

CITY OF VANDALIA
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

May 19, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lenny Maenza, Corey Follick, Rick Scherer, Lydia Baker

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Rodney Washburn, Larry Taylor, Tara Landis

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Clark, Jeff Kreill, Al Tuttle, Sherry McConnaughey

- Vice Chairperson Lydia Baker called the regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to order at 6:32 p.m.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- The minutes of the February 17, 2021 meeting were presented to the board. Lenny Maenza motioned to accept the minutes as presented, and Corey Follick seconded the motion. Motion carried all ayes.

COMMENTS FROM INTEREST CITIZENS

- None.

FACILITIES SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Steve Clark presented the Facilities Superintendent Report.

- Currently working on 2021 capital projects:
 - Clubhouse roof work was brought before City Council Study Session. The project includes removal and replacement of the clubhouse and cart storage garage shingle roofs and maintenance work to the metal roof on the golf maintenance building.
 - Preparing information for the replacement of our 1992 forklift and 1985 work van.
- Spring field prep for baseball and soccer continue. Butler United is using the soccer fields. They pay for the fertilizer for these fields as part of our agreement with them.
- Cassel Hills Pool preparations continue. Swim Safe is completing repairs to the shallow well of the main pool and to the zero-depth entry area of the feature pool. Dayton Pool Management is completing the pool floor painting. They have the swim lines and targets to complete. Work has been slowed due to product availability and/or poor weather conditions. Made new countertop for the entry window and replaced some failing wood on the building locker room areas.
- We now have three seasonal staff working about 65 hours per week. Mowing, trash, and restroom cleaning are keeping them busy.

CITY TREE REPORT

Steve Clark presented the Urban Forest Report.

- The Arbor Day Celebration took place with the planting of a Chicagoland Hackberry tree with the aid of the Helke School Students. The new tree is located near the Helke Park 2-5 play structure. 350 White Dogwood trees were given out for students to plant. The

children really enjoyed the celebration, and a thank you goes to Corey Follick for helping bag the seedlings.

- A Commemorative Tree was planted at Helke Park west of the shelter 1 area. This is a Dr. Merrill Magnolia. A Commemorative Tree plaque was purchased for this tree and installed in concrete at the time of planting. Photos of the Commemorative Tree and plaque were passed around.
- Structural tree pruning on some of our most recently planted trees, those that have been in the ground for 2 to 5 years.
- Planning work for a new landscaped median that will be installed on National Road close to the Vandalia entry way sign east of Peters Pike. Rudy is currently putting together a landscaping plan. This median will have lighting.

BEE CITY REPORT

Al Tuttle presented the Bee City Report

- The Historical Society has received the Gazebo that was donated by the City of Vandalia.
- Rick Scherer inquired about the mowing schedule of the Historical Society.
- Rick Scherer commented the bridge between the Historical Society and the Art Park may be in need of repairs.

RECREATION SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Jeff Kreill presented the Recreation Superintendent Report.

Recreation Report:

- Jeff reported that from his perspective, the P&R department has been doing a good job providing a wide range of programs for individuals of all ages. He inquired if any Park Board Members have heard anything from community members about our program offerings or if anyone has any programming suggestions?
 - Lydia Baker replied that the only comment she has heard was wanting Lacrosse as a program offering. A discussion about the possibility of Lacrosse followed.
 - Steve advised that he would have John Myers do some research about Lacrosse.
- We are hoping to offer bounce houses and obstacle courses back into our programming. Specifically, for Family Fun Day in June. Currently we are waiting for a contractual language resolution between attorney's regarding insurance and liability concerns.
- Corporate Challenge Update.
 - PSA pulled out at the last minute due to Covid.
 - 9 teams will be competing in the Corporate Challenge.
 - Jeff asked if there was anyone interested in volunteering on June 7, 8, or 9 from 5:30pm-8:00pm?

- Chamber of Commerce
 - The Taste of the Crossroads event was cancelled due to restaurant staffing issues.
 - Bands and Beers Festival proposal. Discussion followed regarding the date, location, and name of the Festival.

Athletic Report

- Baseball and Softball are going great. A State tournament is causing an umpire shortage. To date, only one game is being affected. Everything is also going well with the female baseball player.
- Ben and Julie Neely reached out to partner their B&J's Shaved Ice with the concession stand. They started serving from the middle window on Saturday, May 15. It is going well so far. At first, they will be open when we are, but in the future could be open at other times as well. We are no longer permitting Kona-Ice to attend our youth baseball/softball events.

