



Park and Recreation Board
November 8, 2023 - 6:00 PM
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

Call to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

- October 11, 2023

Old Business

- None

New Business

- None

Administrative Reports

- Update on Bicentennial Commons Hydrology Study
- Update on Community Park Hydrology Study
- Update on 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Event
- Park and Recreation Board Rules and Regulations Updating

Adjournment



PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MINUTES

October 11, 2023 – 6:00 P.M.

233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

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 and Jonathan Granville.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Koloszar moved to approve the meeting minutes from August 9, 2023; seconded by Mr. Marchetti. Voice vote. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Morton discussed One-Day Park Events being approved by the City Manager's Office. Typically, in the past whether it was a one-day or two-day event the applicant would come to the Park and Recreation Board for approval. According to the Park and Recreation Board Rules and Regulations under Group Usage, Scheduling of Park Facilities, Item e, "In order to establish a one or two-day reservation for the use of the parks, a group request must be submitted to the City Manager or designee at least two weeks in advance of the requested date. If no higher priority group has requested use for the dates in question, the City Manager may issue permission." The rules state that the City Manager would approve up to two-day events and anything above that would come to the Board for approval. Moving forward, Public Works would like to handle the one-day events internally and any of the multi-day events such as baseball, soccer, etc. would come to the Park and Recreation Board for approval. The Board agreed this would make the process quicker and easier for the applicants.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Morton stated that he had presented the Board with an additional packet with some changes to the Park and Recreation Board Rules and Regulations. He would like the Board to review these, make changes and then discuss it at the November Board meeting to update the rules and regulations. Some of the items need to be updated, deleted, changed, etc. since they no longer apply. Those changes will then be presented to Council in the future for approval as this will be an ordinance change.



Mr. Morton discussed Community Park updates and mentioned that Josh Patrick, Monroe Sports Association (Baseball), was in attendance and went on to discuss Community Park and the batting cage concrete. The staff is working on finishing the area for the batting cage and the concrete contractor will make the pour. Public Works will get the cage and poles from baseball and store them until spring so the concrete can set and cure over winter, etc. Mr. Morton went on to advise the Board that the log cabin owned by the Historical Society in Community Park has had drainage issues addressed. The Public Works Department dug out around the cabin and built a 5' retaining wall, flagstone patio area behind the area, landscaping, etc. He also stated there was an accident at Community Park where a car ran over an electrical box and damaged some fence on one of the baseball fields so staff will be making those repairs.

Mr. Morton stated that at the City council meeting on October 10, 2023 he spoke about the Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024 that is going to be happening in Ohio. This is a rare event and the last one in Ohio was 1806 and the next one will be in 2099. This is a great opportunity to do a City one-day event at Community Park. This will be discussed with the Public Involvement Committee. A budget will be created and the Park and Recreation Board will be informed of the plans.

Mr. Morton mentioned the Great Miami River Trail and stated that the City has separated from Brandstetter Carroll and all documents from them have been received. The City is working with Butler County Metro Parks and Miami Conservancy District and will be forming an intergovernmental agreement with these two agencies. Miami Conservancy District has applied for a grant through Ohio Department of Natural Resources for streambank stabilization and should know in the next few weeks if it is approved. They will work on the streambank stabilization and the City will be responsible for the building of the trail. Butler County Metro Parks has been awarded and are fully funded on both the north and south side of our trail. It is anticipated that construction would begin in 2026.

Mr. Morton also mentioned the CDBG application for paving the trail at Monroe Crossings Park, but that process has just begun and the City has to apply and be awarded.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The Park and Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Campbell
Recording Secretary