

**TIPP CITY PARKS ADVISORY BOARD**  
**TIPP CITY, MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO      July 10, 2017**

**Roll Call**

Chairman Woodruff called the meeting of the Tipp City Parks Advisory Board to order at 7:06 p.m. Members in attendance included: Doug Slagel, Patrick Hodges, Ben Woodruff (President), Kevin Cox (Vice President) and Dawn Kramer. Kathy Taylor (Tipp Monroe Community Services/TCMS), Mackenzie English (Monroe Township), Secretary Jennica Whitt, Director of Municipal Services and Engineering John Donnelly and Tony Hunt Supervisor of Municipal Services were also present. Citizens present: Martin English, Randy Myers, Sam Noffsinger and Abby Bowling.

**Approval of Minutes – May 08, 2017**

**Mr. Hodges moved to approve the minutes of the May 08, 2017 meeting as written.** Mr. Woodruff seconded the motion. **Motion passed 4-1; Mr. Cox abstained due to absence during meeting.**

**New Business:**

**Lightning System: Thor Guard Model 75**

Mr. Donnelly discussed the opportunity for the Parks Board to purchase a lightning system for Kyle Park that would warn players on the ball fields of lightning in the immediate area. At this time, it would be the Park Board members' decision to purchase the system with an estimated cost of \$22,000.00. This would be an item that would be added to the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). At this time, most board members voiced that they did not agree the entire cost should be incurred by the Parks Board budget. After further discussion, **Mr. Hodges motioned to table the topic until further discussion at a later date could occur, to include additional information regarding benefits of the system and who would be responsible for the cost. Mr. Woodruff seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.**

**Drone Racing in Parks**

Mr. Donnelly stated that a resident had recently asked him if the City would be interested in allowing Drone Racing in the parks. The resident was advised to attend the next meeting and to present detailed information regarding such an event, but the resident did not show. Mr. Slagel stated that there are people that fly model airplanes in Kyle Park now without concerns. Mr. Donnelly stated he would try to reach out to the resident regarding attending the next Parks Board meeting with specific information regarding drone racing. **Mr. Hodges motioned to table the topic until further information was presented to the Board. Mr. Slagel seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.**

**Parking Lot on 3<sup>rd</sup> St.**

Mr. Donnelly presented information regarding a new project underway concerning the build of a parking lot on 3<sup>rd</sup> St. The project is being guided by the City Manager, Tim Eggleston. The parking lot would have pavers and a split rail fence would be located near the Nature Center off of 3<sup>rd</sup> St. A bridge would be built over a nearby ditch to allow access to the bike trail. Cost of the project is still being investigated at this time. The Board asked if this is a project being requested by residents. Mr. Donnelly stated he was unaware at this time of residents making such requests.

**Addition of Trail Along Farmers Levy**

Mr. Donnelly stated that a local resident, Mr. Preston, has been working with Mr. Eggleston regarding clearing of pathways behind the Parks building that borders the levy. This project has been completed and is now open to the public to enjoy.

**Neighborhood Park Improvement**

On behalf of the City Manager, Mr. Donnelly presented the opportunity for the Parks Board to install a spray ground apparatus in the Aquatics Center; using the Parks Board \$25,000 budget to help pay for the project. The board members agreed that the Parks Board has never been asked in the past to use their budget to pay for any Aquatics Center items. Kathy Taylor asked if the Board could obtain an itemized list of what the Parks Board has spent over the past 5 years with the budgeted \$25,000 per year, as well as, the City's budgeted \$25,000 per year for Neighborhood/Park Improvements. Mr. Donnelly agreed to have this information available to the Board by the next meeting. **Mr. Hodges motioned to table this topic until further information regarding project details could be obtained from the City Manager. Mr. Woodruff seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. Slagel asked if the mulch around the parks playground equipment has been replaced with the rubberized mulch as planned a couple of years ago. Mr. Hunt stated that he believes most of the large parks playgrounds have been replaced, but there are some of the smaller playgrounds that have not been replaced. Mr. Slagel suggested that funds should be used to make sure all of the playgrounds have been updated. Mr. Donnelly stated that the City also has a separate \$25,000 budget available for park improvements and some of the updated mulch has been purchased with this funding and will continued to be used towards this project.

## **Old Business**

### **Canal Lock Project Estimates Update**

Mr. Donnelly stated that the estimates obtained by Mr. Hunt via New Bremen for 2 Canal Lock custom doors is \$35,000 (4 doors \$70,000). Installation for hanging on the existing structure can now only be based on a guestimate of \$10,000-\$20,000, due to being unable to obtain a formal estimate from any businesses. In comparison, Mr. Hunt stated that the New Bremen Canal Lock project cost \$1.5 million (including a bridge). Mr. Hodges reinforced that as discussed in the May 2017 meeting, the Parks Advisory Board never officially agreed to the Canal Lock project or the pursuance of such project. Mr. Donnelly agreed stating that the investigation of the possibility of starting a project was started by the prior Superintendent, Jim Asher, and had been discussed only with Mr. English, who helped with researching recreation of building locks. Mr. Slagel suggested at this time that the project be postponed and in the future look towards obtaining a historical grant to help fund the project. Mr. Donnelly stated that he would ask Assistant City Manager, Brad Vath to research such grants. Mr. Hunt expressed his concern regarding budgeting the money for such a project stating that the project needs to be historically accurate and budgeted accordingly.

