

PARK BOARD

October 15, 2024

The October 15, 2024 Park Board meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the shelter at Bicentennial Park by Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson. Park Board members present were Jennifer Banta, Jon Blackburn, Dean Leonard, and Kate Niederkohr. Bob Blocksom and Bill Sturgeon were absent.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Keith Niederkohr, Parks Manager; Mike Gaster, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers; Dave Yeater, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers; Dalton Kinley, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers; Carly Gammon, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers; Todd Gammon, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers; Jack Guckenberger, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers; Dan Newell, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers; Matt Orians, Mizick Miller; & Company; Angela Polachek; John Walker; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$63,642.22 was presented.

A motion was made by Mrs. Banta, seconded by Mr. Leonard, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$63,642.22. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the September 9, 2024 Park Board meeting, having been mailed to each Park Board member, were approved as received.

Representatives from the Wyandot Classics and Cruisers were recognized and thanked for their generous donation to the Parks Department from the 2023 annual Autumn Cruise. Mr. Niederkohr explained that the funds were used to rebuild the retaining wall around the playground area in Bicentennial Park as the previous wall was leaning and cracked at the corners and becoming a hazard. Parks Department employees worked approximately eight (8) weeks to complete the project.

Mr. Matt Orians, Mizick Miller & Company, presented a check for \$6,750.00 to the Park Board as a result of their annual fundraising drive including use of the pedal car and donations collected at area businesses. These funds were donated towards the purchase of inclusive playground equipment for Bicentennial Park.

Mr. Niederkohr reported that a representative from Mid-State Recreation will be attending the next Park Board meeting to present information for inclusive playground equipment. Mrs. Banta will invite moms of special needs children to this meeting so they can hear the ideas that will be presented.

Mr. Niederkohr also reported that the Parks Department will be moving picnic tables located in Harrison Smith Park into the white shelter in preparation of the Winter Fantasy of Lights (WFOL) set up. The WFOL Committee and volunteers will be unloading displays from the storage building in Harrison Smith Park on Saturday, October 19, 2024 beginning at 9:00 a.m. The annual WFOL walk-thru will take place on Wednesday, November 27, 2024 and Thursday, November 28, 2024. A portable restroom will be placed at the park maintenance building for the walk-thru. The WFOL will be open to vehicular traffic from Friday, November 29, 2024 thru Monday, December 30, 2024.

Mr. Niederkohr indicated that both approaches to the walking bridge in Stepping Stones Park have been leveled for an easy transition, and additional work on the bridge was done including replacing a rotten board.

Mr. Niederkohr noted that Parks Department employees recently worked to paint the covered walking bridge in Harrison Smith Park.

Mr. Niederkohr further reported that a meeting will be held tomorrow with Peterman Associates regarding renovations to the swimming pool in Harrison Smith Park.

Mayor McColly suggested Ms. Polachek present her ideas for proposed new signage, including pool rules, to be placed inside and outside the pool area to the Park Board at their November 12, 2024 meeting.

Mayor McColly reported that he recently attended a meeting of the Wyandot County Community Foundation and was informed that the City will be receiving a grant for \$2,600.00 for a sidewalk at the Dog Park.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kate Niederkohr, Chairperson