

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – March 1, 2022, 4:00 PM
Council Chambers

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Kappers, President.

Members of the Board Present: Mr. Alan Kappers, President
Mr. Richard Jordan Emerick, Vice-President
Mrs. Susan Westfall, Secretary

Others Attending: Jeremy Drake, Park Superintendent
Ken Siler, Recreation Director
Kyler Booher, Director of Golf
Patrick Titterington, Director of Public Service & Safety
Robin Oda, Mayor
City staff

The minutes of the January 3, 2022 Board of Park Commissioners meeting were approved by unanimous vote, following a motion from Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall.

The minutes of the January 19, 2022 Joint Recreation Board and Board of Park Commissioners meeting were approved by unanimous vote, following a motion from Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall.

REPORTS:

- Park Superintendent Jeremy Drake submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Drake commented that the Troy Police Department responded to Duke Park about a vehicle driving on the soccer fields and damaging the turf. Mr. Drake stated the damage was minimal. Mr. Kappers asked if there has been an issue with cars parking along Troy Sidney Road and the edge of Duke Park during events and Mr. Drake stated it has not been an issue but staff will continue to evaluate throughout the upcoming season. Mrs. Westfall asked if there are any plans to expand any of the parking lots at Duke Park and Mr. Drake stated in the 5-year CIP there is a plan to expand the parking lots at Duke Park. There is no short-term solution but there is a plan for the future. Mrs. Westfall asked about the opening of The Robinson Reserve and Mr. Drake stated as soon as the weather turns, staff will begin working on the grounds and hope to get it opened as soon as possible. Mrs. Westfall asked how the parking lot will connect to The Robinson Reserve and Mr. Drake stated the hope is to direct people to the north parking lot in Duke Park and they can connect to the reserve from the walking path. There is no direct parking with The Robinson Reserve.
- Mr. Siler submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). In addition to the report, Mr. Siler commented that online reservations for the upcoming Float Troy season has been a success. After one month of registrations, four dates are sold out and there are over 100 tent reservations made. Mr. Kappers questioned what the impact will be on the floating tent program if the low dam is removed and Mr. Drake stated the research has shown, the levels around Treasure Island Park should not change and the tent rentals should not be impacted. Mr. Siler also noted there are many events coming to Hobart Arena in the coming months.
- Mr. Booher submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Booher stated the golf course is officially open for the season. The course is in good condition for this time of year. Mr. Kappers asked why the drop ceiling was being raised in the clubhouse and Mr. Booher noted it needed to be raised for the use of the new simulators.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Consideration of 2022 listing of events for Prouty Plaza and other park areas** – Sue Knight, Administrative Assistant, supplied a list of proposed concerts and events that may be held on Prouty Plaza, Treasure Island Park, and other park properties. Any changes or additions throughout the year will be brought to the board's attention. Mrs. Knight highlighted the Troy Strawberry Festival Committee would like to have a beer garden on the levee Saturday and Sunday of the Strawberry Festival. She also noted that the Juneteenth Committee is requesting to have booths at the celebration that may sell merchandise or food.

A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall, to approve the dates and locations for concerts and other activities at Prouty Plaza and other park properties.

Motion passed by unanimous vote

Mr. Kappers commented that the Strawberry Festival has been around for many years and asked why they need a beer garden and Mrs. Knight stated on behalf of the festival committee they feel it is a way to make money, draw more people to the event, and it has been requested by the patrons. Mrs. Knight stated the area will be fenced in with security on hand and beverages cannot be taken out of that area.

