

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION

February 17, 2009

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held on February 17, 2009 at 4:00pm at the Main Office, 805 Central Avenue – Suite 800, with the following members present: Mmes. Denno and Mathews and Messrs. Smith, and Moeddel, with Rev. Smith presiding. Staff in attendance: Mmes. Cox, Melzer, Fatora, Barnes, Simmons, Mobley and Yemaya, and Messrs. Koopman, Pacella, Thomas, Celsor, Carlisle, Merrifield, McCollum, and Price.

MINUTES

Ms. Denno moved, seconded by Mr. Moeddel, to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2008 Public Recreation Commission as submitted.

Motion passed.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Elana Carneval, MDA Health Care Services

Elana Carneval from MDA Health Care Services sent a letter of thanks to the LeBlond Center thanking them for allowing MDA to use LeBlond Center for their New Years Party. This item was received for filing.

Letter of Recommendation

CRC received a letter of recommendation from Ms. Mary Jane on behalf of Katie Lear of the LeBlond Center. Ms. Jane would like Ms. Lear considered as a candidate for director of the LeBlond Center. This item was received for filing.

Letter of Recommendation

CRC received a letter of recommendation from Lydia Pernaranda and family on behalf of Katie Lear of the LeBlond Center. Ms. Pernaranda would like Ms. Lear considered as a candidate for director of the LeBlond Center. This item was received for filing.

Letter Received from George W. Casey, Jr., General, United States Army, Chief of Staff and Pete Geren, Secretary of the Army

CRC employee, Mark Johnson, received a “U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute” for his support and sacrifice as an Army Employer. This item was received for filing.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no Communications from the Public this month.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Introduction of New Youth Commission Member – Brianna K. Mathews

Dr. Merrifield introduced Ms. Mathews and asked Ms. Cox to provide a little background on Ms. Mathews. Ms. Cox advised that Ms. Mathews is a junior at Walnut Hills High School, is a member of NSBE, tutors children, and loves to read. She was also a Youth Rec Employee at Evanston Center. Ms. Mathews stated that she has seen how Youth Commissioner Brittany Robinson reaches out to help children in Cincinnati and that she was very interested in doing this also.

Rev. Smith told Ms. Mathews that we are glad to have her on board that that he knew she would do a good job.

Reappointment of Kazava Smith to the Cincinnati Recreation Commission

Dr. Merrifield announced that Kazava Smith has been reappointed to the Cincinnati Recreation Commission by the Mayor for a 5 year term, said term set to expire January 31, 2014. Commissioners and staff congratulated Rev. Smith.

Reappointment of Catherine Ingram to the Cincinnati Recreation Commission

Dr. Merrifield announced that the Cincinnati Board of Education has reappointed Catherine Ingram to serve as the Board’s representative to the Cincinnati Recreation Commission.

Introduction of Christine Zimmer, Assistant City Solicitor

Dr. Merrifield introduced Christine Zimmer, Assistant City Solicitor. Ms. Zimmer does great work for CRC and will be involved in our Strategic Business Plan. Ms. Zimmer meets monthly with staff at one of their weekly meetings. Ms.

Zimmer stated that Recreation is a pleasure to work with and if anyone has questions to please give her a call.

Update of 2007 Aquatic Plan

Dr. Merrifield asked Commissioners to take a look at the schedule provided of pool openings based on proposed revised budget plan. Staff will be working on this schedule more in the next couple of weeks and will present an Aquatic Presentation to Commission in March or April.

Mr. Moeddel stated that he has issues with approving this entire plan at one time and asked if this is a realistic plan. Mr. Koopman stated that this is an affordable plan. After much discussion Dr. Merrifield stated that we need to have a work session on the Aquatic Plan. It was decided to have a work session the 3rd or 4th week in March.

Pleasant Ridge Teen Council

Mark Celsor, Supervising Recreation Coordinator of the East Region, introduced Rick McCollum, Service Area Coordinator of the Pleasant Ridge Center. Mr. McCollum advised that he started at Pleasant Ridge in June 2008. He stated that since that time they have had a significant growth in the teen programs at Pleasant Ridge. Mr. McCollum introduced Gary Price, Community Center Director, who runs the teen program at Pleasant Ridge and Joe Cornelius who does the Sound Elevation Studio.

Mr. Cornelius advised that the Sound Elevation Studio has drawn a lot of kids into the center and boosted the other teen programs. He invited Commissioners to set in on a session. Mr. Cornelius is also a song writer and producer. He previously worked at Paramount Studios in California and he ran his own studio out of his home.

Mr. Price informed that the Sound Elevation Studio has allowed them the opportunity to get kids to participate in other activities. They have started putting together a "Regional" program. Mr. Price introduced four members of the Pleasant Ridge Teen Council.

Rev. Smith thanked Mr. Price and Mr. Cornelius for their efforts and asked them to keep up the good work.

Boldface Property Acquisition

Jeff Koopman has been working with the Real Estate Division on the acquisition of property adjacent to the Boldface Park. Mr. Koopman distributed copies of a map of the property. The area in red has been donated to CRC. CRC owns the area in yellow and the blue area is for sale but too expensive for us to purchase. We are planning to use the red area for parking. If we are able to purchase the blue area we are thinking about putting in an additional play area or a spray area.

Youth Commission Member Report

There was no Youth Commission Member Report this month.

OLD BUSINESS

2009 Strategic Recreation Commission Business Plan/CEHP, Inc.

Dr. Merrifield introduced Bill Beckner, President of CEHP, Inc. and asked him to say a few words. Mr. Beckner said that he is pleased to be here and thanked Dr. Merrifield for the introduction. Mr. Beckner stated that CRC has long been a shining star through out the country.

