

TIPP CITY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD
TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO May 08, 2017

Roll Call

Chairman Woodruff called the meeting of the Tipp City Parks Advisory Board to order at 7:01 p.m. Members in attendance included: Doug Slagel, Patrick Hodges, and Ben Woodruff. Kathy Taylor (Tipp Monroe Community Services/TCMS), Mackenzie English (Monroe Township), Carla Frame Board (Board of Education), Secretary Jennica Whitt, Director of Municipal Services and Engineering John Donnelly, were also present. Citizens present: Paige Landis, Scott Landis, Chris Graham, Martin English, Randy Myers and Abby Bowling. Excused: Vice Chairman Kevin Cox.

**Approval of Minutes –
March 13, 2017**

Mr. Hodges moved to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2017 meeting as written. Mr. Slagel seconded the motion. **Motion passed 3-0.**

New Business:

**Swearing in of:
Dawn Kramer**

Dawn Kramer was appointed by City Council on April 17, 2017. Dawn Gross, Public Notary performed swearing in ceremony.

**One Mile Dash for
Cash**

Christopher Graham presented information requesting the use of Kyle Park and bathrooms for the "One Mile Dash for Cash" race sponsored by The Ohio River Road Runners Club on June 29, 2017. The Club would arrive around 5:00 pm for preparations, with the race starting at 7:00 pm. Kathy Taylor requested that Mr. Graham fill out the appropriate paperwork with TCMS for the race. Mr. Graham agreed to comply. Mr. Graham asked if the Board would be open to discuss the Turkey Trot race that occurs in the Fall at this time. The Board agreed to postpone the discussion of the Turkey Trot race to another scheduled meeting closer to the time of the event.

Mr. Hodges moved to approve the use of Kyle Park for the "One Mile Dash for Cash" race. Mr. Woodruff seconded the motion. **Motion passed 4-0.**

**Warren
Miltenberger Fund
for Canal Lock
Gates**

Director of Municipal Services and Engineering John Donnelly presented information regarding gates for the Canal Lock Project. It has come to Mr. Donnelly's attention that, at some point, the Park Board was interested in acquiring reproduction gates and locks for the local Canal Lock. After much discussion, it was decided that Mr. Martin English was involved with helping former

Superintendent of Municipal Services, Jim Asher, find resources regarding having the gates built and installed. His findings were provided to the interim Superintendent, Jeff Brookhart, at the December 2016 meeting. This included sample replication pictures/diagrams and a list of other cities that have completed similar projects. No estimates have been obtained at this time. The possibility of obtaining additional funding using the Warren Miltenberger Fund for this project was initiated by Mr. Asher and original funding for the Canal Lock project was obtained from this fund. Mr. English stated that the Warren Miltenberger Fund is a fund that has multiple grant dates throughout the year.

Mr. Donnelly stated that during his discussions with the City Manager, Timothy J. Eggleston, regarding the gates that Mr. Eggleston insisted the funds for this project should be used from the Neighborhood Park Improvements Capital Budget Fund. Mr. Hodges voiced his concern regarding using this specific fund for the Canal Lock gates verses other park needs, such as playground equipment.

Mr. Donnelly stated that further research regarding estimates and planning will be conducted by the Superintendent of Municipal Services, Tony Hunt, and be presented to the Board at the July meeting.

**Tipp City
Foundation
requesting Area
for Trees**

Mr. Donnelly presented information regarding the Tipp City Foundation requesting a designated area for planting memorial trees for their members for the duration of the Foundations existence. On behalf of the city, Mr. Donnelly suggests that if the Foundation is granted this request, that it not encompass a specific square footage of land; to inhibit a "lump or row" of trees in one area. **Mr. Hodges motioned the request be approved with the requirement that any planting be coordinated via the Superintendent of Municipal Services to ensure proper planting, spacing, need and designation of each tree. Mr. Slagel seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.**

