board and advised that the current City Recreation Director, Dave Marvin's, evaluation was completed and that he was removed from his position. Dave is, therefore, no longer on the board. The City's laptop was turned in and Twitter access has been relinquished. Brent spoke with the former director, and Mark is not interested. Amanda, an assistant to the former director, will help fill the void until a replacement can be found for Dave. Brent has reached out to Maya Ahlstrom, a former applicant for the director position, who may be interested in filling the position on a part-time basis. Brent discussed how the board would like the direction of the City Recreation Program to move towards

more inclusive to all ages and year round programming. Brent mentioned wanting to touch base with Bridges and see if the programs can't work together to create some new programs to be offered to our older residents.

5. Director's Report –
  - a. Adult Basketball - nothing reported
  - b. Softball Registration-Brian Battistelli is passing out flyers & handling
  - c. Summer Employment-Sarah Nanouski will forward the email that went out to all previous camp directors so that contact information can be changed.
6. Old Business:
  - a. Outstanding committed money
    - i. Phil McNally has a bill submitted from Jake McCullough on behalf of the Wolfpack for concrete work that was paid and is to be reimbursed by the board. **Phil made a motion to reimburse Jake McCullough \$3,083 for concrete work paid for. Steve seconds. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passed.**
7. Long Range Planning and Board Goals
  - a. Construction in Progress – Alan and Peck Park improvements progressing
  - b. Park Inspections – Melissa turned in to Steve K.
  - c. Long Range Plans and Review – Nothing to report
8. Committee Reports
  - a. By-laws (Maribeth) – Maribeth suggests that “open forum” wordage be added
  - b. Financial (Ryan) – Budget was submitted to the City. Unknown when/if a meeting to discuss will occur.
  - c. Parks (Randy B., Steve B.) – Randy not present
  - d. Programs – (Phil and Maribeth) –
    - i. Bench Purchase-Jason obtained quotes from New Toys (\$3,260) and from BSN (\$1,700) for 2 15ft benches with ledges. Phil obtained a quote from Beacon Sports for \$3,700. Phil noted that he has ordered from Beacon in the past and that their equipment is of good quality. **Phil made a motion to purchase two 15ft benches from Beacon Sports for \$3,700. Maribeth 2nd the Motion. All in favor. None oppose. Motion passed.** Benches will be shipped to 425 Jackson Street.
    - ii. Masonry Work-dugout work moving along nicely. Roofs will need to be done. Work will remain in progress.
  - e. Leagues – (Phil, Brent, Melissa) –
    - i. Brent addresses the possible need for a push from the board for the current Charters to pursue the consolidation of the Northside and Southside Little Leagues. One is going to have to dissolve.
    - ii. Phil spoke of the need to repair the flood light for Little League & of a bill for repair of a tractor tire from Pumps for the mower repair.
    - iii. Phil addressed the \$8,000.00 is still available to Little League (once they submit the proper paperwork) and can be used for backstop and netting repairs needed.
    - iv. Phil spoke of work in progress from B&G electric on Masinelli Field on the electric being run for the scoreboard and of the sign IDOT put up directing the public to the fields.

- v. Phil is looking into purchasing 14inch softballs for the adult softball leagues and has a quote of \$165 per dozen.
  - vi. Phil mentioned and will work with Steve Kuhn and Bill Jones on the removal of a tree/and or roots from around a water fountain that is causing a sidewalk to buckle and could be a safety hazard.
  - vii. **Maribeth made a motion to approve OGFA be paid out their stipend of \$8,000 for the 2024 season as all of their paperwork has been completed and turned in. Steve seconds the motion. All approve. None oppose. Motion passes.**
  - viii. Brent mentions that the Lyons Club has expressed that they will continue with their donation and it is considered that a sign of appreciation be obtained.
  - ix. Steve expressed the need for net replacements for the soccer fields. **Melissa made a motion to approve \$300.00 purchase of new nets (that will be shipped to Steve) to replace the present ones. Maribeth seconds the motion. All in favor. None oppose. Motion passes.**
- f. Social Media / Internet
- i. Melissa now has all access to all social media and will look into.
9. New Business –
- a. Nominations for new Board Chair Positions will take place in April (as stated in the by-laws).
  - b. Appointment of new League Committee Members will be done in April.
10. Meeting adjourned 6:52p.m.
- a. Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Melissa Seconded. All approve. None oppose. Motion passed.