# THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at Westwood Town Hall, 3017 Harrison Ave., Cincinnati, OH (11) with the following Commissioners present: Mme. Denno and Messrs. MacConnell, Budig, Nelms and Smith. Staff in attendance: Mmes. McCarthy, Effler, Arszman, Watson, Simmons, Kazin and Messrs. Bigham, Carlisle, Jones, Pacella, and Thomas. Emily Woerner from the Solicitor's office was also in attendance.

President Denno called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

#### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

Andrea McCarthy and Meredith Effler from Westwood Town Hall gave a Power Point presentation about their after school and pre-school programs. Mr. Budig asked about the ages for the preschool program. Ms. McCarthy answered that the participants are ages 3-5 years old. She also explained that their Princess for A Day event normally has 20-30 kids. Mr. Budig asked about the percentage of kids from Westwood. Ms. McCarthy answered that 90% of the kids are from the area – 75% are boys and 75% are brought by their grandparents. Ms. Denno stated that she is excited to see programs like this because there is a waiting list for quality pre-school education. She added that she really appreciated their work.

#### **MINUTES**

Mr. Budig moved that the minutes of the Cincinnati Recreation Commission's regular meeting for October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 be approved. Motion seconded by Mr. MacConnell.

Motion passed unanimously.

## CORRESPONDENCE

# <u>Cincinnati Retirement System – Thank you email</u>

Mr. Bigham acknowledged a complimentary email that was received from the Cincinnati Retirement System regarding an event held at the Dunham and Madisonville Recreation Centers. This item was received for filing.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

## Tim Heyl Article

Chris Bigham discussed an article that appeared in the Community Press about Tim Heyl and the Mt. Washington Recreation Center. He added that Mr. Heyl was a perfect example of what we are trying to do and that he does a great job. Mr. Nelms agreed and stated that Mr. Heyl was very customer orientated. This item was received for filing.

# <u>Special Events – November & December</u>

Mr. Bigham highlighted upcoming events in November and December. He reminded the Commission of the McKie Recreation Center's grand re-opening on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Mallory will be out of town, but Vice-Mayor Roxanne Qualls will be in attendance. Mr. Nelms said that he would try to stop by. Mr. Bigham also discussed the annual Thanksgiving Dinner that will be held at the Evanston Recreation Center. He added that former SRC Stella Barnes was very excited about the event. Ms. Denno asked how long they have been doing this event. Mr. Bigham answered that this is the 20<sup>th</sup> year. He added that it is a very positive event and that Greg Pierson does a great job with it.

## Kaboom Playground – Camp Washington

Mr. Bigham explained that the new Camp Washington playground has been built. It was a nice build that also added community gardens. Ms. Denno added that there were a lot of people there and that it was a lot of work because huge rocks needed to be pulled out.

# <u>Article – Carthage Recreation Center Sale</u>

Mr. Bigham discussed an article that appeared on the Building Cincinnati website regarding the sale of the Carthage Recreation Center. The article touched on the nice job growth for the area and how it was a positive development. This item was received for filing.

#### Article – Westwood Town Hall

Mr. Bigham showed Commission the Hometown Enquirer article which ran some nice photos of the pre-school program at Westwood Town Hall. This item was received for filing.

#### Recreation Foundation Dinner

Mr. Bigham discussed the Recreation Foundation dinner that was held at the Faculty Club on the campus of the University of Cincinnati. Oscar Robertson, Buddy LaRosa and Stan Chesley attended. It was a fantastic event. They discussed the formation of an Advisory Board and explained the relationship between the Recreation Foundation and CRC. Mr. Bigham thanked Brenda LeMaster and Tony Yates for such a fantastic event.

# PLANNING AND ENGINEERING

#### Capital Projects Update

Mr. Dan Jones highlighted the following items from the Capital Project Report:

- Mt. Auburn indoor pool has been completed and they will be able to do lifeguard training there.
- The McKie Recreation Center has been completed and will open to the public on Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- Roberts and College Hill completed.
- Reds Community Fund is installing a new backstop at Hirsch.
- Bramble parking lot is finished.
- Price Hill and Clifton design is in progress.

Pleasant Ridge pool is ahead of schedule.

Mr. Nelms asked how often Mt. Auburn is open? Alayne Kazin answered that the new season begins in January. Ms. Denno said that the Foundation Dinner focused on the LeBlond project. Mr. Bigham stated that there are various "asks" out regarding the LeBlond project. .

A copy of the full report was submitted for filing.

## OLD BUSINESS - None at this meeting

# **NEW BUSINESS**

# Recreation Accessibility Consultants

Mr. Pacella said that in May 2012, The Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) issued a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) seeking qualified Recreation Consultant Companies interested in conducting ADA Compliance Audits of Recreation Facilities, training CRC staff to conduct audits and preparation of compliance reports. These services are requested in order to comply with the 2010 ADA changes as implemented by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

CRC has over 150 recreation sites such as playgrounds, recreation centers, aquatics centers, golf courses and other similar types of recreation facilities. The DOJ recently adopted revised ADA Title II Regulations in September, 2010. The 2010 standards are the first ADA Standards to specifically address recreation facilities. The standards directly address and require CRC to evaluate for accessibility the programs and services provided within CRC facilities and sites.

