



**Park and Recreation Board**  
**September 13, 2023 - 6:00 PM**  
**233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio**

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**Call to Order**

**Roll Call**

**Approval of Minutes**

- August 9, 2023

**Old Business**

- None

**New Business**

- None

**Administrative Reports**

- Update on Great Miami River Trail

**Adjournment**



## **PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MINUTES**

**August 9, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.**

**233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** The Park and Recreation Board meeting was called to order by Chair Paul Koloszar at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

The following members were present: Paul Koloszar, Michael Marchetti, Josh Howard, Jonathan Granville and Ben Wagner.

Staff members present: Public Works Director Gary Morton and Recording Secretary Donna Campbell.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Mr. Granville moved to approve the meeting minutes from June 14, 2023; seconded by Mr. Marchetti. Voice vote. Motion carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

None.

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

Mr. Morton discussed the Bicentennial Commons Hydrology Study and updated the Board. He stated that at this time all the lidar work and underground scans of grounds did not see a great deal of concrete except in areas immediately around what has been developed by the Carousel, but there is a significant layer of clay. During previous construction, concrete was not widespread, but they did find foundations, etc. The clay layer is causing issues for the drainage and the reason water is standing in the old lake area. In the future, reports will be received on soil borings, findings regarding materials underground, etc. Late November, Public Works will be presenting to the Board a report on options for a stormwater system design which would be a hybrid system with stormwater collection thru piping, catch basins, rain gardens, etc.

Mr. Morton went on to discuss the Hydrology Study at Community Park. He mentioned a lower cost option would be removing the water from the park thru gravity flow, but in order to do that additional property would need to be purchased to create a drainage swale up to Cincinnati Dayton because the City of Monroe doesn't own enough land to go to the ditch. Widening and deepening of existing ditches would also be necessary along with creating some storage structures around the park which would cause loss of more surface area. The higher level/cost option is to install a collection system (piping, catch basins, manholes, lift station) and pump the water into a larger basin then hold and slowly release. This option would also require the purchasing of some additional land, but you would not lose as much existing surface. The less



expensive option would be approximately \$500,000 project vs \$2,000,000 for the more expensive option. He advised the Board that more information will be coming back on both hydrology studies later this year with full reports being presented.

Mr. Morton mentioned that the City of Monroe has separated from Branstetter Carroll and is now working with The Miami Conservancy District on the Great Miami River Trail Project. There will be a gathering of City Officials along with The Miami Conservancy District, the Butler County Engineer, etc. to walk back to visit the site where the corrosion has occurred on August 31, 2023 at 9 AM and the Park and Recreation Board is invited. He discussed talks regarding the City getting assistance from The Miami Conservancy District and they may take over and build the trail in the section where the corrosion is located (stopping short with Dick's Creek). He reminded the Board that this is not a fast process, but Public Works is moving forward and making head way. The City has also joined the Great Miami Riverway Association as an officially member and is now associated with The Great Miami River Trail project from beginning to end.

Mr. Morton also mentioned the City of Monroe has refreshed the entire website including the Parks and Recreation section with information, pictures, etc. At the present, it is still a work in progress, but encouraged the Board to review it and any suggestions would be appreciated and considered.

Mr. Morton discussed Monroe Sports Association Baseball regarding their 55' batting cage. He discussed his concerns regarding the location, etc. since the City is still waiting on the finalized hydrology study at Community Park. He stated Public Works is looking to place it where it is safe and acceptable and one possible location may be to the west of the basketball courts. The City is going to help MSA prep the area for the batting cage, dig out the area, form it, etc. and baseball will be taking care of the concrete cost. Public Works is anticipating this will be installed by fall and baseball is aware that since this is in a public park it will also be for public use.

Mr. Morton presented the Board with pictures of the Bicentennial Monument which is located on East Avenue and pictures of the landscaping that the Public Works Department had completed. The Board complimented the work and landscaping by the department.

Mr. Morton also mentioned that Zach Stacy, Board member, emailed today (August 9, 2023) and expressed his intentions to resign from the Board in the future. At this time, he has not made an official resignation, but this information will be passed on to the proper channels so a future replacement can be found.

The last item discussed was the Park and Recreation Board Mission Statement. The Board discussed various options.

**Mr. Granville made a motion to approve "To see the fiscally responsible development and upkeep of parks and amenities that will offer members of the community a diverse range of appealing recreational options" as the Park and Recreation Board Mission Statement moving forward; seconded by Mr. Marchetti. Voice vote. Motion carried.**



**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Mr. Marchetti moved to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Howard. Voice vote. Motion carried.**

The Park and Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Campbell  
Recording Secretary