

Mayfield Village Parks & Recreation Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Civic Center

MINUTES

Attending: Pat Andrzejczyk, Dave Blood, Paula Conte, Stivo DiFranco, Troy Koch, Mary Murphy, Lori Sperling, Kate Sullivan, Bill Thomas and Danielle Echt.

Introduction: Kate called the meeting to order at approximately 7:04 p.m. She asked for approval of the March 21, 2012 Minutes as written. Mary approved and Paula seconded. All in attendance approved. Sign up sheets for volunteers for the 2012 recreation parties/events were passed around. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please contact Danielle.

Senior Program Updates

- Bill reported that Donna was unable to attend the meeting due to vacation. He said that Council approved the Community Partnership for seniors. He said it should expand our programs and the partnership will be marketed to seniors and residents. Bill said that Council approved the agreement through December 2012. Mary asked what the amount was and Bill said he thought it was \$36,000 but would confirm in the Minutes. Note that the contract was \$39,000.
- Bill said they are planning on offering a new program which would use the Civic Center for lunch and then a movie would follow in Reserve Hall.
- Bill reported that AARP volunteers completed tax returns for 15 Village residents. He said that the Quick Tips for Interior Design program was well attended. Both the Cleveland Aquarium and Trolley Tour of Cleveland trips are full. Mary said she would be interested in hearing feedback about the Aquarium because she has heard mixed reviews. Bill said he is going on both trips so he will let everyone know.
- Troy asked how old one had to be in order to be considered a senior. Bill said he thought it was 60 years. Pat said that does not apply to the snowplow program because you have to be 65 years for that.

Easter Party

- Danielle reported that they collected money from 62 children but there were many more on hand when you consider additional family members and babies.
- Danielle said that there was pizza leftover and Bill's feedback was that pizza might not be the best idea since the party is right after lunch. The committee agreed to discuss it before next year's party but maybe cookies or donut holes would be a better choice.
- Mary said that Rick Smith Junior was great and the music he played before his show was nice. Paula said the kids are enthralled with him.
- Everyone thought Swifty did a great job and the line moved a little slow. Danielle said that parents stood in line for their kids but it seemed to be okay.
- Troy said the head of the bunny suit was damaged. Danielle said that there was a child that hit the bunny a few times and screws fell out of the head piece. She said she is aware of it and hopefully the Service Department can fix it.

Debbie Hudacko Scholarship Interviews

- Mary and Kate will interview 8 scholarship applicants on April 25. 18 applied.
- \$1,000 is available for the high school student(s) and \$500 for the St. Francis student. Stivo said one year they gave an additional \$500 to the high school and Bill said an exception was made in that case because the interviewers felt that there was a tie among three applicants.

Program Updates

- Bill said he is working with the Teen Advisory Board at Mayfield Middle School. They have tried to offer several programs and they have not gone due to low enrollment. The teen board members are saying PA Announcements are useless because kids don't listen to them and flyers don't work because they don't make it home. Bill said that marketing the programs is an issue and he would like to pursue Facebook with the schools. The committee members agreed that the internet was the way to go most likely and a lot of it is probably word of mouth. Bill said he heard from a parent that a Friday program is not a good day because parents are burned out at the end of the week. Bill said that maybe an announcement can be made at lunch time. Kate said the schools are not great at marketing programs and said the recreation department is the best way.
- Bill said that both the Wildcat Sampler and the Wildcat Teen Halloween have been popular and brought in money. He said we were able to give money back to the school too.
- Mary asked why the recreation department runs programs for the middle school students with low attendance. She asked if the schools do mixers. Danielle said they do. She said that the special events for the teens, the Sampler and Teen Halloween are pretty well attended. It is the after school programs that we try to do that don't seem to go. Danielle said there are a few other kinds of programs that we run with low enrollment but we never really lose money on them.

Parkview Pool Update

- Bill said that there will be new tile in the pool locker rooms, entrance and by the front desk. He said it will look good. It is a special porcelain for hot and cold and it should be installed around May 24.
- Bill said there will be one ADA lift at the pool. Originally he was told that two were needed but the Village meets the ADA guidelines with just one.
- Bill reported that the slide structure has been painted.

