

TIPP CITY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD
TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO November 14, 2016

Roll Call

Chairman Chitwood called the meeting of the Tipp City Parks Advisory Board to order at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance included: Doug Chitwood, Doug Slagel, Patrick Hodges, Ben Woodruff, and Kevin Cox. Kathy Taylor (Tipp Monroe Community Services/TCMS), Mackenzie English (Monroe Township), Jim Asher (City of Tipp City), Board Secretary Laura Tobias and New Board Secretary Jennica Whitt were also present. Nancy Bowman with Tippecanoe Gazette was in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes –
September 12,
2016**

Mr. Hodges moved to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2016 meeting as written. Mr. Slagel seconded the motion. **Motion passed 5-0.**

**New Business
City Park and
Kyle Park 2016
Projects**

Jim Asher states that the new exercise equipment arrived 6-8 weeks ago and will be installed this week; ideally Thursday, November 17, 2016. Mr. Hodges requested clarification of the number of pieces and how long the installation will take. Mr. Asher confirmed that it consists of 3 pieces and the plan is to complete installation in one day.

**2016
Neighborhood
Park Projects**

Jim Asher states that the Nature Center was sided on the front and the back, to also include a new door on the front. The Rosewood Creek slide has been ordered and the company states that delivery will be within 4-6 weeks (from approximately 2 weeks ago). This will require a spring 2017 installation.

**Turkey Trot-
Kyle Park**

Jennifer Perrault spoke on behalf of Chris Graham, providing the following information: The Turkey Trot is a 5K and 10K run/walk supported by Ginghamburg Church in order to raise money and canned goods for the Sudan Project, as well as, for the New Path Food Pantry. Over the past 9 years, the Turkey Trot has been in a couple of different locations. The organization would like to move the run back to Kyle Park, Thursday, November 24, 2016. Organization members would arrive at 6:30 am, registration opening at 7:00 am, with the race starting at 8:00am. Projected time of departure (after clean up) is 11:00 am. Both the 5K and 10K run would remain entirely within Kyle Park. This seems to be the best safety option for participants and Tipp City residents. Registration fees consist of: \$25 for adults and children under the

age of 18 are free with a donation of a canned good or money. Ms. Perrault also stated that Chris Graham had spoken to Jim Asher regarding the use of the park bathrooms. Mr. Asher confirmed that the bathrooms would be available for use and that although they are usually closed at this time in the season, they will remain open until after Thanksgiving. During Mr. Asher's discussion with Mr. Graham, it was mentioned that the estimation of participants could be 300-400 people. Mr. Asher did have concerns regarding the grinder pump (which eliminates the amount of water) and the amount of usage. In the past, the city has had other locations face this issue resulting in water overflowing. He suggested that the organization bring in a couple of Port-A-Jon's to eliminate this concern. Ms. Perrault agreed that they would be able to do this. It was also agreed, among the parties, that the water fountains would not be available and the organization would supply their own refreshments.

Mr. Asher noted that in his conversation with Mr. Graham, there was a discussion about adding a 4 mile cross country race to entice more participants. This would not be for this year's event, but possibly the following year.

Mr. Chitwood stated that a unanimously, approved vote for the Turkey Trot to be held this year at Kyle Park was conducted via email prior to this meeting.

Kathy Taylor stated that the TCMS required paperwork would need to be completed. This includes a request form and a copy of liability insurance. The participants will also be required to sign a form releasing the City of Tipp City of any claims, damages, etc. Mrs. Taylor stated that instead of participants signing a separate form, the current registration form could just be edited to include "City of Tipp City" in the release information located near the bottom of the page. Ms. Perrault stated that this could be completed.

Other Business
Lesh Woods
Walk Path

Jim Asher stated that the walk path has been completed. Within the past 3-4 weeks, several ash trees did require trimming and this completed. He also stated that although he has not been out there in the evening, it looks as though the electric department has installed the transformers for the lights. Mr. Slagel requested confirmation of where it was hooked into. Mr. Asher confirmed that it is hooked into the plat and will serve as a walking path for the school.

