

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, June 15, 2009, 4:30pm, at City Hall in the Lower Level Conference Room.

Present at said meeting were Garnet Peck, Mike Dana, Karen Springer, Mary Nauman, Richard Shockley and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Council member Ann Hunt was also present. Absent from the Department was Lee Booth and Council members Gerald Thomas and Gerry Keen.

Garnet convened the Board at 4:33pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the May 18, 2009 meeting. Karen motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Mary seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing
- Brian Tunis is leaving the Department. His last day is Friday
- The Tapawingo Park band shell is installed

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- Distributed copies of pool report comparing the first 21 days of operation to the last two years. Attendance is down by around 2,000; revenue is down by a little over \$800. I think most of it is due to the weather. It has rained nine of the 21 days and we have had no 90-degree days.
- The Coed Softball league has missed four nights, eighteen games due to rain. The Men's league has missed three nights, twelve games due to the weather. Bob is working on a revised schedule that will be mailed out next week.
- We now have a volunteer chairperson for Global Fest; her name is Ann Brandyberry.

Parks – Pennie reported in Lee's absence:

- Playground and trail inspections were presented.
- Trying to keep up with the growing grass
- Morton and Tapawingo parking lots were seal coated with Morton re-lined and Tapawingo to be done on the next dry day
- Adding and leveling dirt around the band shell in Tapawingo Park as weather permits, also sprucing up the park for the up coming event
- A new concrete pad was poured at Lilly Nature Center for a bench and drinking fountain to be installed in the next few weeks
- Waiting on parts then the rink repairs will be completed and tested.

Recreation Report – Chris reported on the following:

- Summer sports camps are underway. Each sport camp is one week long. Fifty-three girls participated in Coach Jane Schott's basketball camp. Ninety-six boys registered for Coach Dave Wood's basketball camp. Thirty girls and boys registered for Coach Bryan Clouse's soccer camp. Forty-nine girls are currently enrolled in Coach Lisa Turner's volleyball camp.

- The Tennis program was redesigned this year to allow more lessons for children. An advanced adult lesson was also added. This new advanced class filled all three sessions.
- The pool opened for the summer season on May 23. The weather is making the swim season a little cooler than normal as well as a little wetter.
- Swim lessons began on June 8. When the weather cooperates, there has been great attendance. Ninety-nine swim lessons were processed over this past weekend.
- The Diving program began June 1.
- The two Playground programs have filled. Cumberland School is in the process of moving classrooms. The staff has been very helpful accommodating our program.
- The staff has been working hard to handle the phones and walk-in registration.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- I attended the Murdock Family Fun Night on Thursday, May 21. The booths did not get many visitors, but it was enjoyable talking to those people that did stop by.
- The parking lot was resealed and striped over the Memorial Day weekend. It looks very nice.
- The air compressor that operates the room thermostats at Morton has failed. That resulted in several very warm days for our participants. We presently have an air compressor that has been loaned to us until we can replace our compressor.

Old Business

ADA Transition Plan

Joe sent out copies of the ADA Transition Plan that appeared in the Department's Master Plan. Mary asked about the parks/facilities not mentioned and any changes since the plan was written. She would like to see our web site indicate where accessible playgrounds, swings and parking are located. Garnet would like to see us review this issue and do the best we can to improve.

New Business

Budget

Joe noted that he and Pennie presented the 2010 budget last Thursday to the City Council. The budget is essential flat; there is a proposed two percent raise for employees except Department Head and City Administration, and an increase in utilities.

Proposal for Yoga Class

Jacqueline Allen (Director of Group Exercise for International Sports Club), requested permission to hold outdoor yoga classes in Cumberland Park on July 11, and Tapawingo Park on August 8. Classes will begin at 8:30 am and last sixty to eighty minutes. No flyers or information about International will be distributed. Mike motioned approval of the proposed two yoga activities as presented. Richard seconded the motion and the motion passed. She gave Joe information about insurance.

Shelter Use

Tom Miller is hosting a semi-annual meeting at a shelter in Cumberland Park on July 2. According to our Rules and Regulation, no alcohol is permitted unless the user receives written permission. He was present to see if he could receive permission to serve alcohol at his event. The Board did not give permission for use of alcohol in the Park. The Rules & Regulations will be revised so "without permission from the Board" is removed.

Proposal

Mary presented a proposal to establish a biannual "Constituent Services Assessment." She would like the Board to meet every six months and discuss issues in depth. Four constituent groups are proposed: 1. Seniors; 2. Young & middle-aged adults; 3. Youth aged 12 to 18; and 4. Children under up to age 12. The constituent services would be examined within three discussion areas: 1. Existing programs; 2. Existing Facilities; and 3. Future Plans.

The City is in the process of hiring a consultant to do the City's Strategic Plan. It was suggested that this could be a part of that process. Mary made a motion to approve this as a framework for a bi-annual service assessment. Richard seconded the motion. The vote was tied and Garnett abstained from voting, so the motion died.

Morton Activity Summary

Mary thanked Brenda for including the Morton Activity Summary. After crunching the numbers Mary said we were more cost effective, Brenda attracted more people per session. We had fewer sessions because teachers moved away. Mary found the report very encouraging; there is a need/want for our activities. She suggested that we need to find a way to strengthen and cultivate our instructor base. Chris stated that our instructors are independent contractors. Brenda distributed a copy of a new survey developed for Morton. They have collected them for a week and have received positive responses.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

At the May 20th School Board meeting, Brad Cohen, President of the West Lafayette Education Foundation presented the board with a check for \$100,000. This was from the spring 'Secure Our Staff' Fundraising Campaign. We are able to recall two teachers.

The Department of Education did not approve our revised 2009-2010 calendar so the calendar committee and Dr. Killion went back to work. We will be voting on this new calendar at our June 24 meeting. This version has school beginning on Monday, August 17. I will get you a copy after the 24th.

The annual Music Boosters Ice Cream social will be held on Tuesday, June 23 from 6-9 pm. Summer Strings and Band students will perform. Snowbear Frozen Custard, Pepsi drinks and baked goods will be for sale.

Wabash River

Mike stated that the consultants are beginning work on the next part of the river master plan (the rural part of the county) that is required by the Corp of Engineers.

Other

BPR 1-09

Joe read BPR 1-09 requesting a transfer of \$22,000 from account 3-222, which is the Gasoline account to 3-290 Other Supplies \$10,000; 3-361 Repair – Building & Structure \$9,000; and 3-394 Contracts \$3,000. Garnet motioned approval of the transfer. Mike seconded the motion and the motion passed.

WALLA

Joe read a letter that was received from Ellen Dran of WALLA thanking the Board for allowing them to offer a Wine Appreciation Class with tasting, during the fall 2009 session. They have worked out the details in regards to insurance and they will limit pours to one ounce each during the first forty-five minutes of class.

Christmas in July

Joe reported that the event would now be called “Cruise N Concert for Kids.” It is sponsored by Community and Family Resource Center to raise funds for their “Stop Child Abuse” program. It will be held July 25 in Tapawingo Park. They will have a motorcycle ride that will leave from Tapawingo at noon and will return there. There will be a small concert series with bands performing between 4 and 10 pm. There is no entrance fee and no fencing.

Art in Bloom

Ann presented Joe with posters representing “Art in Bloom.” It will be held Saturday, June 27, from 10 am – 3 pm. Artists will be at each garden. Maps may be picked up from Ann’s house. It is a free event.

Pay Claims

Karen motioned for claims to be paid. Mike seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Mike motioned to adjourn the meeting. Richard seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary