

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

August 24, 2011

Nadine Gelter, President, called the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Anderson Township Park District (“ATPD”) to order at 6:30 pm at Park District Headquarters, 8249 Clough Pike, Cincinnati, OH 45244. Present were Board Members: J. Duffy Beischel, Nadine Gelter, Josh Gerth, and Dale Bartholomew. Angie Stocker arrived after the agenda vote.

Also present were: Ken Kushner, Executive Director; Emily Armstrong, Assistant Director/Board Clerk; Brian Jordan, Financial Officer; and Mike Smith, Operations Manager.

GUESTS: Lisa Wakeland, Forest Hills Journal

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA: Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board approve the Agenda. Mr. Beischel seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Angie Stocker arrived at 6:32 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

Anderson Township ~ Independence Day Parade: Mr. Kushner reported the ATPD won “Best Float” in the 2011 Anderson Township 4th of July Parade.

W. M. Johnson Hills Park ~ Update: Mr. Kushner reported the Phase I Archaeology Survey Report is complete for W. M. Johnson Hills Park. He said the survey is a requirement for any state or federal grants the ATPD may seek. Mr. Kushner further stated staff has made little headway on the pond since the last meeting and that staff continues to explore ways to contend with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s (“OEPA”) requirements.

Mr. Beischel asked staff to identify the projects the ATPD can begin which will not be affected by the OEPA’s ephemeral stream regulations.

Mr. Kushner stated all of the property is affected by the presence of ephemeral streams, and that all permits will require approval by the OEPA.

Mr. Beischel stated he is frustrated with the OEPA's regulations and that in his opinion, government has made building parks too difficult.

Mrs. Gelter stated the regulations have changed since the development of our other parks and the ATPD needs to use common sense in order to move forward with the development of the park.

Mr. Kushner said the ATPD will need to hire a consultant to map the streams, and provide the extensive environmental data required by the OEPA permit application. He stated once the completed application is submitted, the OEPA has up to a year to approve or deny the permit. He

said he will research firms capable of meeting the OEPA's data requirements, and update the associated costs of the permit process.

Mr. Bartholomew suggested the ATPD take the official steps to begin the OEPA permit process for W. M. Johnson Hills Park.

Joint Recreation Agreement Update: Mr. Kushner reported the Joint Recreation Agreement with Anderson Township Government is in the final stage. He stated that upon favorable review by the ATPD's legal counsel, he will sign the Agreement as authorized by the Board in the May meeting.

Hamilton County Park District Land Agreement: Mr. Kushner reported the Hamilton County Park District ("HCPD") has begun the process to formally vacate Webb Lane, as required by the Board of Zoning Appeals for the 25 foot easement for the farm access lane. He said the end result is a transfer of the approximately 2 acre portion for the new farm access road at Clear Creek Park to the HCPD, in exchange for approximately 45 acres of land at W. M. Johnson Hills Park.

Hamilton County Park District Clear Creek Park Farm Lane: Mr. Kushner reported the Hamilton County Park District ("HCPD") is nearing completion of the Clear Creek Park Farm Lane between the west border of the park and the ATPD's adjacent neighbor. He said the farm lane should be complete by mid-September, after which, Webb Lane will exist for park visitor use only.

Greater Anderson Days: Mr. Kushner thanked the Board for representing the ATPD at the 13th annual Greater Anderson Days event. He presented for the Board's review a Daily Revenue Report draft; a thank you advertisement sent to the Forest Hills Journal; and the Sheriff's event report.

He said the 2011 event partners were comprised of the Anderson Area Chamber of Commerce, Anderson Township Government, Anderson Foundation for Parks and Recreation, and American Legion Post 318, with the ATPD serving as the event coordinator. He further stated the 14th annual Greater Anderson Days event is scheduled for July 27, 28, and 29, 2012.

Mrs. Gelter thanked the staff for their time and effort devoted to the event. She said a nice time was enjoyed by all who attended.

Kellogg Park Sinkhole: Mr. Kushner reported the Metropolitan Sewer District ("MSD") has completed the sinkhole repair at Kellogg Park. He stated the ATPD is landscaping the area and installing the park entrance sign. Mr. Kushner said staff graded and seeded the lower fields to contend with damage from the spring flooding.

Laverty Park Trail Re-surfacing: Mr. Kushner reported the Laverty Park trail re-surfacing project was shuffled on the list in order to make improvements to Beech Acres Park prior to Greater Anderson Days. He said the paved trail will be re-surfaced by the end of September, pending weather conditions.

Mrs. Gelter added the park looks nice and has been mostly redone in the last few years.

Juilfs Park Playground Renovation: Mr. Kushner reported the public input process for the Juilfs Park playground renovation began at Greater Anderson Days with a survey of likes and dislikes

regarding playground features. He presented a summary of the surveys collected at Greater Anderson Days.

The Board briefly discussed common feedback themes including: parents dislike sand; kids like sand; shade, seating, and safety are primary important features; and the metal slides get too hot.

Mr. Kushner stated the conceptual plan is on the ATPD's website (www.andersonparks.com) and the ATPD will continue to solicit playground surveys from the community. He said an Open House will take place in October and the public's feedback will assist with the development of a final playground design. He added the playground renovation will be the major 2012 ATPD project.

NEW BUSINESS:

Calendar of Events: Mr. Kushner provided an August and September Calendar of Events for the Board's review. Mr. Bartholomew encouraged the Board to volunteer or attend the Run to Remember 5K Run/Walk at Beech Acres Park.

FUNDRAISING AND GRANT ACTIVITY:

Pepsi Refresh Project: Mr. Kushner reported the ATPD was not awarded a Pepsi Refresh Project grant for the Juilfs Park playground renovation.

REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL:

Staff Changes: Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board approve staff's recommendation to hire, promote, or accept the resignation of the following assignable staff on their actual date of hire/promotion/resignation:

Hire: Mark Francis, Operations II

Promote: Robert Sommer, from Operations I to Operations II

Resignation: Adam Freland, Operations I

Mrs. Stocker seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Stocker, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Purchase Orders Approval: Mr. Beischel moved the Board approve the following between-meeting Purchase Orders:

Arnold Printing	Fall Park Guide	\$ 6,100.00
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Rack Seven Paving Co.	Asphalt Beech Acres Park Trail	\$25,000.00
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Mr. Gerth seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Stocker, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENDITURES:

Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board approve the **June and July, 2011 Financial Reports and Authorize the Expenditures** as presented by Mr. Jordan.

Mr. Gerth seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Stocker, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Beischel moved the Board approve the minutes of the **June 29, 2011 Regular Meeting.**

Mr. Gerth seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Beischel, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (3); No: None. Abstain: Mrs. Stocker and Mrs. Gelter. (2). The motion carried.

PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Ms. Wakeland asked the Board what the OEPA application process would cost for the W. M. Johnson Hills Park pond project.

Mr. Kushner stated he would send Ms. Wakeland the preliminary numbers for the application process the day following the meeting.

The Board thanked Ms. Wakeland for attending the meeting.

At 7:19 pm Mr. Beischel moved the Board adjourn into Executive Session to discuss land acquisition. Mrs. Stocker seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Stocker, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board took a short break.

At 7:31 pm Mrs. Stocker moved the Board adjourn the Executive Session and re-open the regular meeting. Mr. Beischel seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Stocker, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

At 7:31 pm there being no further business to be brought before this Board, Mrs. Stocker moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Beischel seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Stocker, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

Emily Armstrong
Board Clerk

Dale Bartholomew

J. Duffy Beischel

Nadine Gelter

Josh Gerth

Angie Stocker