**Landis
Photography
Requesting Use of
Parks**

Residents Scott and Paige Landis presented information regarding their request for easier access and use after dark in Kyle park for photographic opportunities. It was their request to be able to drive back to the levy using the service drive. Mrs. Landis stated that they carry a lot of equipment by hand and the current access requires a long hike before even reaching the trails. She emphasized that they would not be driving their vehicles back into the trails and when rain has fallen, they would not be using their vehicles on the service roads at all. Mr. Hodges asked what the photographs would be used for. Mrs. Landis stated that the City would be able to have access to any of the photographs and could

be used how the City sees fit, with the request that their logo "Landis Photography" is included on the picture. Mr. Slagel stated he had concern with the request possibly inviting unwanted damage to the service trail from unauthorized vehicles and proposed the following alternative suggestion: obtain permission from Mr. Donnelly, Tony Hunt, and Chief Burris (due to the location of the police shooting range) to use the gate by the ponds via St Rt 571. This would resolve three issues: allow easier access to where the Landis' would like to photograph, not damage the drives, and possibly limit the use of unauthorized vehicles. Mr. Hodges suggested that if access is approved, that an open access approval is not granted, but rather each access date granted separately via the Superintendent of Municipal Services. Mr. Donnelly agreed with the above suggestions, but would like to have further discussion with Tony Hunt and Chief Burris prior to approval. **Mr. Hodges moved to approve the request only after Mr. Donnelly and Tony Hunt have developed an approval process for such access requests. Mr. Slagel seconded the motion. Approved 4-0.**

**Citizen Comments
on Items Not on
the Agenda**

Dr. Martin English provided information regarding an increase in ticks this season. He stated the public needs to be aware of the increase in tick presence, especially in high grass areas. Make sure to thoroughly check clothing and pets after possible exposure.

Resident and contact representative for the Tipp City Jr. Baseball League, Randy Meyers, requested a name(s) of contacts regarding the possibility of obtaining the old P.A. system from the current football stadium (once the new stadium construction occurs). Mr. Meyers has been fundraising for a P.A. system since 2015 to help with lightening and storm notification across the fields. The Board stated that it was their understanding that funding is still occurring for the new stadium and it will be a while before construction begins. Mr. Slagel suggested that once fund raising has been completed, that Mr. Meyers then contact Mr. Donnelly regarding his request.

Mr. Meyers thanked the Park Board for the past requests being granted: light added to the flag pole and the pathway installed in 2015. He continued to state that the pathway has been a tremendous help in saving the grass.

Mrs. Taylor inquired if Mr. Meyers new the identity of (what appeared to be older, high school aged boys) using the baseball fields Diamond #1 and #2 on May 6, 2017. Mr. Meyers stated he did not know of their presence.

**Comments of Park
Advisory Members**

Kathy Taylor reported an update regarding an estimate for a Lightning Notification System. In speaking with the City of Vandalia, she stated that our cost would be \$17,000.

Mr. Hodges requested an update regarding the Smoking in the Parks policy. Per Mr. Donnelly, no update is available at this time. Citizen Abby Bowling stated that her impression from the last City Council meeting she attended was that there were mixed feelings regarding if the topic warranted concern. Mr. Hodges stated that the Board would continue to support the development and implementation of a Smoking In the Parks Policy.


Mr. Slagel requested that The Miami County Equine Initiatives Task Force attend either the July or September Park Board meeting to discuss the use of horse trailers/vehicles in Kyle Park and requesting help with repair cost of recent damage to the trails. Mr. Donnelly asked if the signs recently installed have helped deter further use of this area during inclement weather. Mr. Slagel was not aware of further use. Mr. Donnelly stated that further investigation of the issue would occur.

Mr. Hodges requested an update regarding the Eagle Scott program building and decorating benches for along the bike path. No further information is available at this time.

Mr. Hodges requested an update regarding the Field Use Deposit Policy. Kathy Taylor stated that a meeting did occur between herself, Mr. Hodges, Kevin Cox, and Tony Hunt regarding the policy. In the past, there have been issues with groups not tending to their trash prior to leaving the fields. A suggestion of requiring a \$100.00 deposit to cover costs of damage or additional clean up expenses from each group was discussed. In a later meeting between Mrs. Taylor and City Manager, Timothy J. Eggleston, Mr. Eggleston suggested they charge each group \$100.00 and instead of the groups getting the deposit back after each game, the City would keep the \$100.00, deduct any monies needed for cleanup expenses, and it would be the responsibility of the groups to maintain a current \$100 balance. Kathy stated that considerations of cost to groups that were resident vs. nonresident were also discussed. A tournament form and insurance form were added to the required paperwork. In the past, TCMS would require the group to add the City of Tipp City to the insurer. When comparing the City's policies to other surrounding City's policies, it was found that the City of Tipp City did not equate to theirs.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be Monday, May 8, 2017. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m. **on a motion by Mr. Woodruff, seconded by Mr. Slagel, and unanimously approved.**

APPROVED: 
Ben Woodruff, Board Chairman

ATTEST: 
Jennica Whitt, Recording Secretary