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

Randy Meyers and Sam Noffsinger of Tipp City Jr Baseball and Softball presented a "Wish List" of items that the organization would like to ask the Park Advisory Board and City of Tipp City to take into consideration for budgeting. The list and reasoning for each request is as follows:

1. "Outfield fences on fields 9-12. Each field would require a 320 feet of fence to reach from foul line to foul line 200 feet from home plate. This totals 1280 feet of 6 foot high fencing. Estimated cost is \$18,000." Reasoning: Currently there are no fences along the paths and there have been concerns with vehicles being used in these areas.
2. "Walkways from the parking lot on Kyle Drive leading to the center of fields 1-4 and heading west to the bathrooms near the soccer fields. Distance 1000 feet with cost \$50,000." Reasoning: The walkways provided for fields 5-12 "...has been a 100% improvement." Would like to continue this to the center fields.
3. "Coverings for each dugout on fields 5-12. 16 total at \$1,500 each. Total cost estimated at \$24,000." Reasoning: Currently using tarps to protect and shade players.
4. Covered shelters in the center of each quad. Estimated cost is \$25,000 per covered shelter in each of three quads totaling \$75,000. Reasoning: Currently there is no protection for the players if a storm quickly pops up.

5. Concrete and fencing for dugouts on fields 1-4. Estimated cost \$15,000. Reasoning: Currently it is a mud base and creates a problem when it rains.
6. Public address system installed at Kyle Park for weather alerts. Estimated cost is \$6,000. Tipp City Jr. Baseball has raised \$1,100 for this project to date. Reasoning: Currently there is no proactive uniform system available at the park. Any warnings are only communicated through sight and physical announcement from field to field.

Mr. Meyers also stated that for City Park, the organization has purchased additional base plates, stakes and the City has turned the fields over on 1 and 2. The gators were used to drag the areas. The organization met with the Boosters club regarding storage of items for the fields 1-2 of City Park.

Mr. Meyers further stated that several local area clubs are providing Fall baseball and the Tipp City organization is hopeful to restart their own Fall baseball league in 2018 (last time Fall baseball occurred was in 2013).

Mr. Donnelly stated regarding the "Wish List" items presented, item #2 is currently listed in the City's Capital Improvement Budget (CIP) within the next 2-3 years.

Mr. Donnelly and Mr. Hunt also spoke regarding the "Wish List" item #4, stating that the City has been able to purchase and install a shelter between fields 5-7 by the end of the 2017 summer. In 2019, money has been budgeted to purchase and install another shelter between fields 8-12. Due to the existing limited size accommodations, the shelter purchased will have a roof line size of 24' x 18', with a smaller concrete pad (being able to fit approximately 6 picnic tables), 2 foot walkway, handicap access and a drinking fountain. Cost is approximately \$9,500 with the City pouring the concrete in compliance with Miami Conservancy District (MCD) regulations.

Mr. Meyer stated that he would like to acknowledge and thank the City for cutting down the dead trees in Kyle Park with the hope that the City will be able to find and plant a tree species that could survive the open-field conditions in the near future.

Mr. Donnelly provided an update on the Irrigation System of the soccer fields. The system has been fully installed and the Soccer organization was being trained by the Water and Electric department on July 10, 2017, since they will be responsible for running the irrigation system.

**Comments of Park  
Advisory Members**

Mr. Hodges inquired about any update with the Nonsmoking Policy in the Parks. Mr. Donnelly stated that per Tim Eggleston the policy is being reviewed by the law director and will be available by the end of 2017.

Mr. Slagel inquired about the status of talking to the Miami County Equine Task Force regarding the grass and drive damage at Kyle Park as discussed in the previous board meeting. Mr. Donnelly stated that he has not been able to schedule this meeting, but will have an update regarding the resolution at the next meeting. Mr. Hunt stated that the area has been barricaded off, which requires them to drive around.

Mr. Hodges inquired if the \$100 Deposit Policy for Use of Fields has been adopted. Mrs. Taylor stated that per Mr. Eggleston's request, she sent out the policy for all of the board members to review and approve. She also stated that a copy was given to Mr. Eggleston for him to forward to the Law Director for review. No further information has been received by Mrs. Taylor at this time regarding status of the Law Directors review. **Mr. Hodges motioned to approve the new policy as written. Mr. Slagel seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.**

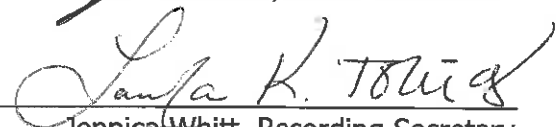
**Adjournment**

The next meeting will be Monday, September 11, 2017. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 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  
*Laura Tobias, acting Board Secretary*