



Approved: 12/4/2014

**MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 6, 2014**

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE **REGULAR BOYNE CITY
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING HELD AT
6:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2014.**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by Chair Sheean at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mike Sheean, Bill Kuhn, Jo Bowman, Marie Sheets and Gail VanHorn

Absent: Darryl Parish, Jerry Swift and Heath Meeder

**MEETING
ATTENDANCE**

City Staff: Streets/Parks & Recreation Superintendent Andy Kovolski
Recording Secretary Barb Brooks

Public Present: Fourteen

****MOTION**

Sheets moved, Bowman seconded, PASSED (4 Ayes : 1 Nay) to excuse the absences of Meeder and Swift

**APPROVAL OF
MINUTES **MOTION**

Bowman moved, VanHorn seconded, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, a motion approving the October 2, 2014 meeting minutes as presented.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS
(on non-agenda items)**

None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kovolski reported the fireplace at the Avalanche warming house is almost done.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

**REPORTS OF
OFFICERS, BOARDS
AND STANDING
COMMITTEES**

Park Inspection Reports

Avalanche - Kuhn reported that it is being heavily used. In working on the fireplace he is seeing various types of users all throughout the day. He also reported to Andy there was an electrical wire somewhat exposed that someone should take a look at.

Riverside Park - Sheets inquired about having further discussion regarding a mowing schedule and extending the trail. Kovolski stated that this could take place in the spring.

Disc Golf Update - Course remains in good shape and the "Haunted

Hyzer” tournament sponsored by the Boyne Valley Club had a great turn-out.

Trail(s) Updates – Funding and plans for both trails continues to move forward.

Dog Park Update – Directional signage has been installed at Michigan Ave. and also on Court St. The “Howl-o-ween” event was successful with many dogs and owners showing up for the fun. The event rose a little over \$100 for the dog park fund.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Avalanche Signage

Kovolski reported the remaining signage still has not been installed.

Avalanche Tree Removals (Face of Hill)

There has not been any further progress on this.

Grant for Property Purchase

MNRTF Grant for the purchase of the Moody property by Riverside Park is still in negotiation with the property owner.

NEW BUSINESS

Disc Golf Course Improvement & Expansion Proposal

Forrest Omland from the Boyne Valley Disc Golf Club shared with the board public comments from a blog regarding the course, accomplishments made to the course in 2014 with the assistance of the City and their wish list of improvements for 2015 and beyond; which consisted of improved tee pads, replace the main welcome sign and consideration to add up to nine (9) additional holes.

Board Discussion – The general consensus of the board was that they have been very impressed overall with the involvement of the Boyne Valley Club and the care and improvements of the course. The board suggested the club prioritize their wish list; it seems that a solution for tee pads seems to be the most urgent. Recording secretary Brooks inquired about options other than concrete pads as they are not very aesthetically pleasing and not in keeping of a nature area. Omland stated there are other options for pads such as rubber and diamond dust. Board members inquired as to where the potential new holes would go and is there room without encroaching on other trails and/or uses. Chair Sheean suggested that the club come up with a more formal proposal for the board to review.

Avalanche Mountain Bike Trail Planning and Input Session

Alex Harrington from the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) asked for board and public input as to how they feel about the current trail and what they would like to see in the future. Chair Sheean summarized by stating the current trail is good trail but there is room for improvement to create a cycling destination while making it sustainable and being mindful of the land and other existing uses. The board asked Mr. Harrington if he had been to the site, looked at all of

the trails and if there was enough room to expand. Mr. Harrington explained the standard generally used is one mile of trail per 20 acres of land and using this theory, Avalanche could have approximately 16 miles of trails; although, with the other uses that may not make sense. An attractive, destination trail that most riders will travel to use is at least 12 miles in length. The current trail at Avalanche is 4.4 miles. To achieve 12 miles, there would be some re-use and re-routing of the existing trail and then a look at where the trail could be expanded. He hopes to present his findings by the end of the year. The board is excited to see the recommendations that Mr. Harrington comes up with and felt that 12 to 16 miles of trails done correctly could potentially be an improvement over 4.4 miles of trails done incorrectly.

Recreation Master Plan

Recording secretary Brooks passed out summary comments from the October 23rd public input meeting and reminded the board to continue to review the current Recreation Plan for discussion and recommendations for a draft plan that can be publically reviewed prior to the public hearing. Due to the length of the agenda, further discussion and additional input will take place at the December 4th meeting.

Resignation of Board Member Bill Kuhn

Kuhn's term expires December 31 of 2015 but due to the fact he will be spending winters out of state he feels that he should resign and open up room on the board for someone who will participate throughout the entire year. He stated that he has thoroughly enjoyed his time on the board and is very proud to have served the community.

****MOTION**

Sheets reluctantly moved, Bowman seconded (with regret and gratitude), PASSED UNANIMOUSLY a motion to accept the resignation of Bill Kuhn effective at the close of the meeting.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Kuhn brought up for discussion the possibility of opening up board membership to citizens outside of the City limits in neighboring townships. Brooks looked researched this and per City Charter, a board member must have lived within the City for at least one full year and be a registered voter within the City at the time of appointment and throughout his/her tenure. Any changes to the City Charter require a majority vote of the people. It is not the same process as an ordinance modification.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Board is scheduled for Thursday, ~~November 6~~ December 4, 2014 at 6 pm at City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

The ~~October 2~~ November 6, 2014 meeting of the Parks and Recreation board was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Barb Brooks

Barb Brooks, Recording Secretary