

**Parks & Recreation Commission**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING: MAY 24, 2023**



The Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting was called to order by Chairman Douglas Hayes at 7:30p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Douglas Hayes, Dennis Boose, Keriann Roach, Jill Timoteo and Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Fougrousse

Excused Absence: Jeff Grigsby

**FINALIZATION OF AGENDA:**

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Fougrousse requested to add under New Business “Soccer Complex Re-Brand”.

Motion by Roach, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Boose for approval of Agenda.

4 – Yes, 0 – No

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Approval of minutes for our regularly scheduled commission meeting that was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023.

Keriann Roach requested that we amend the minutes from March 22, 2023 that Douglas Hayes would be at the rest of the meetings as he stated.

Motion by Boose, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roach for approval of minutes from our commission meeting that was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2023.

4-Yes, 0-No

**LOBBY:**

None

**REPORTS:**

**COUNCIL LIAISONS REPORT:**

Councilman Dennis Boose mentioned the Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 29. There is also a Veteran’s Recognition Ceremony held on Friday, May 26 at the Senior Center. The event starts at 11:30a.m. The City just passed through Council a signage program for new signs throughout the City and Parks. We anticipate construction starting over the summer with the work tentatively being completed in September/October. The City Street paving list has come out through the city website. We budgeted \$610,000.00 for asphalt repairs, this is replacement and milling off neighborhood streets. We have \$590,000.00 for concrete streets. Stoney Ridge will be closed North of Mills for 2 weeks beginning June 5. This is for underground utility work. Race Road is currently closed, they are replacing the road, it is a 120-day project. The annual garage days are June 7-June 10. Freedom Festival is Monday, July 3 and will be held at Victory Sport Park. Tickets can be purchased at VictoryParkOhio.Com.

***SCHOOL BOARD LIAISONS REPORT:***

No report.

***FINANCIAL REPORT:***

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Fougousse discussed the revenues and expenses. Trust Fund revenue in April was \$34,286.64. Trust Fund unencumbered balance through April was \$258,543.90. The Park and Recreation Improvement Fund revenue in April was \$2,395.87. The Park and Recreation Improvement Fund unencumbered balance through April is \$261,520.83. Our General Fund expenses in April were \$77,977.08. Trust Fund expenses in April were \$22,341.98.

***DIRECTORS REPORT:***

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Fougousse mentioned a new 8 ft. wide concrete walkway was poured at Safetyville. The work was completed on Wednesday, May 17 by Fordson Concrete. The Public Works division will be adding drainage. New shade structures were added to diamonds 10 & 11 by Jacob Vincent. Jacob performed this project for his Eagle Scout Badge. He did a tremendous job and I can't thank Jacob and his team of volunteers for all their hard work. Lastly Rafter A. LTD provided the first rendering for the new parking lot at Soccer Complex.

***RECREATION SUPERVISOR REPORT:***

The Fishing Derby was held on May 6 from 7:30a.m.-Noon at South Central Park. The derby went extremely well. We had 90 guests at the event out of the 113 pre-registered. We had a strong showing of volunteers from the NR Fire Department and NR Fishing Club. Our Youth Tennis Program, Session I is beginning June 5 and at the time of this report we have 20 kids pre-registered from ages 4-14. Spinning Session I started on May 17 and we have 11 pre-registered. Junior Pony Camp Session I runs May 18 & 25, at the time of the report we have 06 registered. Tots Yoga Session III was held on May 17 and we had 06 participate. Tai Chi Session I started on May 2 and we have 5 registered. Safetyville Program which is ran by the NR Police Department starts on June 6. At the time of this report we had taken in 192 registrations. Lastly our annual Touch-A-Truck event is on Saturday, June 3 from 10:00a.m.-2:00pm. The event is held at Shady Drive Complex.

***GROUNDS MAINTENANCE REPORT:***

Marc Allen reported we received our summer help and they hit the ground running. Willem and Donovan worked with us last year and will be at Shady Drive all summer. The splash pad is up and running and we added another coat of paint to the pad. Still waiting on the ABI Force to be delivered by Baker Vehicle. The staff is cutting grass.

***OLD BUSINESS:***

No old business.

***NEW BUSINESS:***

Parks and Recreation Director Kevin Fougousse discussed that we are getting new park signage as part of the new city brand. Our Parks & Recreation Master Plan discussed how our parks shouldn't be sport specific and this is the time we can look at the Soccer Complex for a potential name change. We want it to be more associated with a park and not a complex. The community views it as a soccer complex and not a park. Shady Drive Complex fits the complex name because of the indoor facilities, pavilions, etc. With the commissions approval/vote we would like to put a survey out to the public with the options being: no change required (1), Root Road Park(2), or Other (3) regarding the Soccer Complex potential name change.

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***NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:***

Vice-Chairman Roach asked do we have to put this out to the public. We discussed that it is appropriate to have the communities' input on this and not treat this as a commission decision. We want to be transparent. Our goal is to have this out next week and see what the community wants. Councilman Boose mentioned that he is all in favor of making our parks feel all inclusive and not be sport specific. Making it a park goes a long way and adding additional amenities helps. Jill Timoteo asked if there has been any discussion regarding naming rights. Director Fougrousse mentioned that we have not engaged with businesses to sell naming rights. We want it to feel like a community park and not after a corporate entity.

A motion was made by Hayes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Boose to send out a survey regarding a potential name change of the Soccer Complex.

4-Yes, 0-No

***ADJOURNMENT:*** Meeting adjourned at 8:14PM