

CANTON PARK COMMISSION

BOARD MINUTES

MONTHLY MEETING

MARCH 13, 2014

The Canton Board of Park Commissioners met in a regular meeting on March 13, 2014.

Present were; Mr. Andrew Black—President, Mr. Drew Pelger---Member, Mr. Derek Gordon, Park Director, and Vice President Zutali. Very few other attendees were present.

The meeting was called to order at 4:04pm by President Black.

Meeting minutes from the February 12, 2014 Regular Meeting were reviewed by the Commissioners.

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

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Park and Recreation Merger—Office Consolidation- Director Gordon informed Commissioners that the move into Canton Joint Recreation office space was still on track for the end of March/beginning of April. Director Gordon also informed the Commissioners that communication between the Park and Recreation Offices had dramatically increased and there is a strong collaboration developing regarding joint operations and shared services. He credited Interim Recreation Director, Tim Trbovich and his staff for their hospitality and willingness to work together.
2. Canton Recreational Services Update—Director Gordon informed the Commissioners that a list of city wide programs had been compiled into one spreadsheet highlighting overlap and gaps. An e-mail had be sent to all of the meeting participants to provide additional feedback on the following three issues at the next meeting:
 - a. Identify areas of overlap on the programming list that pertain to your organization
 - b. Identify at least three programs that are not on this list that should be vetted for community interest
 - c. Identify a way to incorporate Plain Local School programs and facilities into the program offerings without causing direct conflict with Canton City Schools.

A meeting had already taken place between Director Gordon, Interim Director Trbovich, and Plain Local Schools Administrators to discuss ways to increase the collaboration between the Plain Local District and the entities within the City as it pertains to recreational programming and services. Plain Local expressed their desire to be more involved and the group will discuss ways to make this happen at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Park Logo Review – Director Gordon presented a new Park and Recreation logo to the board that was selected for approval by the staff of both the Parks and Recreation District. After a brief discussion about process and costs President Black motioned to approve the logo as the official logo for Canton Parks. Commissioner Zutali seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Special Fund Expenditure Approvals – Director Gordon presented three separate project budgets to be paid for out of the special accounts for Garaux, Monument, and Holderman Parks (See Attachment). President Black motioned to approve the use of all three special funds for the proposed projects. Commissioner Zutali seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. JBSC / CJRD Agreement Update – Director Gordon provided a progress report about the status of the proposed agreement between the JBSC, CJRD, and Canton Parks. He stated that negotiations have been very productive and a proposal has been sent to the Law Department to be formatted into a contract. This contract will be presented to the respective boards at the next meetings for review and approval.
4. Goose Reduction Program Discussion – A lengthy overview of past, current, and future goose reduction efforts was presented to the Commission by Director Gordon and Assistant Director Dan Kunz. Director Gordon has again applied for a goose nest egg addling permit from the Ohio Division of Wildlife. Assistant Director Kunz advised that recommended goose harassment techniques will be deployed by the Park Department during the next few months when breeding and geese issues are most prevalent. He will also be working with the Park Police to develop procedures and recommended penalties for Council consideration for individuals caught feeding the geese. Commissioner Zutali stated that he was pleased with our continued efforts to reduce the geese population, but he wants to make sure that we are persistent with these techniques and continue to explore the possibility to obtain a round up permit if these techniques are not successful.
5. Easter Egg Hunt – Arboretum Park – April 19th – Director Gordon described the event details to the board and presented the letter from the organization requesting the use of the park. He stated that this is an annual event that has taken place for several years. President Black motioned to approve the event. Member Zutali seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
6. Multiple Sclerosis Walk Event Approval—Stadium Park—Saturday, April 26th - Director Gordon described the event details to the board and presented the letter from the organization requesting the use of the park. He stated that this is an annual event that has taken place for several years. This year, the event may conflict with the inaugural Arbor Day celebration being held at the Garden Center by the Canton Tree Commission. President Black stated that the event has his support and he will motion to approve the event request until once the scheduling conflict is resolved. The request will be tabled until the April 9th Commission meeting and Director Gordon will work with both events to resolve the conflict.
7. All American Youth Activities Fundraiser Request—Garoux—April 24th - Director Gordon described the event details to the board and presented the letter from the organization requesting the use of the shelter. The shelter was used for this event last year without the knowledge of Director Gordon as they held the fundraiser on an evening where they typically used the facility for cheerleading practice. The
8. Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk Request---Monument Park—October 26th - Director Gordon described the event details to the board and presented the letter from the organization requesting the use of the park. He stated that this is an annual event that has taken place for several years. President Black motioned to approve the event. Member Zutali seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Financial Report – Director Gordon provided a new financial report for the Commissioner’s review. President Black stated that he was satisfied with this document in tandem with the monthly expenditure report. The Commissioners will approve both of these reports on a monthly basis in the future.
10. Director’s Report – See Attachment

President Black motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:31pm. Commissioner Zutali seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Park Commission Meeting to be held at 4:00pm on April 9, 2014 at Thurman Munson Memorial Stadium.

Andy Black, President

Derek Gordon, Director