Wiley Park Update

- Bill said that Meg and Stivo did a great job helping to pick out items for Wiley playground. He said that Council approved the Recreation Board's recommendation to go with Dave Williams and Associates. Bill reported that they went with the "Meadow" colors for the plastic parts. He also said that the spinner was too much money so that was omitted.
- Mary asked who would be removing the old Wiley playground and Bill said the service department. Mary asked about the flooring and Bill said it would be wood fiber and Stivo added just like the area by the swings at Parkview.

Restrooms at Soccer Fields & Amphitheater Update

- Mary asked what the status is of the trailer being moved to the soccer fields. Bill said we went to bid knowing the utilities would be approximately \$30,000 so with the moving and remodeling, they budgeted for \$75,000. The bids came in at \$99,000 so nothing is happening right now but Council knows it's important. Danielle asked for clarification, if it would be going back out to bid or what the next step is. Stivo asked if it can be like the Police Department, where we say we have \$75,000 to work with and what can be done with that amount. Bill said we thought we were saving by taking an existing building and moving it. Stivo said remodeling is costly. Dave said maybe building with brick would be cheaper he didn't know if that was the case but was suggesting alternatives.
- Bill said they are putting the final topping on the amphitheater and that it's really good dirt. People will sit on grass. He hopes that it will begin being used in late 2013 or early 2014.

Parkview Park

- Bill said he would like to see an intergenerational park where the softball fields are. He hopes that there will be restrooms, concession, storage and asked what the rest of the committee would like.
- Mary said if we don't have money to move the trailer, should we be planning for something like this. She said it seems like we put things on hold that we don't finish and then we start something else. She questioned if we should have went ahead with Wiley playground without finishing the trailer. The committee agreed that Wiley playground was a safety issue. Bill added that the amphitheater didn't cost anything because Doug allowed dirt to be dumped there.
- Dave said he would like to see another softball field added to the area. He said that the youth field is too small. Bill said we have the Mayfield High School Girls Fast pitch team playing there. Dave said he thinks the field is illegal because the fences are not far enough and he said that he has heard complaints. Danielle said that there is even a college fast pitch team that practices there. The recreation department has not heard any complaints that the field is too small or illegal. Addendum: Bill talked to the Mayfield fast pitch coach and they said our fence of 185' meets Ohio High School Athletic Association regulations. The coach also likes our 10' high fences.
- Stivo asked if there was a map or aerial photo of the area available. The recreation department can check into it.
- Dave said that restrooms would have to be a priority. Bill said he would like to see the area developed in the next few years before he retires.

Open Discussion

- The 2012-2013 meeting dates were reviewed.
- Pat commented that now in the Adult Coed Softball League the men do not have to bat opposite hand but they do in the Men's League. Bill and Danielle said they didn't think that was true and they would ask Sean about it. Pat said that is what she was told.
- Pat also said that the ball is an issue for the Adult Coed Softball League. They now use a smaller ball. Danielle said she is not aware of teams complaining about it so she didn't think there was an issue. Danielle said the league is different from when Pat used to play and that the teams like the smaller ball. Dave said the teams playing now are a lot younger.
- Bill reported that there is a trails workshop on June 6 in Independence with Mayor Rinker as a guest speaker. More information is available on the email that is attached showing the schedule for the day. If anyone wants to attend, let Bill know. The Village will pay the registration fee for anyone interested in attending.
- Troy asked if there is a softball field where people can go to just to hit a ball around. He said you used to be able to do that at the Wiley Park field. Bill said that the fields are generally open after school or on the weekends but at night there is league play. Danielle said permit holders would have priority. Mary asked about the fields at Center School and the committee agreed that while the fields may exist, they are not in good shape.
- The meeting concluded at 7:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 19, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle M. Echt,
Assistant Recreation Director

Greater Cleveland Trails & Greenways Conference 2012

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Why a Trails/Greenways Conference

Cities throughout the U.S. recognize the value of trail & greenway development as part of a strategy towards improving the quality of life and attracting & retaining business. Trails and greenways positively impact individuals and improve communities by providing recreation and transportation opportunities, and influencing economic and community development. Some of the many trails and greenways benefits include:

- Encouraging physical fitness and healthy lifestyles
- Facilitating non-motorized transportation and walkable communities by providing safe, alternative access between neighborhoods, parks, schools, local shopping, and employment center
- Providing access to culturally & historically valuable areas
- Making communities better places to live by preserving and creating open spaces and wildlife habitat
- Protecting / enhancing stream corridors and other natural areas that help mitigate stormwater impacts
- Strengthening local economies and increasing property values while providing amenities which help attract potential homeowners and businesses

In Greater Cleveland, several governmental entities, planning agencies, and non-profit organizations have recognized the value of greenways and trails. This is reflected in a multitude of trail, open space, transportation and community master plans and proposals, including, for example, the Cuyahoga County Greenprint, and the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and its system of suburban and neighborhood connector trails. However, a significant gap remains between planning and timely implementation of many trail projects.

