

PARK BOARD

March 11, 2024

The March 11, 2024 Park Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson. Park Board members present were Jennifer Banta, Jon Blackburn, Bob Blocksom, Dean Leonard, Kate Niederkohr, and Bill Sturgeon.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Keith Niederkohr, Parks Manager; Laura Davis, Kalmbach Feeds; Teresa Scott, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$84,170.07 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Blocksom, seconded by Mrs. Banta, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$84,170.07. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the February 12, 2024 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

At this time Ms. Laura Davis, Kalmbach Feeds, addressed the Park Board requesting permission for Kalmbach Feeds to hold a 5K Run in Stepping Stones Park on Saturday, October 19, 2024 beginning at 8:00 a.m. Ms. Davis stated that the proceeds from the event benefit families in need. Park Board members voiced no objections to the request.

Mr. Niederkohr reported that on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 the Wyandot County Health Department will be inspecting the campsites that are laid out in Harrison Smith Park, Bicentennial Park, and Stepping Stones Park for the Solar Eclipse event to take place on Monday, April 8, 2024, with camping permitted from Saturday, April 6, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. until Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 12:00 p.m., as approved in Ordinance No. 220-13 by City Council. Mr. Niederkohr indicated that all of the parks restrooms will be opened the week before the Solar Eclipse, and Parks Department employees will be working on Saturday, April 6, 2024 and Sunday, April 7, 2024.

Mr. Niederkohr presented an aerial view of City owned land located east and across the Sandusky River from Stepping Stones Park as low areas for possibly planting tall grass and wildflowers, as suggested by Mr. Tom Martin at the February 12, 2024 Park Board meeting. Mr. Niederkohr noted that he has spoken with a representative from Pheasants Forever and he will be working with them to obtain costs and determine the breakdown on the share of the costs. These areas would be seeded in the fall of 2024 for growth in 2025, and each year in the fall these areas will be mowed to control overgrowth and growth of saplings.

Mr. Niederkohr also reported that after the Solar Eclipse, posts will be set in Stepping Stones Park for the Library's Story Walk, as presented to and approved by the Park Board at their August 14, 2023 meeting. The Elks will be assisting with the purchase of posts and sakrete for the project.

Mr. Niederkohr indicated that a meeting will be held next Monday with a representative from Peterman Associates to establish a timeline for the swimming pool upgrades.

Mr. Niederkohr further reported that he met recently with Water Department employees concerning the operation of the swimming pool for the 2024 season. They will be focusing on minimal painting of the pool and recaulking the edges of the pool for water usage for this year.

Mr. Niederkohr recommended the west diving board and frame at the swimming pool be eliminated this year with the frame being dismantled due to safety concerns.

A motion was made by Mr. Sturgeon, seconded by Mr. Blocksom, to approve the removal of the west diving board and frame at the swimming pool for the 2024 season. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Niederkohr stated that the posts and frames for the pickleball courts to be built in Bicentennial Park have been delivered.

Park Board members discussed the possibility of rescheduling the April 8, 2024 Park Board meeting due to this being the day of the Solar Eclipse. It was agreed to move the meeting to Thursday, April 11, 2024 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the swimming pool in Harrison Smith Park. A meeting to be held later in the summer or in the fall at Bicentennial Park was also suggested.

Chlorine for the swimming pool for the 2024 season was discussed. Park Board members agreed that requests for chlorine quotes be sent to interested suppliers for the 2024 swimming pool season.

Park Board members reviewed the Pool Rules and Regulations for 2024 and indicated no changes are needed. The information regarding swim team meets will be updated when those dates are made available.

The hours for the swimming pool for 2024 were discussed and Park Board members agreed no changes were necessary. The swimming pool will be open from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday thru Saturday and 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday.

The admission prices for the swimming pool for 2024 were discussed and Park Board members agreed that no changes were needed. Admission prices to the pool for 2024 will be as follows:

	<u>City Residents</u>	<u>Non-City Residents</u>
Single	\$50.00	\$60.00
Senior Citizen (over 60)	\$40.00	\$50.00
Family (limit 4 – maximum 2 adults)	\$120.00	\$150.00
	for City Residents and Non-City Residents +\$20.00 each (2 additional children maximum)	
Daily Pass	\$5.00	\$5.00
Twilight (admission during the last 3 hours)	\$3.00	\$3.00

The opening and closing dates for the swimming pool for 2024 were discussed. Park Board members agreed that the pool will open Memorial Day weekend and close Labor Day weekend.

It was noted that Mrs. Jill Eyestone has reported that no one has offered to instruct the Mom and Tot swim lessons, and a suggestion was made by another instructor to proceed with these lessons, as the swim team will be practicing at the same time and there will be a lifeguard on duty, with moms to be provided written instructions and teach their children on their own during this time. Park Board members agreed that there is still time to get an instructor for these lessons.

A motion was made by Mr. Blocksom, seconded by Mr. Blackburn, to enter into an executive session, to review employment applications. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried. Upon completion of the executive session, the Park Board reconvened into regular session.

Interviews will be scheduled for part-time seasonal help in the Parks Department.

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting adjourned.

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson