

THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC RECREATION COMMISSION
February 18, 2025

The regular meeting of the Public Recreation Commission was held with the following Commissioners present: Messrs. O’Callaghan, Lee, and West Mmes. Rich and Bolton Staff in attendance: Mmes. Williams, Shoecraft, Swift, Webb, Riggins, Jones, Sanders, Feist, Stewart Messrs. Betts, Harris, Jones, Heyl, Higby, Benjamin, Courtland.

Commissioner Pat O’Callaghan, Jr. called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm

PRESENTATION

None

INTRODUCTIONS

Eric Rueger – CCD Therapeutic Recreation / Leblond

RETIREMENTS

None

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

None

MINUTES

Commissioner O’Callaghan called for a motion to approve January 21, 2025, Regular Board Meeting minutes. Commissioner Bolton made the motion to accept the minutes Commissioner West seconded; the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

None

TEAM HIGHLIGHTS

None

DIRECTORS REPORT

HUMAN RESOURCES

April Jones provided an update on the vacancy report.

CAPRA ACCREDITATION UPDATE

Tim Heyl provided an update on the accreditation process. Initial reviews have been returned, and Tim and the team are working to get the additional documents submitted.

FINANCE UPDATE

Jeanette Shoecraft provided an update on the current financial reports. Jeanette and her team are entering the budget cycle and are expecting a 5% budget cut for FY26.

RECREATION OPERATIONS UPDATE

Dave Harris presented the afterschool and summer camp enrollment numbers. Aquatics is trending to be able to open all 24 pools. SWISH starts soon at North Avondale, and they already have 100 participants signed up. Queen City Slam will be returning on August 9th.

CLIMATE ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Dave Harris provided a report on climate assessment. The survey has been released to staff. Currently there have been 45 (26%) surveys returned.

OTR TRANSITION PLAN

Dave Harris presented the OTR transition plan, which addresses all major concerns: staff relocation, equipment, summer camp, and community member needs

OTR COMMUNITY CENTER PROGRAM SUMMARY

Director Betts reminded the commissioner that he is requesting feedback on the OTR Community Center programming summary that outlines possible programming scenarios for the OTR center.

MERCY WEST SITE

Director Betts provided an update on the Mercy site and stated that CRC is looking to do additional community engagement around the site

OPRA GOVERNORS AWARD

Director Betts congratulated the team on winning the OPRA Governors Award for Rec @ Nite. Director Betts recognized the team's hard work and expressed his gratitude.

PLANNING AND ENGINEERING - CAPITAL PROJECTS (UPDATE)

Dan Jones updated the Commission on the major capital projects underway currently:

Projects Completed:

- None

Projects Under Construction:

- 2022-24 Projects from the Recreation Special Activities Fund 323 for the purpose of providing resources (\$1.5M) for improvements and renovations to recreation centers and outdoor recreation areas, security camera upgrades and installations at various sites and signage upgrades at various locations: \$700k is budgeted for CRC center requested improvement projects. \$350k is budgeted for security system

improvements and \$450k for signage throughout all CRC sites. The Planning and Development Division completed a signage inventory at each CRC site. New sign designs, created by CRC P&D staff, have been approved. ETS requested the scope be changed to install the same type of camera system as CPD. **UPDATE:** Remaining funds are being used to finish up the signage projects and continue with the security cameras.

