



Park and Recreation Board
January 10, 2024 - 6:00 PM
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

Call to Order

Roll Call

- Appointment of Officers (Chairperson and Recording Secretary)

Approval of Minutes

- November 8, 2023

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Josh King, Police Department - discuss 2024 Food Truck Fairs and 2024 Touch-A-Truck

Administrative Reports

Adjournment



PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MINUTES

November 8, 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, Jonathan Granville and Ben Wagner

Staff members present: Public Works Director Gary Morton, Assistant Public Works Director Brian Perkins and Recording Secretary Donna Campbell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Koloszar moved to approve the meeting minutes from October 11, 2023; seconded by Mr. Marchetti. Voice vote. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Mr. Morton updated the Board on the Bicentennial Commons Hydrology Study. He stated that Fishbeck did not find as much concrete underground as had been anticipated but found a significant layer of clay under the area that is holding water. Before it was a park, it was used as an area to flood with water and freeze ice, that is why there is a clay layer; therefore, it will need a stormwater conveyance system. Fishbeck's recommendation would be to rehab the existing pond, put a clay liner in it, a stormwater conveyance system, and three separate trunk lines going to various areas of the park that could be branched off in the future with phases. Everything would flow into a lift station which would pump it up and then flow into a rain garden, which would filter the water out into the pond. The overall cost for pond lining, lift station, rain garden, water quality basin and three branches are approximately \$3.5 million. Currently, Public Works does not have a budget so the City may have to be creative in doing the project in phases. Mr. Wagner mentioned that Mr. Morton could bring information to the next meeting for the Board such as suggestions for the same pieces, but locations may be different for layouts of the playground equipment, etc. This project will be very expensive moving forward, so they will need to be creative in figuring out what to do next. Mr. Morton also discussed the master plan and mentioned it would be a monumental, time consuming, expensive task to redo and mentioned perhaps not redoing the entire Master Plan. Mr. Morton will bring ideas for different locations of equipment at Bicentennial Commons to the Board at the next meeting. The second



option would be to add a second lift station, splitting the drainage in two in the park. This was going to be much more expensive.

Mr. Morton also stated that the Miami Conservancy District had applied for a grant for stream stabilization around Dick's Creek for approximately \$1.5 million and did not receive it. He mentioned there is a meeting that he and Mrs. Waggaman will be attending with MCD and Butler County Metro Parks on how to move forward on the Great Miami River Trail. Butler County does have full funding on both sides of the City of Monroe, but Monroe may need to revisit and think about building GMRT from the north instead of the south. The City may want to team with Butler County only on the area of stabilization which is at the north of our trailhead which is only 300' to 400.' Butler County could add that in with their piece between Monroe and MCD to fund the stream bank stabilization and the construction of the trail in their project. This is a small piece that is expensive. Then it would be easier for Monroe to come in and finish the rest of the trail that is simpler construction. Of course, it all depends on how the various funding can work together. Mr. Morton also mentioned that the trail is clear and the original design of the trail will not change in any way other than the stream bank mitigation that needs to happen at Dick's Creek (which is a small segment but a large price).

Mr. Morton discussed the Community Park Hydrology Study and stated that Fishbeck presented three options. The third option is several million dollars and involves a lift station and underground storage and would not be a feasible option. The middle option was still a high number and not very feasible. The final option was the most feasible and is around \$550,000 to clean out and reshape the current ditches running through the park. Some negotiation would need to take place on an easement running between the front building and Ernst Concrete. Water runs that way now, but there is no easement to go in and do the work. Re-grading would need to take place from Cincinnati Dayton Road all the way back in. This plan would include some small drainage areas (widening out the ditch in certain areas to make room to hold water). Also, it included drainage under the baseball fields and would then drain into the ditches. Because of the amount of drainage, more storage would be needed because of the impact on Miller's Creek which starts at Cincinnati Dayton Road and outlets into the split at Rt. 4. The extra storage within the park will create some loss of parking in the front field because there will be a small basin there and along the ditch areas a widening out of areas to hold and detain water. Public Works will need to get out a RFQ for the design, select the firm, negotiate a price, and take the price to Council for the 2024 budget.

Mr. Granville made a motion to recommend that Council pursue any necessary work to address the drainage issues at Community Park; seconded by Mr. Marchetti. Voice vote. Motion Carried.

Mr. Morton went on to update the Board regarding the 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Event along with a presentation about the event. He mentioned that he presented this to the Public Involvement Committee and will be taking it forward to City Council for their approval on November 14, 2023.



Mr. Morton discussed updating the Park and Recreation Board Rules and Regulations. Mr. Granville stated he would like to have more time to review and perhaps the Board should table this item for further discussion.

Mr. Granville made a motion to table the Park and Recreation Board Rules and Regulations Updating until the next Board Meeting; seconded by Mr. Marchetti. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Koloszar discussed the December 13, 2023 Park and Recreation Board meeting.

Mr. Marchetti made a motion to cancel the December 13, 2023 Park and Recreation Board meeting; seconded by Mr. Granville. Voice vote. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

The Park and Recreation Board meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Campbell
Recording Secretary