

CANTON PARK COMMISSION

BOARD MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

October 24, 2023

4:30 pm

A meeting for the Canton Park Commission was held in person at the Canton Garden Center (1615 Stadium Park Dr. NW, Canton, OH 44718) on Tuesday, October 24, 2023. A call to order was made at 4:34 pm by President Rinaldi.

- 1. Call to Order:** President Rinaldi called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.
- 2. Roll Call:** The following board members responded to roll call: President Rinaldi, Vice President Gerzina and Member Williams. Also present were Marvin McConnell, Shuffleboard Director, and other employees of Canton Parks and Recreation.
- 3. Agenda:** President Rinaldi motioned to approve the 10/24/2023 Agenda, seconded by Member Williams. Ayes...President Rinaldi, VP Gerzina and Member Williams. Motion carried.
- 4. Minutes:** President Rinaldi motioned to approve the 09/26/2023 Minutes, seconded by Vice President Gerzina. Ayes... President Rinaldi, Vice President Gerzina and Member Williams. Motion carried.
- 5. Public Speak:** No public speakers were present. Doug Foltz introduced Danselle Williams, the new Edward "Peel" Coleman Community Center Manager. Danselle has been on the job for 5 weeks and will manage all the programming and staff at the center.
- 6. Financials:** Commissioners reviewed:
 - a.) Accounts Payable Invoice Reports. No questions.
 - b.) Parks Department Fund 2530 Report by department
 - Doug Foltz reported there is an increase from the second half levy property taxes of \$136,311.95 in 2023 vs 2022.
 - Intergovernmental Revenue from the Homestead Exemption fund of \$60,191.47 and potentially another \$60,000.00 in November.
 - VP Gerzina observed the budget may fall short of the estimated \$4.5M because taxes were not as high.

Member Williams motioned for approval of 6a.) AP Invoice Reports and 6b.) Parks Department Fund 2530 Report by department. President Rinaldi seconded. Ayes... approved.

c.) J. Babe Stearn Programming & Expense Report (David Miday)

- August 2023 invoice was tabled at the September 2023 board meeting for further review. After receiving additional voucher information and meeting with the Law Department, Doug Foltz is proposing an adjusted invoice that removes expenses associated with the Thurman Munson dinner. This event is a fundraiser and not a Rec program. This will reduce the August invoice by \$14,603.00 and the revised total is \$38,359.58
- Dave Miday to provide Doug Foltz with a new, revised August 2023 invoice.
- VP Gerzina and Doug Foltz discussed the funding J. Babe Stearn receives based on percentage of revenues and the need to monitor their invoices for program expenses that are not eligible for reimbursement.
- VP Gerzina noted the revenue for J. Babe Stearn is increasing substantially through donations.
- Discussion took place pertaining to the Boys and Girls Clubs relationship with the J. Babe Stearn center, the length of their Letter of Intent and what the future plans may be.
- President Rinaldi motioned to approve and pay the revised August 2023 invoice for \$38,359.58. The September 2023 invoice will be tabled until more supporting documentation is received. VP Gerzina seconded. Ayes...Motion carried.
- President Rinaldi shared the ball field J. Babe Stearn has under construction has encountered bad soil. July 1, 2024 is target date to secure funding.

7. Events: No new Public Events to review.

8. Old Business: Followed-up on old Business:

- a.) Friends of Canton Parks and Recreation – VP Gerzina and Doug Foltz met with Don Angus and Cassandra to discuss a capital request for the Gatehouse and waterfall stone garden, and they're waiting on a response.
 - A Land and Water Conservation Fund grant will be applied for to help with the project.
 - VP Gerzina made a motion to fund up to \$1M of the Stone Garden Waterfall project based on grant awards received. Member Williams seconded. Ayes...motion carried
- b.) Capital Project Updates
 - Doug Foltz meeting with Bill Sherer to discuss the Gatehouse bridge and would like Dan Kunz to attend. We will need to get others involved to help conceptualize the project and get input from various departments to apply for the grant.
 - Meeting was held with Purchasing regarding West Park bike park project and awaiting documentation from American Ramp so the design process can begin.

- Timken Gatehouse bid requests have not gone out yet, so a follow up meeting is scheduled.
 - Playground improvements: Phase 2/Bid Installation for larger projects (Crenshaw, Harmont, Garaux, Cornelia). Purchase agreements in place through Council and Purchasing, so installation is next. Contractors to be responsible for the majority of the prep including fiber installation and play dirt, however our crews will be support if necessary on grading. Our crews are understaffed right now and we're looking to fill some Union jobs.
 - The Crenshaw Shelter bid came in at \$700,000.00 which was twice than expected and is being reviewed with Dave Patterson (Mott & Meadows). Additional meetings scheduled with contractors to determine areas for increased costs and hopefully re-bid by the end of the year so it can be under contract.
 - Schreiber Tennis Courts and Pickleball should be out to contractors soon. Project won't be done this year, but at the forefront of next year.
 - Spiker Pond is waiting on the contractor to get started working on the sediment and get it ready for seed later this year or early next year. Electric around the pond will be finished next year.
- c.) VP Gerzina commented that the Alliance bike pump park is completed, and John Falconer went over and rode the course. Mr. Falconer has some input on their course and what we are planning. Discussion was held on Alliance's materials, budget, design and size.

9. New Business: No new business to discuss.

10. Monthly Directors Report and SECC Update:

- a.) Parks Superintendent Report – Dan Kunz
- See Operational report for details on Projects, Maintenance and Training.
 - The team is very proud of the work done at Monument Pond. Hoping to have kayaking and a senior fishing derby next year.
 - Staffing has been challenging this year. Working with the Civil Service Department to fill 3 open positions. Spread the word if anyone is looking for a job.
 - VP Gerzina asked about the Monument Park fishing event and status of the fish population. The ponds will be restocked with 1,000 trout per pond in Spring 2024 based on our 3 year agreement. The program was very successful and more promotions will be done in 2024.
- b.) Recreation Superintendent Report – Joe Rodocker was on vacation, so Doug Foltz reviewed Rec activities. Please see Joe's detailed Recreation Board report and contact him with any questions.
- Flag Football ending October 26, 2023

- Indoor Volleyball starts November 14 & 16, 2023 with 10 Women’s teams and 4 Coed teams registered so far.
 - Softball finished the week of October 16, 2023
 - Starting to plan youth basketball, softball, rugby and golf.
- c.) Marketing and Special Events Coordinator Report – Ethan Amerine is focusing on several large Fall events. See the September –October 2023 Marketing Report for specific details.
- Trunk or Treat has 37 vendors registered
 - Canton Parks and Rec team will dress as the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
 - Christmas Light up November 16, 2023
 - Holly Pine Lane advertising with the Garden Club and Canton Repository.
 - VP Gerzina asked about the new Pickleball leagues and how we plan to engage the community in the new programs. Discussion was held about current plans being developed by the Rec team for Pickleball in winter and spring, and possibly a women’s bocce league.
 - Ethan reviewed the performance of recent Social Media ads and will continue to track and report on the resulting trends for the Commissioners.
- d.) South East Community Center – Danselle Williams will update the Board each month on the Center’s members, programs, facility improvements, etc. Please see the attached report and contact Danselle with any additional information you’d like her to include in the future.
- VP Gerzina would like to see visitation numbers and trends after marketing promotions.
 - Discussion was held regarding sign in sheets and capturing usage by teams in Rec programs.

11. Adjournment: At 5:11 pm, motion to adjourn by President Rinaldi, seconded by Member Williams. Ayes.... Meeting adjourned.



 President

11/28/23

 Date



 Secretary

11/28/23

 Date