A motion was made by Mrs. Westfall, seconded by Mr. Emerick, to approve a beer garden for the Troy Strawberry Festival. Vote: Yes – Emerick and Westfall; No – Kappers. Motion Adopted

- **Discussion and approval of a new Park Department Maintenance/Office Building prior to bidding** – Jeremy Drake, Park Superintendent, stated the location for the new Park Department Maintenance/Office Building will be placed in Duke Park close to an existing metal barn and shelter four. The new building will be attached to the existing metal barn and it will make one big building. There will be two overhead garage doors on the front of the building with one exit on the backside of the building. The smaller structure will be the office, meeting space, and break room area for staff to use. The design of the building is 7200 square feet and will meet the departments current needs and for years to come. Mr. Drake stated the current building is 6,000 square feet and it was built in the 1970's. Mr. Kappers asked if there is going to be storage of the second floor of the new building and Mr. Drake stated there is the potential to add vertical storage in the future. Mr. Emerick confirmed the new building will be built onto the existing building and it will be one big building.

A motion was made by Mr. Kappers, seconded by Mr. Emerick, to approve bidding of a new Park Department Maintenance/Office Building. Motion passed by unanimous vote

- **Consideration of use of Brukner Park by the Troy-Miami County Public Library** – Mr. Drake, Park Superintendent, stated library staff supplied a list of proposed activities that would like to be held at Brukner Park during the upcoming year. Mr. Drake stated there are no conflicts with other activities and no city services are being requested.

A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall, to approve the library usage Brukner Park. Motion passed by unanimous vote

- **Discussion and recommendation by the Board of Park Commissioners regarding the Policy Guidelines re Approval of Declaring as Surplus City/Board of Park Commissioners Property – 2396 Waterford Drive** – Mr. Patrick Titterington stated the homeowner of 2396 Waterford Drive never resolved the fence issue like they stated they would. The owner was informed that the cost to purchase the property was going to be significantly higher due to her assuming all the administrative cost. She contacted us today stating she was unsure if she wanted to pursue the option of purchasing the lot. The owner is looking into having a fence company move the existing fence on her property and what cost she may have to endure. Mr. Kappers asked if the Park Board is going against Council's guidelines for surplus property and Mr. Titterington stated this property has already been approved by Council.

A motion was made by Mr. Kappers, seconded by Mr. Emerick, to request to Council the sale of surplus property at 2396 Waterford Drive if the property owner wishes to purchase.

Motion passed by unanimous vote

- **For the concerts scheduled for Treasure Island Park, recommend that Troy City Council authorizes Treasure Island Use Agreements for any that may include the sale and consumption of adult beverages at specific times: June 24 and August 6** – Mr. Titterington request Treasure Island Use Agreements for concert events on June 24 and August 6 that will include the sale of adult beverages. The June 24 concert is in conjunction with the GOBA event and the August 6 concert is sponsored by the City of Troy. Staff is requesting the Park Board recommend to Council to authorize these dates. Mr. Siler stated there have not been any issues in the past.

A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall, to recommend to Council the non-ticketed use agreement for the concerts on June 24 and August 6 and the sale of alcohol at the concerts.
Motion passed by unanimous vote

- **Updates from Mr. Patrick Titterington, Director of Public Service and Safety –**
 - Mr. Titterington advised the Board of Park Commissioners that the City is experiencing costs for projects and day to day operations are coming in much higher than anticipated due to inflation. Staff are currently preparing for the worst and hopeful they are on top of everything going on. Mr. Titterington is wanting to keep the board informed on how they could be affected with the upcoming projects including the new Park Department Maintenance/Office Building or future projects. City staff is continuing to look for available grants in hope to offset some of the upcoming costs.

OTHER:

Mrs. Westfall asked about the status of Troy Baseball Parents request to add signage at the North Market Baseball Fields. Mr. Titterington advised that the City of Troy Law Director advised that it was in violation of the City's zoning code to add signage along the ballfield. Mr. Titterington stated that staff is working with the Baseball Parents on different ways they could do sponsorships at the field. Mrs. Westfall asked about the request that a donor was going to donate funds to purchase a new scoreboard at the North Market Street Ballfields. Mr. Titterington noted the scoreboard needs some minor renovations and the estimated costs are a couple thousand dollars. Staff is looking at other things that may need to be renovated. Mr. Titterington responded that none of the request will be happening within the upcoming month.

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall, by unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