Recreation Center

- The Butler Swim Team logo is going on the VRC pool wall, and Alicia is working with them to try and add the Swim Team record board. The Athletic Department and Swim Team would be paying for this, and the hope is to have it by the end of the year.
- The Rec Center currently plays MIX 107.7 at all times. Alicia is looking into Neptune Radio. This is geared toward businesses and 100% of what is aired is controlled. This is a great way to limit commercials and avoid controversial news.

Jeff played a sample recording of "VPRD Radio."

The benefits of Neptune Radio are that all songs are scanned and deemed family-friendly before playing, the genres of music can be mixed throughout the day to better customize based on who is using the Center, and the commercials can be customized. We could use this to advertise upcoming events, and this is a possible revenue opportunity by selling commercial space. Steve asked if this would eliminate our yearly payments for music rights. Discussion followed about music rights, and it was determined that was still something that needed answered. Corey asked if patrons still want music because of personal devices. Discussion followed.

- Alicia is researching getting rid of the TV's in the Fitness Center and adding a touch screen cardio theater to each piece of cardio equipment. The partnership with Premier Health is expiring this year, so proposing a bigger partnership package is being discussed which could incorporate the cardio equipment.

Senior Center

	2021 Total Members	2021 Resident	2021 Butler Township	2021 Non-Res
Jan	367	148	53	166
Apr	462	197	61	204

- Toni has had several new businesses contact her recently that she has not done business with in the past. The reason for the influx is because so many Senior Centers have either been closed due to Covid or reluctant to offer any programming for sponsors. Toni has done a marvelous job providing countless events while enforcing Covid guidelines. Thank you Toni for everything you do!
- Toni is no longer required to be tested for Covid every other week.
- Toni is getting a lot of calls in regards to the mask mandate, but is sticking with the June 2 date until we get more details from the City Manager. On June 2, cards and games will be back at the Senior Center and Memberships will begin to increase.

Cassel Hills Pool

- Approximately 600 individual Memberships have been sold. The Non-Resident Memberships went very quickly, and are sold-out. A social media push about the pool is coming soon.
- The SwimSafe relationship is going well with a lot of communication! The shallow well repairs are complete, and minor repairs to the kiddie pool are underway. The training of their Staff is going good. 3 of their Lifeguard Management Staff are former VPRD Lifeguard Staff.
- The pool painting project by Dayton Pool Management is almost complete for the Saturday, May 29 opening.
- Christy's will be ready to go at the Concession Stand.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- CHP Capstone Project
 - Steve Clark asked that everyone look at the Survey results that were sent with the Agenda. The highlights are that most respondents said it is a valuable amenity that they would like to keep at the current location. Corey added this is a valuable tool for Council to have at Budget time as the pool is beginning to age. In 2023, the pool will be 50 years old.
 - Lenny added that he hasn't used the pool in 30 years, but it's an amenity that the City needs.
 - Steve would like SwimSafe to come in and do a short-term and long-term cost analysis for different options to share with Council.
- Facility Needs Assessment
 - Steve Clark is planning on a Facility Needs Assessment in 2022 for the Vandalia Recreation Center, the Sports Complex, and Helke Park. This will include engaging the public, and creating a roadmap on repairs that need completed.
- Facilities HVAC/Roof Projects
 - Steve Clark presented the HVAC/Roof Project to Council. The Vandalia Recreation Center, the Justice Center, and the Municipal Building are all in

need of new HVAC and roofing. Council was presented with a presentation on the life cycles of roofs and HVAC systems. They will decide if the replacements should happen all at once or stagger them over a couple years.

- City Rebranding Update
 - Steve Clark passed around a packet that contained the new City of Vandalia logos with the tagline, Small City, Big Opportunity. City Manager Dan Wendt, and Asst. City Manager Amber Holloway will be putting together a schedule to roll-out the new logo. Corey Follick added the new logo was a result of the Comprehensive Plan, to give Vandalia a regional identity, as there was always confusion about “The Crossroads of America,” and why there was an airplane in our logo, when the Airport is in the City of Dayton. The new logo will be incorporated into the new website, and any re-development that happens downtown.
- Emeritus Member Bob Costello is in the hospital. Rich Scherer read a text update from Bob’s daughter to the members of the Park Board. Discussion followed.
- State of Ohio Public Health Order concerning COVID-19. All mandates and guidelines will be removed as of June 2.

OLD BUSINESS

- None.

NEW BUSINESS

- The next in-person meeting is in August. There will continue to be monthly update reports for the months there is not an in-person meeting. If there is ever a reason for an emergency meeting, that is something that can be done.
- Al Tuttle advised that SummerFest will be returning in June on Wednesday evenings. Al will be attending to promote Bee City and pollinators.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Rick Scherer made a motion to adjourn and Lenny Maenza seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Tara Landis, Chairperson

Rick Scherer, Secretary