

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

ANDERSON TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

September 14, 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: Angie Stocker, J. Duffy Beischel, Nadine Gelter, Josh Gerth, and Dale Bartholomew.

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

GUESTS: Lisa Wakeland, Forest Hills Journal

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA: Mrs. Stocker moved the Board approve the Agenda. 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.

OLD BUSINESS:

W. M. Johnson Hills Park ~ Update: Mr. Kushner reported staff is evaluating consultants in order to move forward with the permit process to develop 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 said he will sign the Agreement as authorized by the Board in the May meeting, upon favorable review by the ATPD’s legal counsel.

Mr. Bartholomew asked staff provide the latest version of the Joint Recreation Agreement for the Board’s review.

Hamilton County Park District Land Agreement: Mr. Kushner reported the Hamilton County Park District (“HCPD”) continues with the legal process to vacate Webb lane, as required by the Board of Zoning Appeals for the 25 foot easement for the farm access lane. 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. Following completion of the farm lane, Webb Lane will exist for park visitor use only.

Mr. Bartholomew suggested staff review the maximum weight limits on ATPD parking lots.

Juilfs Park Playground Renovation: Mr. Kushner reported staff continues to promote the public input process on the ATPD’s website for the Juilfs Park playground renovation. The ATPD is hosting an Open House on Wednesday, October 12th from 9 am – 6:30 pm at the Juilfs Park Office.

Feedback the community provides will assist with the development of a final playground design for the Juilfs Park Playground renovation. He further stated the renovation represents the major 2012 project for the ATPD.

Greater Anderson Days: Mr. Kushner presented a Greater Anderson Days financial summary. The 2011 event partners have committed again for the 14th annual Greater Anderson Days event, scheduled for July 27, 28, and 29, 2012. The partners are 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.

NEW BUSINESS:

Calendar of Events: Mr. Kushner provided a September and October Calendar of Events for the Board's review.

Mrs. Gelter thanked the staff for their time and effort devoted to the Run to Remember 5K Run/Walk event on September 10th, and the Commemorative Service on the 10th Anniversary of September 11th at Beech Acres Park. She said the events were very nicely done.

Mr. Gerth noted the Run to Remember 5K Run/Walk was a good event.

Mrs. Stocker noted staff did an excellent job on the Commemorative Service.

Clear Creek Park Improvement: Mr. Kushner stated the ATPD has been interested in the property adjacent to Clear Creek Park since the early 1990's. The property, currently known as the Anderson Township Driving Range, recently became available and the ATPD closed on the 27.65 acres in late August. The acquisition of this property will allow the ATPD to accomplish two major improvements to the ATPD's asset of Clear Creek Park: restructure the parking and traffic flow of the park; and remedy the significant water flow problem created by the landfill operation on the acquired property. He further stated staff began to clean up the property immediately, and is working with the existing business owner on a lease basis.

Kellogg Park Dog Field Fencing: Mr. Kushner reported the ATPD accepted a bid for the Kellogg Park Dog Field Fencing project. The project should begin by the end of September, and should be complete by December, weather permitting. Staff is making accommodations to limit the inconvenience to the Dog Field permit holders as much as possible. He further added the fencing will be buried a foot in the ground, and that eventually an electronic access system will be activated at the entrance/exit.

Asian Longhorned Beetle: Mr. Kushner reported the presence of the Asian Longhorned Beetle has been discovered in the local environment. This newest invasive species poses a significant threat to the region, and specifically, to the ATPD parks. The beetle destroys the host tree of the following species: maples, horse chestnut, buckeye, mimosa, birch, hackberry, ash, golden raintree, katsura, sycamore, poplar, willow, mountain ash, and elms. He has grave concern about the potential impact of this beetle to this region. He asked the Board and staff to monitor the trees in their yards, and encourage the public not to move logs, firewood, stumps, roots, and branches, regardless of the established quarantine parameters.

Mr. Beischel suggested staff identify resistant, hardy trees and start seedlings throughout the park system to contend with the Emerald Ash Borer and the Asian Longhorned Beetle.

Mr. Kushner stated the ATPD has additionally lost many spruce trees due to an herbicide made by DuPont, which was recently identified to damage and/or kill such trees.

Mr. Gerth stated DuPont is stepping up to make the situation right, and is reimbursing home owners and businesses where spruce trees were negatively affected by the herbicide.

FUNDRAISING AND GRANT ACTIVITY:

Mr. Kushner reported staff continues to explore funding opportunities for the Juilfs Park Playground renovation project.

Mr. Gerth suggested staff consider selling bricks as a fundraiser for the Juilfs Park Playground, with benches being available at a higher price.

REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL:

Resolution 2011-05 ~ Amended Certificate All Resources: Mr. Beischel moved the Board approve **Resolution 2011-05, approving the amended certificates of all resources and appropriations** for 2011 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.

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

Fifth Third Bank	2011 Bond Fund	\$ 62,172.53
Hamilton County Treasurer	Parcel 500-0380-0024	\$ 16,026.14
Hamilton County Treasurer	Parcel 500-0380-0015	\$ 11,027.59
Menke Brothers, Inc	Parcel 500-0380-0015	\$ 22,945.60
Estate of Scott Menke	Parcel 500-0380-0024	\$ 32,305.08
Park National Bank	Parcel 500-0380-0015	\$308,226.13
	Parcel 500-0380-0024	
Advanced Turf Solutions	Fertilizer	\$ 7,252.00
Rack Seven Paving	ROCE Driveway	\$ 25,000.00

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.

Staff Changes: There were no staff changes to report.

FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENDITURES:

Mr. Beischel suggested staff consult a tax attorney regarding the taxing effects of employee health care reimbursements.

Mr. Beischel moved the Board approve the **August, 2011 Financial Reports and Authorize the Expenditures** as presented by Mr. Jordan.

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board approve the minutes of the **August 24, 2011 Regular Meeting**. 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.

PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:

Ms. Wakeland asked for details about the land recently purchased by the ATPD.

Mr. Kushner responded the property is next to Clear Creek Park, known as the Anderson Township Driving Range, and contains the landfill area. Owning the land would enable the ATPD to remedy the water problem created by the landfill and to eventually restructure the parking and traffic flow through the park. Staff is considering alternatives regarding the landfill, including selling the hard fill. He stated the landfill prevented this past spring's flood water from receding, therefore killing approximately four acres of athletic field area. He identified athletic field areas as a major asset of the ATPD and noted the ATPD has been interested in the property since the 1990's. No connectivity currently exists between the two parcels, and much work needs to be done on the property before it will be open to the public.

Mrs. Gelter stated the business will continue for now on a monthly lease basis.

The Board thanked Ms. Wakeland for attending the meeting.

At 7:22 pm Mrs. Stocker moved the Board adjourn into Executive Session to consider the employment of an employee. Mr. Bartholomew 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 8:22 pm Mr. Gerth moved the Board adjourn the Executive Session and re-open the regular meeting. Mr. Bartholomew seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Stocker, Mr. Beischel, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (5); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

At 8:22 pm there being no further business to be brought before this Board, Mr. Gerth moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bartholomew 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