The 2010 ADA Standards require an accessibility audit and transition plan be completed. CRC would like to have staff trained to the ADA Title II standards. CRC would also like CRC staff to be able to produce access audits of recreation

facilities, complete an access evaluation report of each recreation facility and produce the final transition plan

Rev. Smith asked who will go through the training. Mr. Pacella answered that there is a list included in their packets. Mr. Budig asked if the ADA will be checking back. Mr. Pacella answered that they would only check back if a situation arises. Mr. Bigham stated that we need to have a plan in place. Ms. Denno asked if there was a date that we needed to be in compliance. Mr. Pacella answered that the date has probably passed but if we have a plan and are working toward compliance we will be fine. Mr. Budig moved that the agreement with Recreation Accessibility Consultants be approved. Rev. Smith seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### AMICUS II Child Care Agreement for McKie Recreation Center

Mr. Pacella explained that the Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) is seeking approval of the License Agreement between CRC and AMICUS II, Inc as it relates to State-assisted licensed childcare services at the McKie Recreation Center. CRC has two other identical agreements in place with AMICUS II at Millvale and Winton Hills Recreation Centers. David Booker, AMICUS II President, explained that kids in his program score better in math and reading and his program has been very successful. Mr. Budig asked about the age range of the participants. Mr. Booker answered that the participants are between 4 ½ and 14 years old. Mr. Budig asked about the number of kids in his program. Mr. Booker explained that at Millvale they have 36 kids during the school year and 66 kids during the summer. At Winton Hills they also have 36 kids. He also explained that 80% of his kids are 5<sup>th</sup> grade and below. Mr. Nelms asked about his current challenges. Mr. Booker answered that transportation and aging equipment are his biggest challenges. Mr. Nelms told Mr. Booker to keep up the good work. Rev. Smith moved that the AMICUS II Child Care Agreement for McKie Recreation Center be approved. Mr. Nelms seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

# **Dunham Caretaker Agreement**

Mr. Pacella explained that Mr. Terry Jones performs caretaker duties at the Dunham Recreation Complex. Examples of duties include opening, closing and care of restrooms, litter removal, security and facility oversight. These services are in exchange for rent on the caretaker's residence. This is a First Amendment of an existing agreement.

Mr. MacConnell moved that the Dunham Caretaker Agreement be approved. Mr. Nelms seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### Hoffman Ground Lease

Mr. Bigham announced that he was postponing this agenda item.

# 2013 Recreation Commission Meeting Schedule

Rev. Smith moved that the tentative 2013 Recreation Commission Meeting Schedule be approved. Mr. Budig seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

# Fees and Charges

Mike Thomas discussed Fee changes and revenue impact as noted in the document included in their packet (document on file). The athletic field fees remain at \$4.00 for 3/hr. rental. Mr. Bigham explained that Mr. Thomas got together a task force to look at these. Mr. Thomas added that most remained the same. The goal is to try to get more kids into our facilities. Mr. Bigham stated that we need to expand who we are and what we do. Being open longer will impact more youth and teens.

Mr. Budig moved that the new fees and charges be approved with a correction noted on Page 8 that should read \$1,050 instead of \$1,000. Rev. Smith seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Rev. Smith moved that the Commission go into Executive Session pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G) to consider the compensation of a public employee. Mr. Nelms seconded. Roll Call vote – Mr. Nelms (yes), Rev. Smith (yes), Ms. Denno (yes), Mr. Budig (yes) and Mr. MacConnell (yes). Ms. Denno announced that the Commission was going into Executive Session and there would be an announcement made when the Session was completed and the public could return.

The Recreation Commission went into Executive Session at 4:12pm.

The Recreation Commission came out of Executive Session at 4:25pm. There was an announcement made that the public could return to the meeting.

Ms. Denno announced that she had conducted a performance review of Chris Bigham, the Director of Recreation. Rev. Smith moved that as a result of the performance review where Mr. Bigham exceeded expectations, Commission approve that Mr. Bigham should receive a 3% raise that is retroactive to his anniversary date. Mr. MacConnell seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

# **NEXT COMMISSION MEETING**

The next meeting of the Public Recreation Commission will be held on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. at the CRC Main Office, 805 Central Ave., Suite 800, Cincinnati, OH (02).

Rev. Smith moved that the Meeting of the Public Recreation Commission be adjourned. Motion seconded by Mr. MacConnell.

Meeting adjourned by President Denno at 4:28 p.m.

/ba

Minutes prepared by Bunny Arszman