

THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION

July 1, 2008

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held on July 1, 2008 at 4:00pm at the Main Office Boardroom with the following members present: Mmes. Denno and Robinson and Messrs. Smith and Fultz, with Rev. Smith presiding. Staff in attendance: Mmes. Barnes, Simmons, Shannon and Watson and Messrs. Merrifield, Thomas, Koopman, Lurix, LeConey and Carlisle.

OATH OF OFFICE

Dr. Merrifield introduced our new Commission Member, Dawn Denno. Ms. Denno has been appointed by the Mayor to fill the unexpired portion of Denise Driehaus' term of office (6/25/08 – 1/31/12). Commission Members and staff welcomed Ms. Denno and Ms. Simmons administered the Oath of Office.

MINUTES

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the minutes of the June 17, 2008 Public Recreation Commission meeting as submitted.

Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter to Greg Pierson (CCD at Oakley) from Councilmember Monzel

Greg Pierson received a letter of appreciation from Councilmember Monzel regarding the variety of activities being offered at the Oakley Community Center. This item was received for filing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Introduction of Commission Member Denno was done at the beginning of the meeting.
- The Hirsch Aquatic Center Grand Opening will take place at 1:00pm on July 9th. Mayor Mallory will be present.

- A synopsis of our 2008 budget will be presented at the July 15th Commission meeting. This will help as we move into the planning process of the 2009 budget.
- Dr. Merrifield was very pleased to announce that we are going to receive \$2.5 million per year for the next six years for our Aquatic Plan. This is in addition to the \$1 million we would normally receive. This will greatly improve our ability to move from an 18 – 20 year plan to a 6 – 8 year plan.
- Dr. Merrifield distributed a listing of “critical recreations areas” that we are going to be working with the police department on. These are areas where we have had some incidents of devious behavior and feel we could use a little extra attention.
- Don’t forget the fireworks on Friday at the Riverfront.
- Youth Commission Member, Brittany Robinson, gave her report. Ms. Robinson reported that she has had the opportunity to join a panel to speak at the NAACP Convention to be held in Cincinnati July 14th through July 17th. They will be talking to 250+ high school and college students on July 16th at 3:00pm. The benefits of recreation and CRC programs will be included in Ms. Robinson’s talk.

OLD BUSINESS

Kathy Shannon informed Commissioners that a change was made in the Newport Aquarium “Ride the Ducks” contract to indicate a 45 day notice of termination instead of a 90 day notice as indicated in section #1 and section #8. This change was approved by Christine Zimmer, our Law Department liaison. This is a FYI item.

NEW BUSINESS

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Boating Infrastructure Grant

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the application for and acceptance of an Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Boating

Infrastructure Grant in the amount of \$75,000.00. This grant will be used for renovation of our 5 remaining boat docks that have not been renovated.

Motion passed.

Tennis Sponsorship with American Financial Insurance Company

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the sponsorship contract with the American Financial Insurance Company. The sponsor agrees to allocate \$25,000.00 over a two year period to offset operational expenses and enhance current tournament operations. In exchange, the Thomas Price Adult Metropolitan Tennis Championship would become the American Financial Thomas Price Adult Metropolitan Tennis Championship.

Motion passed.

Field Trips

Mr. Fultz moved, seconded by Ms. Denno, to approve the Field Trip requests as submitted.

Motion passed.

ADDITIONAL NOTE:

Mr. Fultz asked if there was any way we could have one of our Commission meetings on a different day of the week, possibly Thursday. Rev. Smith stated that Commission would take this under advisement and discuss the matter with all Commission members.

The suggestion of only having one meeting per month during certain months was also made. Dr. Merrifield said this would take an amendment to our bylaws and he would check into the matter.

COMMISSION MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 4:00pm at the McKie Community Center, 1655 Chase Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45223.

Meeting Adjourned.

Kazava Smith, President

Norman C. Merrifield, Ed.D., Director

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