Impediments to trail and greenway construction include a scarcity of resources and funding, and in some areas, a lack of acceptance and support. A need exists to raise awareness of the value and benefits and thus the priority given to trail and greenway projects. Additionally, tools are needed to help communities, planners, and advocates transform trail plans and concepts to construction ready projects and then into completed and well maintained trail infrastructure.

Conference Planning Partners

- Bike Cleveland
- Cleveland City Planning Commission
- Cleveland Metroparks
- Cuyahoga County Board of Health
- Cuyahoga County Planning Commission
- Environmental Design Group (formerly Floyd Browne Group)

- Friends of Big Creek
- Friends of the Crooked River
- National Park Service: Rivers & Trails
- Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency
- Northeast Ohio Sewer District
- Ohio Department of Transportation
- Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
- Trust for Public Land
- West Creek Preservation Committee

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Preliminary Conference Agenda (Subject to change)

8:00–8:45 am	Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:45–9:00 am	Welcome and Opening Remarks Mayor Gregory P. Kurtz , City of Independence
9:00–9:45 am	Trails and Greenways: A Greater Cleveland Priority Moderator: Brian Zimmerman , Executive Director, Cleveland Metroparks Speakers: Mayor Frank Jackson , City of Cleveland; County Executive Ed FitzGerald, Cuyahoga County (invited)
9:45– 10:30 am	Tools for Driving Trail Progress—Data, GIS and Maps Moderator: Elaine Price , Program Manager, Greenspace, Cuyahoga County Planning Commission Speakers: Stephen Mather , Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Manager, Cleveland Metroparks; Dan Meany , Geographic Information Systems Manager Cuyahoga County Planning Commission, Marc Von Allmen , Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency
10:30– 11:00 am	Break / Exhibits
11:00am – Noon	A Trails Forum—What, Who, How Moderator: Rory Robinson , Rivers and Trails Program, National Park Service Speakers: Rhonda Romano , Director, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, Midwest Regional Office; Dan Rice , Co-Executive Director, Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition
Noon– 1:00 pm	Lunch / Exhibits
1:00– 2:30 pm	Concurrent Sessions
	1A – Trails and Greenways and Placemaking Moderator: Eric Oberg , Manager of Trail Development, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy Midwest Regional Office Speakers: Marlane Weslian , Neighborhood Development Officer, Slavic Village Development; Mayor Bruce Rinker , Mayfield Village
	1B – Why Trails and Greenways Are Important to Developers Moderator: George Cantor , AICP - Cleveland City Planning Commission Speakers: Liz March-Robinson , Third Federal Savings and Loan; Mitchell Schneider , President, First Interstate Properties, Ltd.; Frank T. Sinito , President, Millennia Companies, American Preservation Builders
2:30– 2:45 pm	Break / Exhibits

2:45-
4:15 pm

Concurrent Sessions

2A – Trends and Challenges in Trail and Greenway Design

Moderator: **Jeff Kerr**, Principal, Environmental Design Group
Speakers: **Andrea Irland**, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Rivers and Trails Program, National Park Service; **John Motl, P. E.**, Modes Management Engineer, District 12, Ohio Department of Transportation; **Gerard Neugenbauer, P.E.**, Environmental Design Group

2B – Innovative, Dedicated Funding for Trails and Greenway Development and Operations

Moderator: **Dave Vasarhelyi**, Trust for Public Lands, Ohio Office
Speakers: **Tim Donovan**, Co-Executive Director, Ohio & Erie Canalway, Director, Ohio Canal Corridor; **Debby Rolland**, Summit County Trail & Greenway Coordinator, Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition

4:15-
5:00 pm

Closing Plenary - How Trails Hold Down Health Care Costs of Local Business

Moderator: **Terry Allan**, Health Commissioner, Cuyahoga County Board of Health
Speaker: **David Pauer**, MNO, Director, EHP Wellness, Employee Health Plan, Cleveland Clinic

5:00-
7:00 pm

Reception – Greater Cleveland Trails & Greenways Awards