- As part of the 2024-25 capital budgets, improvements at various tennis and sport court hard surfaces improvements are being planned for 2025-26. **UPDATE:** Sport courts at Madisonville, Hartwell, Evanston, Mt. Airy and Schwarz are being scheduled for 2025-26. We expect over \$600k of sport court improvements will be made in 2024-25. The basketball court renovations at Daniel and Turkey Ridge have started.
- As part of the 2024 to 2026 capital budgets, recreation center roof renovations are planned. Several roofs are out of warranty, renovating the roofs while they can still be brought back into warranty (10 to 20 years) condition is desired. The cost to replace the roof is much more than the re-warranty improvements. CRC has had the roofs out of warranty inspected to create a prioritized list. 2025-26 roof projects are being planned. **UPDATE:** Millvale roof renovation process has started, inspections and testing are complete. The testing showed it will need replacement in most locations. The Corryville center roof is next. The Dunham gym and breezeway roofs needed renovations, the improvements have been completed. Price Hill roof work is being scheduled.
- As part of the capital budget, several miscellaneous improvement projects are being planned from required emergency work to CRC and Community Budget Requests (CBR). **UPDATE:** Per community request, baseball fields at Dempsey, Mt. Echo and Boldface will be removed to fit in full size soccer/football fields. Dempsey and Boldface are completed and Mt. Echo started. Some of the 2024-25 CBR improvements are in process at N. Avondale, Riverside, Fairmount and Wayne. The 2026-27 CBR's have started, we worked with several community councils to select and budget the approved project requests. Twenty-Three sites were requested with over \$2.2M of requested improvements.

OES and CRC have been working together on energy related projects, the latest request is for EV charging hubs at CRC sites. **UPDATE:** OES is looking to install an EV charging hub for city fleet vehicles at CRC sites. Hartwell, Price Hill and Madisonville are the selected CRC sites. DOTE is scheduling a meeting to start planning these projects. Meetings for new energy related projects are scheduled. We submitted LED lights at Lunken tennis as a request.

Projects in DEI and Purchasing:

- As part of the 2024 capital budget, partial funding for a skate park is being provided. CRC worked with the skateboard group to determine the best location and find additional funding. Camp Washington Recreation complex was selected as the site. CRC has \$250,000 funded for the project. The skateboard group is assisting to find outside and grant funding to raise the difference needed. As a result an ODNR grant for \$300,000 was awarded. The RFP is complete for the design build, a firm has been

selected. An additional \$340,000 is estimated to complete the project, otherwise it will be done in phases. **UPDATE:** The contract/agreement was created by the Law Department 2/7/25. The project will now be done in full scope, instead of in phases. The construction won't take place until 2026. The design phase should start soon.

- As part of the golf division funding proposal, a new Neumann clubhouse is being proposed. A proposed design and layout was developed by CRC staff. The RFP for the design-build contract is in progress. The current proposal is to construct a new clubhouse onsite and keep the existing one open until the new is complete. Funds to budget these projects were approved 9/5/24. **UPDATE:** RFP bid documents are being created. The existing clubhouse will be demolished after the new one is in use.

Projects in Design:

- As part of the capital budget, design work for ADA access to the Riverside Sports Complex boat ramp restrooms, a new boat dock and connecting walking loop is in progress. The renovation is being designed by CRC staff. ODNR informed us that a grant for this type of project would be available in April 2021. CRC applied for this (75% reimbursed) ODNR grant 3/30/21. CRC did not receive the grant, ODNR recommends applying for it again when available. CRC will continue to make repairs until the grant is applied for again. An RFP is in progress for the design work. The existing rolling dock is no longer usable, a new has been constructed. The new rolling boat dock is complete and installed. **UPDATE:** A grant for a connector trail was applied for with ODNR. An RFP is needed to hire an A/E firm for the design work. CRC did not receive the trail grant.
- As part of the golf division funding proposal, California Golf Clubhouse restrooms and kitchen renovations are being planned. **UPDATE:** An A/E firm has been hired to start the restroom renovation design.
- The new OTR Recreation Center, to be installed at the new Findlay Recreation Area is being planned by 3CDC. CRC is part of the design committee. **UPDATE:** The building layout has been completed; the SD phase complete. DD phase is starting. The DD phase with estimates is scheduled to be complete on 1/24/2024. Full site renovation of Grant Recreation Area is also being planned. Project is on hold until additional funding approved. The boxing group will be moving out of the OTR site. Real-estate is proposing to consolidate the parcels at Findlay and Grant recreation areas to proceed with the projects. 3CDC has stated construction of the new recreation center will start in 2025. CR-73-2024 is asking for sale of the OTR Rec Center and then demolish the boxing area (old pool area).
- Duke and CRC are working on a plan to relocate a storage structure and the gas pumps at California Golf course. Duke regulations do not allow these structures below the high voltage transmission lines. **UPDATE:** Meeting held 6/26/24 onsite. Duke will provide the funding for the relocation. CRC to coordinate the work. Plans are in progress.

- Arc Flash Hazard: The CRC hired Automated Systems Engineering to undertake an arc flash hazard analysis study at all its center and aquatics locations (all 3 phase loads). This study is required by the city and will allow for increased safety as well as providing guidelines for maintenance and PPE. CRC developed the documentation needed for the consultant to analyze. Completed in November 2021 - ASE said CRC was first city dept to do so. Need a mitigation report, fix/replace items, reinspect new as installed. Cost est \$100k+. 100% of stickers have been placed on inspected equipment. **UPDATE:** Around ten (10) items need to be replaced, CRC maintenance has the list. CRC electricians can probably perform all installation work. Asking city where the next funding will come from for next phase. The process for site projects has started.
- As part of the 2025 capital budget, CRC has several projects are planned for 2025-26. **UPDATE:** Most of these funds are part of the COT funding (Cinci on Track). Some projects are: Baseball fields at Oskamp, Paddock and Tennessee and Turkey Ridge, basketball courts at Hartwell and Schwarz, tennis courts at Mt. Airy and Madisonville are planned. Mt. Airy is partly funded by the Dicks Sporting Goods grant. Roof, HVAC, security cameras and feasibility study for the new Madisonville Aquatic facility are also planned.
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COMMISSION BOARD COMMITTEE AND SUBCOMMITTEES:

BUDGET AND FINANCE UPDATE

Ocallaghan and Rich provided an update. The committee reviewed the budget and discussed the current department P-Card investigation.

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

The committee met at College Hill Recreation Center this month and have a few policies to be approved at the meeting tonight.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Recommended Action

Board Action

Background

Board approval for CRC Policy Update: PFO -13: Film Rentals

Commissioner O'Callaghan called for a motion to approve CRC Policy Update: PFO.

Commissioner Bolton made the motion to accept the minutes Commissioner Rich seconded; the motion carried.

Recommended Action

Board Action

Background

Board approval for CRC Policy Update: HR – 23: Official Identification Card
Commissioner O’Callaghan called for a motion to approve CRC Policy Update: HR – 23.
Commissioner Bolton made the motion to accept the minutes Commissioner Lee seconded; the motion carried.

Recommended Action

Board Information

Background

Board information regarding ICE and CRC. The board members had open discussions about their concerns. CRC staff is currently working on a policy to address all concerns to ensure comfort and safety for employees, patrons, and community members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

5:09-5:14 PM

Board Action:

The Board considered disciplinary action against the following employees:

Bridgette Hartung
Charge: Neglect of Duty
Recommended Penalty- 8 hour suspension
Approved Penalty: 8 hour suspension

Commissioner O’Callaghan motioned to accept the recommendation of the Human Resource and the Hearing Officer for a Penalty of 8 hour suspension. Rollcall: Commissioner O’Callaghan - Yes Commissioner Rich-Yes Commissioner Lee- Yes Commissioner Bolton- Yes. The motion carried.

Michelle Miller
Charge: Failure of Good Behavior and Neglect of Duty
Penalty: Suspension – 16 Hours
Approved Penalty: 16 hour suspension

Commissioner O’Callaghan motioned to accept the recommendation of the Human Resource and the Hearing Officer for a Penalty of 8 hour suspension. Rollcall: Commissioner O’Callaghan - Yes Commissioner Rich-Yes Commissioner Lee- Yes Commissioner Bolton- Yes. The motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:23 PM

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING

The next meeting of the Public Recreation Commission will be held on March 18, 2025, at CRC Main Office.

Pat O'Callaghan, Jr., President

Daniel E. Betts, Director

/ss Minutes prepared by Sonya Swift