Mr. Beckner advised that he and his team are looking at bringing CRC into a "Business Process" with the idea of thriving in the future. They will start by identifying all services offered, define them, and figure out what they cost. The idea is to understand what the costs are. The second thing is to begin looking at each service, program and facility to see how they are funded and define how we can make them the best they can be. Third – begin looking at what we can do to improve all of this. What can we do to make it better? Fourth – How do we go about funding the changes? We need to identify what programs are, know the cost, and understand the priorities. This will show us what to cut when we are given a cut. The last element is to work with you (CRC) on developing a survey that goes to the citizens to find out what they think of the possibility of having a levy and/or other alternative funding.

Rev. Smith thanked Mr. Beckner and told him that we look forward to working with him and his team.

Budget – 2009 Position Vacancy Allowance (PVA)

Commissioners were provided with copies of the 2009 Budget Summary and the 2009 PVA Plan that was submitted to the Budget Director. Steve Pacella stated that our goal is to give Commissioners an idea of where we are in the budget process. Rev. Smith asked for clarification that the end result is that two centers may be closed. Mr. Pacella replied that we hope they will come back and say lets see what we can do to keep them open. Dr. Merrifield advised that this material is being given to Commission for information only and that we should know something on the PVA by the end of the week.

Evanston Pool Recommendation

Jeff Koopman advised that we have gone to the Community Council about the Master Plan and the existing pool at Evanston. The Community supports our plan. Staff would like approval to go ahead and take out the Evanston pool.

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve staff's recommendation for the Evanston Pool.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

New Policy #HR-26 – “Emergency” Policy & Procedure

Mr. Pacella explained that the purpose of this policy is to provide clarification to staff, improve guest services, and incorporate City standardized language to define condition levels. This item is being provided for review. Action will be taken at the March 17, 2009 meeting.

Recreation Foundation Naming Policy

Dr. Merrifield stated that the Recreation Foundation Naming Policy Memorandum of Understanding is provided for Commission review. Action will be taken on this item at the March 17, 2009 meeting.

Yeatman's Cove West Concession Stand Rental Agreement

Staff is seeking approval of a Facility Rental Agreement with Russell Group of Ohio, Inc., d.b.a. Hawaiian Five-OH for use of the Yeatman's Cove West Concession Stand.

The major points of the agreement are:

- The Contractor shall have use of the Yeatman's Cove West Concession Stand for the purpose of vending merchandise.
- The Contractor shall pay to the Recreation Department fifteen percent (15%) of total gross sales.

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the Facility Rental Agreement with Russell Group of Ohio, Inc., d.b.a. Hawaiian Five-OH for use of the Yeatman's Cove West Concession Stand.

Motion passed.

Yeatman's Cove East Concession Stand Rental Agreement

Staff is seeking approval of the Facility Rental Agreement with Wheel Fun Rentals for use of the Yeatman's Cove East Concession Stand.

The major points of the agreement are:

- The Contractor shall have use of the Yeatman's Cove East Concession Stand for the purpose of vending merchandise and renting bicycles.
- The Contractor shall pay to the Recreation Department ten percent (10%) of total gross sales.

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the Facility Rental Agreement with Wheel Fun Rentals for the use of the Yeatman's Cove East Concession Stand.

Motion carried.

471 Concession Trailer Rental Agreement

Staff is seeking approval of the Facility Rental Agreement with Russell Group of Ohio, Inc., d.b.a. Hawaiian Five-OH for use of the 471 Concession Trailer.

The major points of the agreement are:

- The Contractor shall have use of the 471 Concession Trailer for the purpose of vending merchandise.
- The Contractor shall pay to the Recreation Department fifteen percent (15%) of total gross sales.

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the Facility

Rental Agreement with Russell Group of Ohio, Inc., d.b.a. Hawaiian Five-OH for use of the 471 Concession Trailer.

Motion carried.

Sawyer Point Tennis Pavilion and Eight Tennis Courts Rental Agreement

Staff is seeking approval of a Facility Rental Agreement with Rafael Mendez for use of the Sawyer Point Tennis Pavilion and eight (8) Tennis Courts.

The major points of the agreement are:

- The Contractor shall have use of the Sawyer Point Tennis Pavilion and eight (8) Tennis Courts for the purpose of vending merchandise and providing tennis programs including adult tennis programs, youth tennis programs, and personal training programs.
- The Contractor shall pay to the Recreation Department Fifteen percent (15%) of total gross sales including, but not limited to, tennis enrollment fees, program fees, and personal training fees.

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the Facility Rental Agreement with Rafael Mendez for use of the Sawyer Point Tennis Pavilion and eight (8) Tennis Courts.

Motion carried.

Field Trips

Mr. Moeddel moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the field trip requests as submitted.

Motion Passed.

2009 Golf Annual Plan

Commission members were provided with copies of the 2009 Golf Annual Plan for their review. Action will be taken on this item at the March 17, 2009 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made that an Executive Session of the Recreation Commission be held pursuant to Section 121.22(G) of the Ohio Revised Code for the charges or complaints against employees to consider the dismissal, discipline

or demotion of a public employee. Roll call: Ms. Denno, yes; Rev. Smith, yes; Mr. Moeddel, yes.

The Commission came out of Executive Session and the General Session resumed.

Personnel Action

Ms. Denno moved, seconded by Mr. Moeddel, to approve the Meeting Officer's recommendation of a penalty of eight (8) hours suspension without pay for Ms. Lauri Aultman, Community Center Director, for Excessive Absenteeism (AWOL).

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned.

COMMISSION MEETING

March 17, 2009

Glenview Golf Course

10965 Springfield Pike (46)

Kazava Smith, President

Norman C. Merrifield, Ed.,D., Director

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