

CANTON PARK COMMISSION

BOARD MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

NOVEMBER 13, 2013

The Canton Board of Park Commissioners met in a regular meeting on November 13, 2013.

Present were; Mr. Wuyanbu Zutali—Vice President, Mr. Drew Pelger—Member and Mr. Derek Gordon, Park Director/Secretary. There were few attendees. Present from Council included Chris Smith and James Griffin.

The meeting was called to order at 4:09 pm by Vice President Zutali.

Meeting minutes from the October 9, 2013 Regular Meeting were reviewed by the Commissioners.

Vice President Zutali motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Pelger seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Park Levy Update – Director Gordon thanked the Commissioners, attendees and Council for their support that led to the passing of the levy. Director Gordon informed the Commissioners he had reached out to Council Members to schedule visits with each of them to discuss their suggestions for improvements within the parks in their ward. Director Gordon stated he would keep the Commissioners informed on future projects.
2. 55th St NE Trailhead Acquisition - Director Gordon informed Commissioners that City Council has approved and the details are being worked out with the law department. Within the next couple weeks he hopes to have an update.
3. Security Camera Update - Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that Buckeye Security has been pleasant to work with however they unfortunately ran into a few minor set-backs with the local electric company. Director Gordon stated he had been in touch with Buckeye Security and that they finally are able to finish the installations and hope to have everything working within the next two weeks.
4. Park Policy Review - Director Gordon suggested that the Commissioners continue to look over the Garden Center Permit and table this until President Black returns next month.
5. Riverside Park - Project Rebuild/ NFL Grant – Director Gordon stated that he is waiting to receive the final confirmation letter from the NFL to begin planning for construction of a storage/concession area at Riverside Park in conjunction with Project Rebuild. He anticipates that construction on this project would begin in the Spring of 2014.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mallonn Park—Acceptance of Adjacent Parcel—Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that a 3 acre tract of land was obtained by the City of Canton. Service Director, William Bartos formally requested that Canton Parks be responsible for the parcel. Director Gordon explained that the land can be considered an expansion of Mallonn Park. Additionally, it is very low maintenance and was acquired through Clean Ohio Conservation Funds. This parcel will potentially serve as a future trail area. Vice President Zutali motioned to accept Parcel #1400297. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. West Park Neighborhood Association— Connie Carr from the West Park Neighborhood Association has requested to set up a table in the Garden Center parking lot to sell tickets for their holiday home tours. The neighborhood group would sell the tickets Saturday, December 7, 2013 from 12:30pm-4:00pm. Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that approval was needed because park policy forbids selling of any type on park property without Commission approval. Director Gordon also stated that the West Park Neighborhood Association makes a donation to the “Holiday in the Park” light displays. Vice President Zutali motioned to approve. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Crenshaw Park—Acceptance of Land Donation for Trail Installation—Director Gordon informed the Commissioners H-P Products has offered to donate a 3.81 acre tract of vacant land (Parcel #240518) to the city. Director Gordon stated this piece of land will be utilized for a section of trail leading from the dead end cul-de-sac at Gateway Boulevard to Crenshaw Park. It will allow the residents in the area an easier and shorter walk to Crenshaw Park and avoid heavy traffic areas on foot. Vice President Zutali motioned to approve. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Garaux Park Rental- Appeal of Deposit Hold—Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that on October 20, 2013, Tionie Stewart rented Garaux. Monday, October 21st in the morning, Assistant Director, Dan Kunz contacted Office Manager, Jackie Noall to inform her that Park Employee, Tom Tolin went to clean Garaux early Monday morning when it came to his attention the place was not cleaned and had not been locked either. Director Gordon requested that Assistant Dan Kunz document this (see attached). When Mrs. Stewart came in to receive her deposit back she was told that Garaux was left un-cleaned and un-locked and therefore would not be receiving her deposit back. She requested to appeal the deposit being withheld and stated she had cleaned the shelter. Mrs. Stewart was then informed of the next board meeting and told she could either attend or write a letter stating her version of events. She pursued neither option. Director Gordon stated the shelter was under her responsibility and requested the deposit be held for failure to clean and lock it. Vice President Zutali stated he believed that we over look this incident and give the deposit back. Commissioner Pelger stated he believed that she should not receive her deposit back because she failed to lock the building after using it. If she in fact had cleaned it, and someone went in and trashed it afterwards it was still her responsibility to lock the door. He also stated that allowing leniency in this particular instance would set a bad example for future renters who failed to comply with clearly stated rental procedures. Commissioner Pelger motioned to keep the withheld deposit. Vice President Zutali seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Frost Frolic 5K Event Approval—Stadium/Monument Park—Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that runCanton has requested to hold a 5K race on Saturday, December 14, 2013 at 5:00pm throughout Stadium and Monument Parks. The event will highlight the Holiday lights throughout Stadium Park. Commissioner Pelger suggested to table the official approval until the December meeting due to a personal conflict of interest. Director Gordon requested that he could give the un-official approval pending insurance being on file that way they could proceed planning their event. Commissioner Pelger agreed. Vice President Zutali also seconded stating he saw no reason it would not be approved as long as proper insurance was on file at the Park Office and police were informed of the event.
6. Park Logo Proposal—Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that he and Jackie had been working on re-branding Canton Parks. In doing so, they had met with three logo designers and apparel companies to receive quotes. Director Gordon stated he believed it was important to create a brand that is easily recognizable throughout the community. Additionally, the crew would be able to wear new apparel that promoted the new brand. Director Gordon presented the figures for a designer and new apparel for the crew. Vice President Zutali requested we get a quote from another company within the City limits. Additionally, he requested to look into the products being made within the United States. Director Gordon stated he would look into both another quote and the price difference between the items being made within the United States. Director Gordon also informed the

Commissioners that he hoped to have the apparel ready by the holidays to give to the crew and he would bring the design examples to the December meeting for the Commissioners to review.

7. Request to Trap Muskrats—Dave Pachuta has requested to trap muskrats and raccoons within Canton Parks. Mr. Pachuta provided his trapping license. Vice President, Zutali stated this is a great free public service. Vice President Zutali motioned to approve. Commissioner Pelger seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Director's Report
2. Donation/Volunteer Recognition
3. OPRA Conference—Director Gordon requested that he and Jackie Noall attend the OPRA Conference in February. Director Gordon stated that Assistant Director, Dan Kunz recommended his absence from the conference because it focuses more on administration and programming responsibilities and less on park maintenance. Commissioner Pelger stated he saw this as both a good educational and networking experience. Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that he would drive the City vehicle so the expenses were just for the hotel rooms and conference fee. Vice President Zutali motioned to approve. Commissioner Pelger seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Zutali motioned to adjourn the meeting at 4:55pm. Commissioner Pelger seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Park Commission Meeting to be held at 4:00pm on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at the Canton Garden Center.

Andy Black, President

Derek Gordon, Director