

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
March 1, 2023 4:00 PM
Council Chambers

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

Members of the Board Present: M. Jordan Emerick, Vice-President
 Mrs. Susan Westfall, Secretary

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

Amend the March 1 Board of Park Commissioners agenda to add review of 2023 event list and temporary activation of the DORA/non-ticketed use agreements for Treasure Island Concerts on June 24 and August 5, was approved by unanimous vote, following a motion from Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall

The minutes of the February 7, 2023 Board of Park Commissioners meeting were approved by unanimous vote, following a motion from Mrs. Westfall, seconded by Mr. Emerick.

The minutes of the January 18, 2023 Joint Recreation and Board of Park Commissioners meeting were approved by unanimous vote, following a motion from Mrs. Westfall, seconded by Mr. Emerick.

REPORTS:

- Mr. Drake submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Drake stated the spring baseball and softball are in full swing. Mr. Drake also highlighted an email was received from a city resident who is thankful for the new playground equipment that has been installed at Trinity Park.
- Mr. Siler submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes). Mr. Siler commented that the OHSAA District Wrestling tournament will take place this Friday and Saturday at Hobart Arena. Mr. Siler also noted that the upcoming season for Float Troy is taking reservations and to date there are 63 rental spots reserved.
- Mr. Booher submitted a report (copy attached to original minutes).

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Recommendation to Council to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Park Commissioners to sign the 'Consent to Field Naming'** – Mr. Titterington, City Director, stated the Troy City Schools contacted the City of Troy in regards to naming the field at Troy Memorial Stadium. Currently, there is a Stadium and Turf Enhancement Project that is a private group is organizing and the goal is to replace the natural grass with artificial turf at Troy Memorial Stadium and Ferguson Field. The group of volunteers organizing the project has secured a sizeable contribution from Premier Health with the condition that Memorial Stadium field be renamed to "Premier Health Field at Troy Memorial Stadium". In 2009, the Board of Park Commissioners conveyed the stadium to the Troy City School District. That conveyance included certain deed restrictions regarding signage and naming of and within the stadium. Those deed restrictions do allow the City to grant exceptions. Mr. Titterington requested the Board of Park Commissioners to make a positive recommendation to Troy City Council to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Park Commissioners to sign the 'Consent to Field Naming'.
A motion was made by Mrs. Westfall, seconded by Mr. Emerick, to make a positive recommendation to Troy City Council to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Park Commissioners to sign the 'Consent to Field Naming'.
MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUS VOTE
- **Approval of the North Market Street Ballfield Renovations Project** – Mr. Titterington, City Director stated the North Market Street Ballfields, located at the corner of North Market Street and Staunton Road, are home to a high school-sized baseball and softball field. These fields are used by the Troy City

School District and the Troy Recreation Department seven consecutive months each year. Mr. Titterington stated there had been discussion in the past looking for ways to provide sponsorship recognition opportunities on city properties. Recently, the City was approached by a Baseball Boosters Representative stating they have a donor wanting to donate to the Baseball Boosters and to have the funds invested in the North Market Street Baseball Field but would like recognition of the company at the field. On February 21, a group of City, Troy City Schools representatives, along with baseball and softball representatives met to discuss the relevance of, issues at, and estimated costs related to the ballfields. Mr. Titterington noted the costs are still being compiled, the issues below will easily exceed \$1 million to address. These issues include, but are not limited to:

- Spalling and crumbling concrete bleachers along the recreation trail
- Outdated backstop designs at both fields
- Lack of protection against foul balls, which can reach the public rights-of-way
- Lack of seating behind the backstops and between fields for spectators
- Natural grass infields, which reduce playability during and after wet weather events
- Uneven softball outfield surface
- Obsolete and unrepairable lighting at the softball field
- Exterior deterioration of the dugouts and restrooms; and
- Lack of a full-service concession stand, including utilities

At the meeting, all participants agreed that offering on-site recognition for corporate, community, or individual donations is imperative to raising funds towards these renovations. Mr. Titterington did note, if sponsorships will be on display at the fields, the Board of Park Commissioners does retain the right to alter and further define the advertising opportunities. Staff is requesting a positive recommendation from the Board of Park Commissioners to allow the Baseball Boosters to start an outreach program to reach possible donors.

A motion was made by Mr. Emerick, seconded by Mrs. Westfall to the Baseball Boosters to start their outreach program on attracting donors for donations towards the North Market Street Ballfields.

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUS VOTE

- **Consideration of 2023 listing of events for Prouty Plaza and other park areas:** Mr. Titterington, City Director, provided a list of proposed concerts and events that may be held on Prouty Plaza, Treasure Island Park, or other park properties. Any changes or additions throughout the year will be brought to the Board of Park Commissioners attention.

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

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUS VOTE

- **Provide a recommendation to Council regarding temporary activation of the DORA and authorizing Treasure Island non-ticketed use agreements for concerts on June 24 and August 5:** Mr. Titterington, City Director, stated there are three non-ticketed events at Treasure Island Park in the summer of 2023. Only two of the concerts for June 24 and August 6 would include the controlled sale and consumption of adult beverages. The use agreement developed in 2016 for such concerts at Treasure Island Park would be used. Council authorization is needed for any concert involving the sale of alcohol, and the temporary activation of the DORA on June 24 and August 25. The alcohol sale and consumption would follow all the state requirements. Mr. Titterington stated he has informed Mr. Kappers and he has also spoke with the Chief of Police. The Chief of Police stated he didn't feel there would be any problems with activating the DORA for the events and he will make sure that his staff is aware of the boundaries and policies that will be on duty. Mr. Titterington stated there would be 10 additional signs placed at intersections the day of the event and 10 additional trash cans will be placed. Mr. Emerick confirmed that if the Board of Park Commissioners recommends the DORA activation, City Council would then have to approve the DORA activation. Mr. Drake noted it will cut down the amount of set up time for the Park Department and the venue will look more appealing for the participants.

A motion was made by Mrs. Westfall, seconded by Mr. Emerick, provide a positive recommendation to City Council regarding temporary activation of the DORA and authorizing the non-ticketed use agreements for concerts on June 24 and August 5, 2023

MOTION PASSED, UNANIMOUS VOTE

OTHER:

- Mr. Drake stated a family inquired with him about donating a park bench at the Mayor's Park. The family has a good relationship with the Jenkins family and would like for the bench to be placed by the statue of Mayor Jenkins. The bench will have the concrete base and pad and Mr. Drake stated he feels it would be a nice addition to the park.

There being no further business, upon motion of Mr. Emerick seconded by Mrs. Westfall, by unanimous voice vote, the Board adjourned at 4:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