Citizen Comments
on Items Not on
the Agenda

None.

**Comments of Park
Advisory Members**

Mr. Hodges re-presented an article, appearing in the *Tippecanoe Gazette*, titled "Smoke-free zones in parks now up to council" to the board members regarding the ban of smoking in the parks. He requested that Mr. Asher check on the progress of the decision with City Council. Mr. Asher stated he has not heard of a decision at this time and that he would talk to the City Manager on Tuesday, November 15.

Mr. Slagel asked Mr. Asher if the City Council had made a decision on the sprinkler systems. Mr. Asher stated that he had not heard of a decision at this time. He stated that he knows that it was included in the budget, but how it was specifically to be allocated was unknown at this time.

Mr. Hodges states that Ms. Taylor sent out the Field Utilization Policy and questioned if a decision had been made regarding a deposit fee for cleaning/damages. Kathy states that a decision has not been made at this time. She states that TCMS does not collect deposit fees. For example, deposit fees for the Roundhouse rentals are collected by The City of Tipp City. In her opinion, there should be a fee charged if the fields are dirty/damaged. Mr. Asher suggested that a committee comprised of a Park Board member, the City Manager, the Finance Director, the Law Director and Mrs. Taylor should meet and discuss this concern. Mr. Asher also stated that in the past, it seemed to be expected and implemented by the coaches to make sure that the team left the field in an appropriate condition. It was noted in the past couple of years, or so, that this does not seem to be the same standard. Several years ago Mr. Asher and Mrs. Taylor, would speak to the coaches and communicate this expectation. In regards to the Roundhouse rentals, it used to be policy to collect a \$25 deposit fee that was held if the facility was not left in a satisfactory condition. The result of the fee did not seem to have an impact, until the amount was increased to \$75. It was noted that a meeting with the coaches has not occurred in sometime, and Mr. Asher and Mrs. Taylor agreed to meet with Jr. Baseball at the first of the year (2017). In the meantime, Mrs. Taylor will follow up with scheduling a meeting for the above mentioned committee.

Mr. Chitwood requested that two items be included on the agenda for the next meeting: Smoking in the parks and deposit fees for field use. Jennica Whitt and Mr. Asher agreed and made note to add.

Mr. Chitwood addressed an update regarding the Valley Storm tournament. Per request, Mr. Chitwood was asked to comprise a letter regarding a recent tournament. Concerns included children, from cities other than Tipp City, participating and the policies set

forth by Tipp City/Monroe Community Services (TCMS) not being followed. This letter was sent to all of the Park Board members, as well as, Mr. Asher and the City Manager, Tim Eggleston. A meeting followed to include Mr. Eggleston, Mr. Asher, Mr. Chitwood, and the Law Director. A decision was made for the Law Director to draft a letter (using the letter Mr. Chitwood developed as a guide) that would then be sent to Valley Storm and Tipp City Junior Baseball regarding the policies and misuse of the fields. As of date, Mr. Chitwood stated that since this letter was sent, he was aware that a tournament had been cancelled. He was unaware of any other communication regarding the letter occurring. Mr. Asher stated that the letter was sent by the Law Director, but for a couple of weeks, the groups continued to utilize the fields against policy. Mrs. Taylor and an employee of Mr. Asher both witnessed the use of the fields. Mrs. Taylor also stated that she personally removed the group from the fields. A second letter was then sent. Since then, Mrs. Taylor states that the groups seem to be complying and communicating appropriately with the TCMS and greatly appreciated the support from The City of Tipp City.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be Monday, January 09, 2017. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m. **on a motion by Mr. Chitwood, seconded by Mr. Slagel, and unanimously approved.**

APPROVED: _____


Douglas Chitwood, Board Chairman

ATTEST: _____


Jennica Whitt, Recording Secretary