

# REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS ANDERSON TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT

**March 12, 2013**

Josh Gerth, President, called the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Anderson Township Park District (“ATPD”) to order at 6:31 pm at Park District Headquarters, 8249 Clough Pike, Cincinnati, OH 45244. Present were Board Members: Tom Turchiano, Nadine Gelter, and Dale Bartholomew.

Also present were: Ken Kushner, Executive Director; Emily Armstrong, Assistant Director/Board Clerk; Brian Jordan, Financial Officer; Jessica Fall, Recreation Manager; and Sheila Fehn, Office Manager.

**GUESTS:** Lisa Wakeland, Forest Hills Journal; Bill Teater, resident.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**Public to Address the Board:** Mr. Teater stated the stability of the ATPD Board is important to him. He believes if a Board member might consider a position elsewhere, that they should not accept the commission as an ATPD Board member. He asked each Board member to state their intent to fulfill their ATPD Board commission.

Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Turchiano, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew each stated they intend to fulfill their ATPD Board commission. Mr. Gerth further stated that should other opportunities present themselves where he can better serve the community, he would explore such opportunities.

Mr. Teater said he appreciates the Board’s honesty and that the ATPD does an excellent job.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Juilfs Park Playground Renovation:** Mr. Kushner reported the weather needs to break in order for staff to make progress on the Juilfs Park Playground project. He said last year at this time we had been mowing grass for two weeks. The original silo has been moved and placed to serve as a shelter in the playground. Staff is still planning for the project to be completed by summer.

**Future Park Improvements Plan:** Mr. Kushner stated staff continues to formulate a community survey to determine the community’s future park improvement priorities.

Mrs. Armstrong stated the survey will be promoted through various means including: online; in the Summer Park Guide; at ATPD events; and through past program participants. The goal is to present a concise survey to the community to encourage residents to provide their feedback and ideas.

**Riverside Park ~ Dry Run Sewer Extension, Phase II:** Mr. Kushner stated he received easement requests and property appraisals from the Metropolitan Sewer District (“MSD”) regarding the Dry

Run Sewer Extension, Phase II project at Riverside Park. He anticipated the 2014 project will take about two weeks and should not interfere with the ATPD's park visitors.

Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board authorize Mr. Kushner to negotiate and sign the required agreements with MSD for the necessary temporary and permanent easements for the Dry Run Sewer Extension, Phase II project at Riverside Park. Mr. Turchiano seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ohio Return to Play Law ~ Youth Sports Concussions: Mr. Kushner reported beginning 4/26/2013, Ohio law will require written permission from a health care provider before an athlete can return to play after having demonstrated signs or symptoms of a concussion. Under the bill (HB 143), an athlete removed from a game with a head injury must sit out for at least 24 hours. The Ohio Department of Health ("ODH") has developed information sheets on concussions and head injuries. Before an athlete can play, a parent and the child would have to verify that they have reviewed the information, and coaches would have to complete a training program on brain trauma. Staff is working through the process to incorporate the information and training into ATPD programs, and to provide the information to the ATPD's youth sports field users. He provided the following documents for the Board's review: ODH Concussion Information Sheet; ODH Frequently Asked Questions; Healthy Ohio Program Concussion Information Sheet; Ohio Revised Code Section 3707.511, Concussion Awareness, Training, and Procedures in Youth Sports Organizations; ATPD Youth Sports Concussion Policy draft; and ATPD Field Use Policies draft.

Mr. Kushner stated an amendment to HB 143 is in the works to take out the criminal liability for organizations, coaches, referees, and officials who do not follow the law. Many organizations will be surprised to find out about the new law.

Mrs. Armstrong said the ATPD is taking a proactive approach to inform the ATPD's youth sports coaches and field users about the new law. The Recreation Department is encouraging coaches to complete the online training before their next season begins.

Mr. Gerth stated staff did a good job pulling together the information.

Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board approve the ATPD Youth Sports Concussion Policy and the ATPD Field Use Policies as presented. Mrs. Gelter seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Calendar of Events: Mr. Kushner provided a Calendar of Events for the Board's review of upcoming programs and events, including the new format for the Egg Hunts.

Mrs. Fall reported the Adult Hunts will take place on Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and the Children's Hunts will take place on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, both at Riverside Park. Tickets will be sold at the event, beginning at 6 p.m. on March 28<sup>th</sup> for three Adult events: Golden Hunt, for the 50 and over crowd; the Partner Hunt; and the main event, the Open Hunt, for individuals 18 and over. The event will feature the Easter Bunny and a DJ. The Children's Hunts will take place 10 am – noon on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, also at Riverside Park. She said the park is simply not big enough to host the

hunts on the same day, nor does the ATPD have enough staff to accommodate both hunts effectively.

#### **FUNDRAISING AND GRANT ACTIVITY:**

Juilfs Park Playground Fundraising: Mr. Kushner reported the Juilfs Park Playground fundraising continues with the Apple Tree project. Chico's ran another benefit at the store on Beechmont and Cargill, Inc. sponsored an Adopt-a-Piece for \$2,000.

Pickleball: Mr. Kushner stated staff continues to work with the Anderson Pickleball Club ("APC") on a grant to construct pickleball courts at Clear Creek Park. The application deadline for the NatureWorks grant is May 1<sup>st</sup>. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources administers the grant which is now awarded every two years, instead of annually.

#### **REQUESTS FOR APPROVAL:**

Staff Changes: Mrs. Gelter moved the Board approve staff's recommendation to accept the resignation of **Pat Rudolph**, Assignable Operations Administrative Assistant, effective April 30, 2013.

Mr. Turchiano seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Re-Appropriation of the Budget ~ NatureWorks Pickleball Grant: Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board approve the re-appropriation of the budget in order to add \$70,000 in revenue to Grants, account 100-535-0007, and to add \$70,000 in appropriations to the Clear Creek Park Capital account, 1000-760-700-2003, for the Pickleball NatureWorks grant.

Mr. Gerth seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jordan stated the re-appropriation action will not change the projected budget carryover.

Monthly Purchase Order Approval: Mr. Gerth moved the Board approve the following between-meeting Purchase Order:

Arnold Printing	Spring Park Guide	\$ 5,743.00
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Mrs. Gelter seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **FINANCIAL REPORTS AND AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENDITURES:**

Mrs. Gelter moved the Board approve the **February, 2013 Financial Reports and Authorize the Expenditures** as presented by Mr. Jordan.

Mr. Turchiano seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mr. Bartholomew moved the Board approve the minutes from the **January 15, 2013 Regular Meeting** as written. Mr. Gerth seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (3); No: None; Abstain: Mrs. Gelter. (1). The motion carried.

Mrs. Gelter moved the Board approve the minutes from the **February 12, 2013 Regular Meeting** as written. Mr. Bartholomew seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mrs. Gelter and Mr. Bartholomew. (2); No: None: Abstain: Mr. Turchiano and Mr. Gerth. (2). The motion carried.

**PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:** No one from the public wished to address the Board at this time.

Mr. Gerth thanked Mrs. Wakeland for keeping the public informed about the ATPD by writing articles about the ATPD.

At 7:15 pm, there being no further business to be brought before this Board, Mr. Gerth moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Gelter seconded the motion. Voting: Yes: Mr. Turchiano, Mrs. Gelter, Mr. Gerth, and Mr. Bartholomew. (4); No: None. The motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

Emily Armstrong  
Board Clerk

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Dale Bartholomew

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Nadine Gelter

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Josh Gerth

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Tom Turchiano