

CITY OF TROY BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES – May 7, 2024, 4:00 PM
Council Chambers

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

Members of the Board Present: Mr. Jordan Emerick, President
 Mrs. Mona Anderson, Secretary

Others Attending: Jeremy Drake, Park Superintendent
 Ken Siler, Recreation Director
 Kyler Booher, Director of Golf
 City Staff
 Citizens

The minutes of the April 2, 2024, Board of Park Commissioners meeting were approved by unanimous vote, following a motion from Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Anderson.

REPORTS:

- Park Superintendent, Jeremy Drake, submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Drake stated months April through June are extremely busy, this year has been no different. With being down one employee due to a retirement, staff has done an excellent job keeping up with all day to day duties.
- Recreation Director, Ken Siler, submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Siler stated season passes to the Troy Aquatic Park (TAP) have been selling very well and they are ahead of where sales were last year at this time. Mr. Siler stated it is a busy time of year for Hobart Arena and TAP and staff is continuing with day-to-day responsibilities.
- Director of Golf, Kyler Booher, submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Booher stated the weather in April wasn't the best, but the rounds played, and The Shoreline sales ended in line of the 2023 season. Mr. Booher noted in late October 2023, some of the greens showed signs of dollar spot on the greens, and when staff noticed the disease, they started treating it. Due to it happening late in the 2023 season, there are still spots on the greens, but they are improving.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Appointment of Mr. Tom Coffield to the Miami Shores Golf Course Advisory Board:** Mr. Booher stated there is an opening on the Miami Shores Golf Advisory Board due to a previous appointee living outside of the city limits. Board Interest Forms were accepted and reviewed, and Mr. Booher feels Mr. Tom Coffield would be a good fit. Mr. Coffield is and has been a pass holder at Miami Shores Golf Course and Mr. Booher feels he would add great value to the board. Mr. Coffield's term would be effective immediately and would expire on December 31, 2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, to appoint Mr. Coffield to the Miami Shores Advisory Board.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUS VOTE

- **Discussion of approving sponsorship signage at the North Market Street Softball Field** – Mr. Drake stated the Troy High School Softball Boosters Association are looking to have sponsorship or donor information placed on the back of the dugout that faces North Market Street. Mr. Drake noted his concern is if the signage starts to look unprofessional, who will be responsible for the upkeep. Scott Beeler, High School Softball Coach stated he is checking with the sign company to see how long the signs should last. Mr. Beeler stated the signs could be taken down or replaced at the time they start looking unprofessional. Mr. Drake highlighted that there are multiple phases of the project so more donor information could be added in the future as donations continue to be made. Mrs. Sue Knight, Administrative Assistant, recommends the motion include an annual review of the signage by the Park Superintendent.

A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mr. Anderson, to approve the sponsorship signage placed at the North Market Street Softball Field dugout pending the ongoing and future maintenance belonging to the Troy Softball Boosters Association and the annual review by the Park Superintendent.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUS VOTE

- **Discussion of Duke Park Pickleball Courts, signage and use by the Miami County Pickleball Association** – Mr. Drake highlighted that the pickleball courts were supposed to be paved today (May 7) but due to the weather, the paving was going to be delayed till later this week. Everything else with the project is moving along and the courts should be open the first week of June. The Miami County Pickleball Association received a grant from The Troy Foundation to place old tennis court nets in between the courts and that work has been completed.

Mr. Drake stated that he has received a couple of messages stating concerns due to the availability of court times with citizens that are not a part of the Miami County Pickleball Association (MCPA) based on the signage that is posted. Mr. Drake stated there is signage that will be placed with updated rules once the court refinishing is completed. Mr. Drake stated he isn't sure that the new signage will help with the issues of court play time so there may need to be some internal discussions about next steps. Mr. Paul Hinkleman, President of the MCPA, thanked the city for all the upgrades to the Duke Park Pickleball courts. Mr. Hinkleman stated the MCPA is confused as to what the problems are that are being reported to the city. Mr. Hinkleman stated that he feels the rules that are in place are common sense rules that everyone can follow, and he feels they are working. He also stated that he thinks the MCPA could be an advisory board to the city and help with making decisions. Mr. Hinkleman wants the city to take a stance with the rules that are placed at the courts.

Mr. Mark Johnson, MCPA member, stated the MCPA is confused as to what the complaints are. He said they want everyone to feel welcome and share the courts with all visitors.

Mr. Emerick feels some of the increase in concerns could be due to half of the courts being closed due to the updates taking place.

Mr. Drake stated the city has received more than a couple of complaints. Mr. Drake stated the courts need to meet the needs of the entire city, not just the 215 members of the MCPA. Mr. Drake has touched base with other communities that have had rules posted on their courts and those communities are also receiving negative feedback from their community.

- **Additional Event Involving Prouty Plaza** – Mrs. Knight stated staff received a request for an additional event featuring a rooftop concert on the roof of The Mayflower on June 8, 2024, with a rain date of June 29. The concert is hosted by The Troy Foundation as part of their 100th Celebration. Prouty Plaza will not be set up for the concert but hopefully will be used by people enjoying the music. The Downtown Square will be closed for the event. Mr. Drake has no issues with the additional event being added.

A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Anderson to support the additional event on June 8 with a rain date of June 29.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUS VOTE

OTHER:

- Bob Naas, 830 North Dorset Road, lives close to Westbrook Park and is hoping to see Westbrook Park utilized in the future. Mr. Naas and the neighbors would like to host activities and events to see the park come to life. He feels putting updated park equipment, benches, shelter with picnic tables, or large climbing pieces could help the park attract more visitors and give the kids in the neighborhood a place to go. Mr. Emerick stated the Park Board can stop at Westbrook Park as a part of their annual park tours. Mr. Drake stated Westbrook Park is very similar to other parks in that they just have benches and playground equipment. Mr. Drake stated if activities are planned at the park, they will need to contact him with event details. He highlighted that other paperwork may need to be completed and provided based on the event the neighborhood is wanting to plan.

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, by unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
